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If you have any updates to share, please email them to: [madeleine.habib@wfp.org](mailto:madeleine.habib@wfp.org)

Shipping Operations updated 10 September 2020

This weekly bulletin is compiled to give all stakeholders an overview of the current impact of COVID19 on Pacific shipping activities. It draws on sources from government, commercial and humanitarian sectors. The bulletin is circulated each Thursday.

**Overview**  
Due to the costs associated with COVID-19 Nauru Maritime and Port Authority (NMPA) will introduce a Temporary COVID-19 Levy (TCL) on all cargo vessels discharging in Nauru.

Neptune Pacific announced a new General Rate Increase for cargo on the Australia to and from Fiji service.

Pacific Direct Line (PDL) announced a rate restoration programme on cargo from Asia to all Pacific Islands

Swire Shipping have also recently announced a rate restoration programme on cargo from Australia to Fiji.

Solomon Island Government issued an advisory on cargo vessels and marine tankers travelling from PNG ports to Solomon Islands. The advisory outlines increased restrictions due to increased COVID19 cases in PNG, particularly in Port Moresby.

Difficulties in facilitating crew change continue to be one of the most pressing issues facing the global shipping industry. This has generated additional complications and costs for shipping companies. Limited crew changes are being conducted in Fiji and New Zealand. Globally there is a huge back-log of ships' crew who have either completed their contracts on board or are onshore waiting to join ships. The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) requests raising the issue of seafarers and the crew change crisis during the upcoming high-level week of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly beginning on 22 September 2020. ILO, IMO and the UN Global Compact are organizing a side event during that week, to raise the visibility of the crew change crisis, most likely to take place on the World Maritime Day on 24 September.

No PICTs are currently reporting food security issues, or fuel shortages due to interrupted shipping supply, as far as we are aware.

State / Territory	Date	Source	Details
American Samoa	August Update	American Samoa Port Administration	The maritime borders are only open to cargo, tankers, and fishing vessels that support the local tuna canneries. Cargo and stevedoring operations continue, with vessel crews having minimal-to-no contact with local clearance parties and stevedoring crews. The Port of Pago Pago has adopted a No-Contact policy for all vessel clearances however, Harbor Pilots continue to board and guide vessels into port but under strict health and safety rules/procedures for both the pilots and crews. Public Health monitors the stevedoring and Pilots on a continuous basis. Cargo volumes remained steady in the beginning of the year during the onset of COVID-19 and in this past quarter, the Port experienced a 15-per cent increase in cargo/container volume. This can be attributed to the increase in spending power from the recent distribution of U.S. stimulus funds, whereas local businesses, shops and stores are ordering more to keep up with demand. With the increase of containerized volume, the container yard has reached its capacity and excess empties are being stored off site. The challenge with that is the ability to get the empties back to port and loaded onto outgoing ships. Our preliminary forecasts indicate that the volume will level off by the end of the year but given the situation with COVID-19 and how it is affecting the global market and supply chains, there's just no way to predict. The local Longline and Purse Seine Fishing Fleet have been challenged by the closure of the borders given a lack of flexibility to fly in personnel for crew changes.
CNMI	August Update	CNMI Port Authority	The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), Port of Saipan has seen a gradual decrease in both inbound and outbound cargoes. The Port is seeing a decrease in incoming commodities, especially the construction materials. The impact of COVID-19 has reduced inbound containers as well as commercial vessels calling on Port of Saipan by almost 40 per cent for May 2020 compared to April 2020. In terms of port operations, it has reduced activity compared to the last fiscal year where at times the Port was very congested with vessels calling the Port of Saipan. At this present time, the operation or activity at the port runs very smoothly.
Cook Islands	26-Aug-20	Cook Islands Port Authority	We continue to maintain 2 international cargo vessels a month servicing Rarotonga and Aitutaki. The shipping schedule remains the same no changes just <i>Island Chief</i> is being replaced by <i>Olomana</i> . Although cargo reduction is slowly reducing we continue to receive and maintain our averaging cargo imported. Tankers schedules is now stretched out 2-3 month intervals.
Fiji	07-Sep-20	Neptune Pacific Australia	Neptune Pacific Line (NPL) wishes to advise our customers that whilst Covid – 19 continues to impact flows on a global level, we remain committed to ensuring high levels of service within our footprint to and from the Pacific Islands. In order to maintain the service frequency and port coverage within our dedicated service covering Australia to and from Fiji we require a General Rate Increase of: USD 150/teu on dry and reefer cargo/ USD 8.8/per revenue ton on break bulk cargo. Which will become effective from Southern Moana v27 eta Melbourne 16th October 2020
	28-Aug-20	Radio NZ Pacific	Boat owners allowed to enter Fiji's Blue Lanes are urging other countries to adopt a similar initiative amid the Covid-19 pandemic. <a href="https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/424644/boats-in-fiji-s-blue-lanes-ponder-next-move-as-cyclone-season-looms">https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/424644/boats-in-fiji-s-blue-lanes-ponder-next-move-as-cyclone-season-looms</a>
	23-Jul-20	Fiji Ports/ Ministry of Health	Crew change is permitted on a case by case basis. Approval must be granted by the Prime Minister's Office. Cargo volumes have dropped by 11 to 15% compared to last year. Cargo vessel calls are down from an average of 26-28/month to 22-25/month. (June figures)
	06-Jul-20	PDL Trade Notice/ Neptune Pacific Schedule	The New Zealand-Fiji feeder service will be reduced from four sailings per month to three, and the Australia-Fiji service will continue to operate on an 18 day frequency. Our objective is to maintain the highest service levels possible while reducing operating costs necessary to ensure that we are able to provide an economically sustainable service over the medium term. <i>Capitaine Dampier</i> - alternate sailings are blanked at least until end of August.
	31-Aug-20	Swire Rate Restoration Notice	The arrival of COVID-19 this year has impacted international trade and diminished cargo flows across the Pacific and globally. While Swire Shipping has experienced a long period of declining ocean freight rates and escalating operating costs, we have not reduced our capacity as we recognise that our customers in Fiji rely on a regular and reliable shipping service. Swire Shipping is required to apply the following rate restoration from Australia to Fiji. Effective: Kokopu Chief v027N Rate Restoration- 20' FCL: US\$ 125 40' FCL: US\$ 250 Break-bulk: US\$ 7.25 per revenue ton
FSM	04-Aug-20	Government of FSM	Comprehensive guidelines for COVID19 management including points of entry procedures <a href="https://fsmgov.org/fsmun/pubheal20.pdf">https://fsmgov.org/fsmun/pubheal20.pdf</a>
	01-Sep-20	Mariana Express Line (MELL) Schedule	The East Micronesia Service (EMS) will make calls to Kosrae based on inducement on all voyages, until the end of the year. The Majuro South Pacific Service (MSP) service has resumed the regular rotation to call LTK - MAJ - KSA - PNI, now that Marshall Island quarantine restrictions have eased.
Guam	10-Sep-20	Port of Guam	Port of Guam is providing regular COVID19 related updates via this link. <a href="https://portofguam.com/covid-19-guidelines-and-information">https://portofguam.com/covid-19-guidelines-and-information</a>
	11-Aug-20	Wilhelmsen Website	Crew Change - For crew staying for less than 5 days stay in Guam, they will not need to undergo quarantine or testing if they originate from low-risk area. - For crew that stay for more than 5 days in Guam, they will need to take the test 5 days prior to arrival in Guam or on the 5th day after arrival, they will need to self-quarantine for 14 days. If arriving from low-risk area, crew must have a negative test report within 5 days prior to arrival, or be tested on the 5th day and adhere to daily symptom monitoring, social distancing, face covering and hand-washing etiquette for up to 14 days or departure from Guam. If arriving from a Non-Low risk area, must have negative test 5 days prior to arrival, and must self-quarantine up to 14 days or until departure from Guam. - All people are required to fill out a Health Declaration form to be submitted at the DPHSS processing station. Those who are subject to quarantine restrictions are required to sign a voluntary quarantine acknowledgement and any persons who refuse to sign will be subject to involuntary quarantine.
Kiribati	09-Sep-20	PDL Schedule	<i>Capitaine Quiros</i> V089N ETA Kiritimati (Christmas) Island 25 October.
	10-Sep-20	Mariana Express Line (MELL) Schedule	MELL will omit Tarawa from Majuro South Pacific (MSP) schedule until March 2021.
	19-Aug-20	Kiribati Port Authority/ Kiribati Department of Health	Foreign vessels at seaports - only cargo ships and tankers allowed to enter, provided they are clear in line with relevant documents provided for verification to enter. Cargo ships and tankers should spend at least 5 days at high seas or outside our ports, before entry. Strict SOPs are to be implemented and followed at ports, e-communications to be followed, and no crew shore leave at all. Containers are to be disinfected at ports and to be released provided the consignments have been sealed in containers for more than 5 days before reaching Kiribati ports. The cargo movements to the outer islands is not affected by the Government's health travel advisory. The local vessels continue to serve the outer islands as normal.
Marshall Islands	10-Sep-20	RMI Current Health and Travel Advisory	To make sure that we can allow food and supplies to enter the country, all container vessels and fuel tankers are exempt but are strictly required to spend 14 days outside of the RMI after departure and prior to arrival at the RMI pilot station. All container vessels and fuel tankers that have a history of entering RMI ports that have the same crewmembers on board as verified by MOHHS and immigration are exempt from the 14-day quarantine. For vessels that have changed crews, new crew members must show 21 days of consistent health checks prior to arrival and those new crewmembers with valid negative test results must have consistent health checks along with other existing crew prior to arrival in the Marshall Islands. Vessels with newer crewmembers, with fewer days on board will be required to complete the 14 days at sea prior to entry and cargo operations. All container vessels and fuel tankers must adhere to the National Disaster Committee approved Standard Operating Procedures - Maritime (SOP). Human to human contact is strictly prohibited. Cruise ships, including live aboard vessels and yachts are suspended from visiting RMI until further notice.

	10-Sep-20	Seaports Division-the RMI Ports Authority	At this point COVID-19 has not impacted the number of cargo vessel or tanker calls to RMI. There has been an impact on cargo volumes, due to shortage or inadequate volume from suppliers particularly from the US, and the Philippines but we see an upward trend in cargo volume from China. Shore leave is permitted to RMI citizens (fishermen) with tests upon disembarkation followed by a 14days quarantine. also shore leave permitted for non-RMI citizens who have made outbound air travel reservations (returning to their countries)
	14-Aug-20	Kyowa Shipping	The '14 days since previous port' condition is now only imposed if there has been a crew change since the previous call to Marshall Islands.
Nauru	01-Sep-20	Nauru Bulletin/NSL FB page	Nauru Shipping Line (NSL) has been formally launched. NSL has entered into a 12 month fixed rate contract with Swire Shipping Agencies. NSL currently has a vessel on short-term charter, and is due to acquire a purpose-built, 82m with the capacity to carry 108 containers. <i>Kiwai V001</i> is scheduled to arrive in Nauru from Suva on 08 September.
	31-Aug	Nauru Maritime and Port Authority	Due to the costs associated with COVID-19 Nauru Maritime and Port Authority (NMPA) will introduce a Temporary COVID-19 Levy (TCL) on all cargo vessels discharging in Nauru. The levy will be AUD500/TEU for dry and reefer cargos and AUD50 for inbound breakbulk cargo. This surcharge will be effective for import cargo discharged on the <i>Capitaine Quiros</i> voyage 089 with an ETA Nauru 04 October 2020.
	02-Sep	Govt of Nauru COVID-19 Update	Nauru Port Authority (NPA) is expecting fuel, phosphate and cargo shipments in the next two to three weeks, while the whereabouts of a Korean fuel ship is currently unknown to NPA.
	14-Jul-20	Neptune Pacific Line(NPL) Trade Notice	Nauru - Removal of Temporary Quarantine Surcharge (TQS) The temporary quarantine surcharge of USD 349/teu announced on 22nd April will be suspended, effective on cargo loading on the <i>Capitaine Quiros</i> V88N.
New Zealand	09-Sep-20	Port of Auckland	Port of Auckland maintains testing regime for workers. <a href="https://www.poal.co.nz/our-response-to-covid-19">https://www.poal.co.nz/our-response-to-covid-19</a> The port of Auckland is an essential service and we will keep Auckland's freight moving in Level 3. We are re-implementing the controls we had in place at Alert Level 3. As a border organisation, it is critical we protect our staff and our maritime border, and we need to remain aware of the potential risks we face. We are a gateway to the world, which is still in the midst of a pandemic. <a href="https://www.poal.co.nz/our-response-to-covid-19">https://www.poal.co.nz/our-response-to-covid-19</a>
	14-Jul-20	Wilhelmsen Website	Crew change guidelines for New Zealand <a href="https://www.wilhelmsen.com/ships-agency/campaigns/coronavirus/COVID19-Crew-Change/nz-crew-change-requirements/">https://www.wilhelmsen.com/ships-agency/campaigns/coronavirus/COVID19-Crew-Change/nz-crew-change-requirements/</a>
Niue	09-Sep-20	Matson Agent/Matson Schedule	Shipping to Niue is still on schedule and no major impact from COVID-19. The Olomona V122 brought the majority of our cargo for this month and the Island Chief V008 the balance of the cargo. Shops still selling our normal foodstuffs and airfreighting any products that are short supply. Fresh Fruits and Vegetables still coming by air freighting each week when required and importantly our Health Department Medical supplies. The next call of the Island Chief V009 is now eta 30/09/20.
Papua New Guinea	28-Jul-20	PNG Ports Corporation	Port Moresby is reporting normal levels of shipping activity and is not experiencing congestion due to COVID19. Crew change and shore leave are not permitted in PNG. The Port of Lae is not reporting any congestion caused by COVID19. Vessels are not currently required to quarantine before entering port. Cargo volumes and vessel calls are down slightly compared to 2019 due to a number of factors including availability of foreign exchange. Also volumes were down slightly pre-COVID-19, so decline cannot be solely attributed to COVID-19.
Samoa	09-Sep-20	Samoa Shipping Services	Over 100 Samoan seafarers have completed employment contracts but are unable to disembark to come home due to COVID19. Closure of Samoan borders and lack of flights are preventing the return of Samoan seafarers. There are more than 200 seafarers in Samoa waiting to join vessels when the borders re-open. Cruise liners prohibited to enter ports and cargo vessels limited to 2 vessels almost every week. Flight stoppage impacts air-freight cargo and seafarers disallowed to travel causing delays in mandatory crew change.
Solomon Islands	28-Aug-20	Solomon Islands Government	Issued an advisory on cargo vessels and marine tankers travelling from PNG ports to Solomon Islands. The advisory outlines increased restrictions due to increased COVID19 cases in PNG, particularly in Port Moresby. See advisory (linked below) for full details. <a href="https://www.customs.gov.sb/files/VESSEL%20TRAVEL%20ADVISORY%20FOR%20PNG.pdf">https://www.customs.gov.sb/files/VESSEL%20TRAVEL%20ADVISORY%20FOR%20PNG.pdf</a>
	07-Sep-20	Tradco Agent	The new regulations are impacting as vessels from Port Moresby cannot berth earlier than 4 days which is approx. 1-1.5 day delay to the vessel.
	10-Sep-20	Solomon Island Govt Sea cargo clearance protocol. Updated 12 May 2020 v3 Remains in force	Foreign Cargo Vessel Quarantine Period: Fourteen (14) clear days at sea or a combination at sea and at anchor in the Solomon Islands UNLESS (a) If the last port of call is from a country designated in Tier 1 – Five (5) clear days OR (b) If the last port of call is from a country designated in Tier 2 – Nine (9) clear days OR (c) If the last port of call is from a country designated in Tier 3 – Fourteen (14) clear days TIER 1. 5 DAYS - PAPUA NEW GUINEA FIJI NEW CALEDONIA VANUATA NAURU TONGA KIRIBATI TUVALU TIER 2. 9 DAYS - AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND SOUTH KOREA TIER 3. 14 DAYS - CHINA HONG KONG (SAR) MACAU (SAR) CHINESE TAIPEI JAPAN SINGAPORE MALAYSIA THAILAND INDONESIA PHILIPPINES ITALY UNITED KINGDOM USA SPAIN Shipping Agents for Category 1, 2, or 3 vessels may apply to the Exemptions Committee for consideration for clearance less than the stipulated number of days under that tier. Such applications will only be considered based upon the urgency of need for those goods.
Tonga	10-Aug-20	PDL Trade Notice	<i>Capitaine Dampier</i> V169 calling Nuku'alofa. We wish to advise that we will be closely monitoring cargo flows on this trade and ensuring that we match supply with demand by introducing Nuku'alofa calls on the <i>Capitaine Dampier</i> as the trade requires and continuing to provide premium transit times. For this reason we also have <i>Capitaine Dampier</i> V171 scheduled to call Nuku'alofa in support of Southern Trader V481.
Tuvalu	12-Aug-20	Marine and Port Services Tuvalu	The 3 day quarantine period is still enforced and no change so far. As for the cargo vessel, there is only one container vessel bringing cargoes to Tuvalu and that is the <i>Captain Wallis</i> . There is no other cargo vessel apart from <i>Captain Wallis</i> bringing cargoes to Tuvalu unless chartered boats (Tug/Barge) which brings project materials to Tuvalu. The turnaround time for the Container vessel usually takes 3-4 weeks. Until now, there is no change in volume of cargo which could be attributed to the impact of COVID19.
	17-Aug-20	DevPolicy - Repatriation	With repatriation due to occur, the national government is ensuring those in the capital who wish to relocate to the relative safety of the outer islands can do so. Two boats, Nivaga III and Te Mataiili II, have been scheduled to run from the capital to the outer islands between 10–23 August and 14–27 September to facilitate this internal movement and also to deliver food supplies to the outer islands. Tuvalu's maritime borders will open briefly to allow a Taiwanese navy boat to enter Funafuti lagoon, expected on 20 August, to repatriate Taiwanese and Japanese citizens who have been in Tuvalu since the borders closed. The three Taiwanese and two Japanese passengers will be transported by boat from the port to the Taiwanese vessel, which will not dock and will immediately leave for Taiwan. A number of New Zealand citizens currently in Tuvalu are seeking to return to New Zealand on the flight that brings in the RSE workers.
Wallis and Futuna	10-Sep-20	PDL Schedule	<i>Capitaine Wallis</i> V 358 Wallis and Futuna 28 to 30 September.
<b>Shipping Lines</b>			
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Details</b>
Kyowa Shipping	14-Aug-20	Kyowa Shipping	General cargo volumes remain steady, but there has been a drop in the demand for second-hand cars and construction material to some Pacific Island countries. Crew change - Before, we conducted crew change at Busan, Korea or Yokohama, Japan where our vessel calls every voyage. But we are not able to do so, because these ports have 14 days restriction. Crews are not allowed to disembark for 14 days from the day vessel depart from last port. In an emergency, we conduct crew change at Manila, Philippine. But it's not easy from both of the view, schedule delay and additional cost for the deviation.
Matson	30-Jul-20	Matson NZ	NZX Sailing Schedule Adjustment – Return to Three Vessel Service: With New Zealand at Alert Level 1 and the South Pacific Island Nations we serve primarily COVID-19 free, Matson will return to a three vessel NZX service starting on 14 August. Departures from Auckland will be every 11 days starting with the <i>Island Chief</i> V 008.
Neptune Pacific	07-Sep-20	Neptune Pacific Australia	Neptune Pacific Line (NPL) wishes to advise our customers that whilst Covid – 19 continues to impact flows on a global level, we remain committed to ensuring high levels of service within our footprint to and from the Pacific Islands. In order to maintain the service frequency and port coverage within our dedicated service covering Australia to and from Fiji we require a General Rate Increase of: USD 150/teu on dry and reefer cargo/ USD 8.8/per revenue ton on break bulk cargo. Which will become effective from Southern Moana v27 eta Melbourne 16th October 2020
Pacific Direct Line (PDL)	04-Sep-20	PDL Trade Notice	To maintain our regular shipping services linking Asia with the Pacific Islands, we will implement a rate restoration program on these trades. From the 04th of October 2020, an Ocean Freight increase of USD 150 per teu will be applicable to all export cargo shipped from Asia to all Pacific Island ports.
	10-Aug-20	PDL Trade Notice	<i>Capitaine Dampier</i> V169 calling Nuku'alofa. We wish to advise that we will be closely monitoring cargo flows on this trade and ensuring that we match supply with demand by introducing Nuku'alofa calls on the <i>Capitaine Dampier</i> as the trade requires and continuing to provide premium transit times. For this reason we also have <i>Capitaine Dampier</i> V171 scheduled to call Nuku'alofa in support of <i>Southern Trader</i> V481.
	02-Jun-20	PDL Trade Notice	The New Zealand-Fiji feeder service will be reduced from four sailings per month to three, and the Australia-Fiji service will continue to operate on an 18 day frequency. Our objective is to maintain the highest service levels possible while reducing operating costs necessary to ensure that we are able to provide an economically sustainable service over the medium term.
Swire	31-Aug-20	Swire Rate Restoration Notice	The arrival of COVID-19 this year has impacted international trade and diminished cargo flows across the Pacific and globally. While Swire Shipping has experienced a long period of declining ocean freight rates and escalating operating costs, we have not reduced our capacity as we recognise that our customers in Fiji rely on a regular and reliable shipping service. Swire Shipping is required to apply the following rate restoration from Australia to Fiji. Effective: Kokopo Chief v027N Rate Restoration- 20' FCL: US\$ 125 40' FCL: US\$ 250 Break-bulk: US\$ 7.25 per revenue ton

	02-Jun-20	Swire NZ	East South East Asia (ESAE) Schedule: Reduction in vessels on the route from 4 to 3 on a 20 day rotation. This schedule calls several ports in PNG, Fiji and NZ
Wilhelmsen	02-Sep-20	Wilhelmsen Website	Updates on national requirements for crew change. This list does not yet include any Pacific nations other than New Zealand and some Australian ports. <a href="https://wilhelmsen.com/ships-agency/campaigns/coronavirus/COVID19-Crew-Change/">https://wilhelmsen.com/ships-agency/campaigns/coronavirus/COVID19-Crew-Change/</a> COVID19 testing facilities, map updated daily <a href="https://wilhelmsen.com/ships-agency/campaigns/coronavirus/coronavirus-map/">https://wilhelmsen.com/ships-agency/campaigns/coronavirus/coronavirus-map/</a>
<b>General Update</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Details</b>
Coronavirus Communication from the Secretary-General regarding the crew change crisis	04-Sep-20	International Maritime Organisation	Seafarers cannot remain at sea indefinitely. In addition to the humanitarian crisis that has been caused by keeping seafarers effectively trapped on their vessels, the safety issues that arise from requiring overly fatigued and mentally exhausted seafarers to continue operating vessels are a matter of great concern. If the crew change crisis is not resolved, ships will no longer be able to operate safely pursuant to the Organization's regulations and guidelines, further exacerbating the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. I request that Member States consider raising the issue of seafarers and the crew change crisis during the upcoming high-level week of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly beginning on 22 September 2020. ILO, IMO and the UN Global Compact are organizing a side event during that week, to raise the visibility of the crew change crisis, most likely to take place on the World Maritime Day on 24 September. <a href="http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Documents/COVID%20CL%204204%20adds/Circular%20Letter%20No.4204-Add.29%20-%20Covid%2019%20-%20Communication%20From%20Secretary-General%20%20Crew%20Change.pdf">http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Documents/COVID%20CL%204204%20adds/Circular%20Letter%20No.4204-Add.29%20-%20Covid%2019%20-%20Communication%20From%20Secretary-General%20%20Crew%20Change.pdf</a>
ICS Protocols for mitigating COVID-19 Risk on Ships	26-Aug-20	International Chamber of Shipping	The International Chamber of Shipping (ICS), along with the International Maritime Health Association (IMHA) and the International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (INTERTANKO), have issued new protocols to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 cases on board. The protocols aim to safeguard the health of seafarers and guarantee the safe operations of maritime trade – offering governments and the general public reassurance that seafarers can embark and disembark ships safely. <a href="https://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2020/08/26/new-protocols-offer-effective-tools-to-mitigate-the-risks-of-covid-19-onboard-ships">https://www.ics-shipping.org/news/press-releases/2020/08/26/new-protocols-offer-effective-tools-to-mitigate-the-risks-of-covid-19-onboard-ships</a>
Fisheries Observer Survey	04-Sep-20	Human Rights at Sea	Human Rights at Sea in partnership with the University of Nottingham's Rights Lab and supported by the Association for Professional Observers, has today gone live with a new Fisheries Observer survey as part of ongoing work addressing the health, safety and well-being of Fisheries Observers in the Western and Central Pacific region. 'Understanding the Working Conditions of Western and Central Pacific Ocean Fisheries Observers: A Baseline Survey' has an aim to better understand the working conditions of fisheries observers and to identify factors that may help observers in the future. <a href="https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/09/04/fisheries-observers-survey-for-western-and-central-pacific-now-live/">https://www.humanrightsatsea.org/2020/09/04/fisheries-observers-survey-for-western-and-central-pacific-now-live/</a>
Operation Island Chief Regional Fisheries Surveillance	04-Sep-20	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)	A fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance operation in the Pacific concludes this week, with excellent cooperation demonstrated between nations despite the challenges of COVID-19 continuing to affect surveillance in the region. The Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) led Operation Island Chief took place from 24 August to 4 September, conducting surveillance over the EEZs of all FFA Members. This year the operation included Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu, after their <i>Operation Tui Moana</i> was postponed in May due to the COVID-19 pandemic. <a href="https://www.ffa.int/node/2467">https://www.ffa.int/node/2467</a>
COVID-19 Protocols			Member countries of the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) are actively working together to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 being transmitted through fisheries operations, allowing the industry to continue making a vital contribution to Pacific island economies. The protocols can be found on the FFA website: <a href="http://ffa.int/covid19">http://ffa.int/covid19</a>