

**AUTHORITY OF THE AQUATIC RESOURCES OF PANAMA
INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES AFFAIRS**

Technical Circular ARAP/IFA/TC/007/2020

For:	Shipowners, Captains and Legal Representative
From:	General Directorate of Inspection, Surveillance and Control
Subjet:	Necessary measures for ship inspections in Asian countries of origin for the outbreak of the New Coronavirus (2019nCoV).
Ref.:	Executive Decree No. 64 of January 28, 2020. MINSA Circular No. 001-DEPA-INPLA-P-20

The Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama, following the new outbreak of the coronavirus (2019nCoV) and in accordance with Circular No. 001-DEPA-INPLA-P-20 issued by the Department of Food Protection of the Directorate of Health , of the Ministry of Health. We inform you that all the measures deemed necessary will be established in order to prevent and control the risk from the outbreak of the new virus, guaranteeing the health of the national population according to the recommendations of the Ministry of Health (MINSA).

As a result, all initial inspections of Panamanian flag vessels or new vessels entering the flag are temporarily suspended, in countries where cases of such virus have been determined or found.

In this regard, it is recommended to make requests for inspections of new-entry vessels or with a Panamanian flag in those countries that do not have to make stops, or stays in countries that have presented this event.

In case of not being able to carry out the inspection due to the fact that the vessels are in these conditions, we appreciate the steps to carry out the initial inspection within the first three (3) months after the issue of the Fishing License in a port or with a scale other than those identified. These procedures must be carried out in the General Directorate of Inspection, Surveillance and Control, using the contacts detailed below:

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