



# NOTICE TO MASTERS OF OVERSEAS VESSELS

COOK ISLANDS BIOSECURITY SERVICE

## RESTRICTIONS WHILE IN COOK ISLANDS TERRITORIAL WATERS

- 1 To protect the Cook Islands from the introduction of serious animal and plant diseases you are required to comply with various restrictions while your ship is in the Cook Islands territorial waters.
- 2 **RESPONSIBILITY:** You, the Master, are responsible for ensuring that all these requirements are complied with.
- 3 **FRUITS, VEGETABLES, PLANT PRODUCTS AND FOOD** of any kind must not be landed in Cook Islands without the written authority of a Biosecurity Officer. This includes ship stores and any food and plant products belonging to crew members.
- 4 **PLANTS** must not be landed in the Cook Islands under any circumstances.
- 5 **MEAT AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS** of any description are not to be landed from your ship whatsoever unless authorised by a Biosecurity Officer. Ship's meat must not be used by crew members for fishing, neither from the wharf nor from the ship.
- 6 **ANIMALS:** If there are any animals (including birds, reptile, fish), they must be securely confined on the ship in a manner approved by a Biosecurity Officer. Should a pet become sick, or dies please contact the Biosecurity Service. Any pets obtained in the Cook Islands are to be added to the list of pets on board. Animals taken on board by visitors or which wander on board will not be allowed ashore.
- 7 The Cook Islands Biosecurity Act 2008 will be rigidly enforced. This legislation requires that:
  - (a) A list of all meats including poultry, ham, bacon, sausage, salami, lard, etc are provided to the Biosecurity Service. Details required are the type of meat and country of origin and countries and ports where loaded. This should be listed in Part 1 of the Vessel Masters Certificate.
  - (b) All animals including birds, live fish, reptiles and mammals, etc, should be accurately entered and described on Part 4 of the Vessel Masters Certificate
  - (c) A Master who lands any crew, cargo, plants, animal(s) or passengers from a vessel without Biosecurity clearance, except with the permission of a Biosecurity officer, commits an offence.
- 8 **SHIP'S GARBAGE CONTAINERS** with lids must be placed on the deck and not left hanging over the side of the ship. The lids must be securely fastened at all times. All garbage must be placed in the garbage containers and not allowed to be dropped overboard.
- 9 **CARS, MOTORCYCLES, BICYCLES, AND SPORTING EQUIPMENT** owned by crew members which are to be used in the Cook Islands, must be cleaned to the satisfaction of a Biosecurity Officer before being allowed ashore.
- 10 Contact the **BIOSECURITY SERVICES ON:** Telephone: Office hrs 28710, 28711  
After hrs: 77218, 76941, 73928, 51775 or 80553  
Email: [biosecurity@cookislands.gov.ck](mailto:biosecurity@cookislands.gov.ck)