



A protocol for resumption the reception of passenger ships, tourist and private boats, commercial ships coming to the port of Aqaba

A. Cruise Ships

1. Procedures are required from the shipping agent 24 hours before the ship arrives at the port of Aqaba:
 - a) Providing the lists of passengers (Manifest) to Jordan Maritime Commission.
 - b) In case of restricted nationalities (the passengers), the shipping agent is responsible for ensuring that the concerned passengers obtain the necessary approvals from the competent authorities.
 - c) Fill out the health form of Jordan Maritime Commission stating that the tourists and crew are clear of any disease symptoms, and report any case on the ship, if any.
2. The following are required for the traveller to enter the Kingdom:
 - a) It is preferable to have a vaccine certificate that shows receiving the full doses of the vaccine.
 - b) A negative PCR test from the last station (without a time limit on its validity), or a negative PCR test from the cruise ship laboratory, provided that its validity period does not exceed 72 hours since the time it was performed.
 - c) In the absence of an examination in the possession of any of the passengers or crew and they wish to go to land, a PCR examination is conducted for them by one of the approved Jordanian laboratories and awaiting the result. Where the shipping agent shall summons the examining laboratory after applying for approval from Jordan Maritime Commission.

3. The shipping agent writes a pledge to Jordan Maritime Commission to implement all public safety procedures, as well as ensure the accuracy of vaccination certificates, if any, and (PCR) checks. In addition, pledging provides all infection prevention equipment (sterilization materials, masks, gloves and hygiene in general) and adheres to Ship crews and tourists to wear protective equipment, the most important of which (masks and gloves). Moreover, to carry out sterilization operations constantly.
4. The shipping agent undertakes to report any infection with the Coronavirus onboard the ship and should be isolated in rooms designated for this inside the ship, with all necessary treatments and respirators available.
5. The shipping agent undertakes to bear the financial and administrative responsibilities in terms of transportation, treatment or deportation concerning any person from the tourists or the crew of the ship who is infected with Coronavirus and bears the legal responsibility in case of breach of the pledging.
6. The committee consisting of (Jordan Maritime Commission, the Public Security Directorate, the General Intelligence Department, the Navy and Royal Yachts, the General Customs Department) continues its work as it was previously. Further, the shipping agent should ensure the sterilization of the ship from the licensed companies to the places where the committee is existed on board the ship when boarding the ship and sterilizing the ways in which the marine guide walks in the ship.
7. The Aqaba Governorate Health Directorate should send a representative to supervise the process of disembarking the passengers and to ensure the implementation of public safety measures that prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, in addition to conducting a temperature check for passengers upon disembarking from the ship.
8. A designated tourist police force should escort the buses/tourist cars that transport the passengers to the specified visit destination, provided that they are committed to staying with them until they return to the ship.
9. The Ministry of Tourism, Tourism Promotion Commission, Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority, and Petra Regional Authority, according to the jurisdiction area, shall ensure that public safety procedures are applied. Moreover, notify the Jordan Maritime Commission of any violations in this regard to imposing the necessary fine on the shipping agent per the pledge made by her signature.

10. If the crews of cruise ships have willing to enter the Kingdom, the following conditions shall apply to them, according to the destination of entry:
 - a. **Entry to the city of Aqaba:** A request grants a land visit permit granted by the Directorate of Residence and Borders and according to the laws regulating this. Moreover, the same health conditions that were requested from travellers previously apply to them.
 - b. **Entering the direction of Petra or Wadi Rum, or travelling outside the country by air:** The usual procedures for the Residence and Borders Law are applied in terms of stamping the passport and the necessary pledges. Moreover, the same health conditions that were requested for travellers previously apply to them.
11. Tour guides, as well as bus/tourist car drivers, are required to obtain a certificate of receiving the full doses of the vaccine (priority is given to them) or to have a negative PCR examination during the past (7) days.
12. It is required that any person connected with the ship in terms of supplying or maintaining obtain a certificate of receiving the full doses of the vaccine (they are given priority) or that they have a negative PCR examination during the previous (7) days.
13. Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority, Jordan Maritime Commission, the Navy and the Royal Yachts, the Aqaba Health Directorate, and the concerned bodies mentioned above in point (9) are obligated to control and monitor all established health protocols.

B. Tourist/Private Boats/Yachts

1. The following areas are considered departure points for private/tourist boat trips.
 - a. The Royal Yacht Club.
 - b. Tala bay.
 - c. Ayla after completing the duly approved procedures.
2. Passengers who obtained a full-dose vaccination certificate (14) days before travel and possessed a negative PCR examination within (72) hours preceding departure are allowed to return to Jordan without a test at the point of return. However, in case that (14) days have not passed since the completion of the full-dose vaccination at the point of return, a PCR examination will be performed.
3. Passengers who do not have a full-dose vaccination certificate and who have a negative PCR examination (72) hours before departure is allowed to enter Jordan. However, if the

travel period exceeds (72) hours, a PCR examination will be conducted for him at the point of return.

4. The operator/ship agent shall sign a written pledge with Jordan Maritime Commission to bear all administrative, legal and financial consequences in case of violation of these instructions.
5. The Aqaba Governorate Health Directorate will send a representative to supervise the process of boarding and disembarking passengers and to ensure that public safety measures are applied to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus. In addition, conducting a temperature check for passengers when they disembark from the boat.
6. The committee consisting of (Jordan Maritime Commission, the Public Security Directorate, the General Intelligence Department, the Royal Navy and Royal Boats, and the General Customs Department) continues its work as it was previously.
7. It is required that the cadres and crews working on tourist boats obtain a certificate of vaccination with full doses as the main condition for work, and a PCR examination is required for them every week under the supervision and control of the Aqaba Governorate Health Directorate. In addition, if any of the cadres and crews reject these procedures, work shall be suspended by a decision issued by Jordan Maritime Commission until his situation is corrected.
8. The shipping agent undertakes to provide all equipment to prevent the transmission of infection (sterilization materials, masks, gloves and hygiene in general) and ships crews and tourists are restricted to wearing protective equipment, the most important of which is (masks and gloves), and to carry out sterilization operations constantly.
9. It is required that any person connected with the boats in terms of supplying or maintaining have received a certificate of full-dose vaccination or a negative PCR examination during the previous (7) days.
10. Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority, Jordan Maritime Commission, Navy and the Royal Yachts, are obligated to control and monitor all established health protocols.

C. Merchant Ship Crews:

1. The crews should obtain a certificate of vaccination with full doses.
2. The shipping agent should inform the Jordan Maritime Commission of the crews' desire to disembark from the ship to Aqaba City after verifying the full dose vaccination

certificates if any. In addition to the ship's readiness to receive the laboratory representative to conduct a PCR examination for the crews with an undertaking to await the result, and take all public safety measures for that.

3. The shipping agent shall call an accredited laboratory to conduct a PCR examination for the crew of the ship after applying for approval from Jordan Maritime Commission.
4. Jordan Maritime Commission grants the crews approval to join the ships and disembark after obtaining the approval of the Public Security Directorate and under the national regulating laws and verifying the certificates of vaccination with complete doses, if any, or a negative PCR test result for the people who have been examined.
5. Crew transit passengers who wish to stay at a hotel until their travels must obtain approval from Jordan Maritime Commission, in coordination with the Public Security Directorate, and under the national laws governing this.
6. The shipping agent is obligated to take the maximum levels of public safety procedures for crews while roaming in the city of Aqaba.
7. Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority, Jordan Maritime Commission, the Navy and the Royal Yachts are obligated to monitor all established health protocols.

D. General procedures to be taken into account by the ship agents and the concerned regulatory authorities mentioned in this protocol:

1. General health procedures before starting the operation:
 - a. Sterilizing the entire marine unit, equipment and tools, in coordination with the Directorate of Health, to use the appropriate materials to be used in the sterilization process.
 - b. Providing hand sanitizers and other sanitizers at different places within the marine unit.
 - c. Designating a health observer within the marine unit to ensure compliance of crew and passengers with health protocols and public safety procedures.
 - d. Obligating the crew inside the marine unit to continuously sterilize their hands, wear a mask, and replace it on an ongoing basis as soon as it is contaminated.
 - e. Ensure the safety of crews and that they are not infected with any of the symptoms of the Coronavirus before the departure of the ship.
 - f. The crew shall wash their hands thoroughly before touching equipment to prepare it for use.

- g. Providing good ventilation inside the marine unit.
2. General health procedures during operation:
- a. Taking into account the physical distance in arranging seating places and tables, at least two meters.
 - b. Organizing the process of boarding and disembarking for passengers, taking into account the physical distance between visitors of less than two meters.
 - c. Requiring passengers to wear masks throughout the flight and to provide hand sanitizers in places.
 - d. Any kind of party on board the tourist boat is prohibited.
 - e. Banning the open buffet service on tourist trips on boats and relying on ordered customized menus.
 - f. Using disposable eating utensils as much as possible, placing sterilization kits and napkins on each dining table, and placing awareness instructions throughout the marine unit.
 - g. Staff who prepare food must adhere to personal protective equipment such as masks, frequent hand washing (replace the mask immediately after contamination or moisture), head covering, beard cover, food safety shoes (the type that does not affect food), as well as work clothes.
 - h. Continuous sterilization of all ship facilities, especially areas used by passengers, regularly.
 - i. Putting warning signs on board the boat that obligates all staff and facilities to continuously sterilize, distance, wear masks and wash hands
3. A periodic inspection should be carried out by the concerned cadres Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority and in coordination with Jordan Maritime Commission, health directorates and the competent authorities.