

Circular From GARD
Date: 29 July 2016
Yemen - Port Situation

All major Yemeni ports, except Mokha, Ras Isa Marine Terminal and Balhaf LNG Terminal, are reported to operate safely.

According to information received from Gard's correspondent in Yemen, Gulf Agency Co. (Yemen) Ltd., the port situation in Yemen as at **26 July 2016** is as follows:

- **Open:** Salif, Hodeidah, Aden, Mukalla and Ash Shihr oil terminal
- **Closed:** Mokha, Ras Isa Marine Terminal and Balhaf LNG Terminal

Salif  Open	Ras Isa  Closed	Hodeidah  Open	Mokha  Closed
Aden  Open	Balhaf  Closed	Mukalla  Open	Ash Shihr  Open

The situation is, however, subject to change and Members and clients are advised to warn their vessels' crews and to carry out an assessment of the risks involved prior to entering or transiting Yemeni waters. The capacities of operating ports may also be limited as some ports are reported to have prolonged power cuts, unavailability of cranes and may also lack supplies of fuel, manpower and other basic services. As vessels calling at Yemeni ports still need clearance from the Saudi Arabian-led coalition prior to entering Yemeni waters, there are reports of delays related to inspections for entry permissions.

Entry conditions

Yemen's Ministry of Transport has announced that, after 5 May 2016, shipping companies or owners shipping commercial goods or services to ports not under the direct control of the Government of Yemen (**the ports of Salif, Mokha and Hodeidah** and associated oil terminals) must notify and apply for an entry permit via [UNVIM](#). The [permit application](#) must be submitted upon departure from the port of origin of their cargo and at least five days prior to arrival at their port of destination in Yemen. See [notice from the Yemen Ministry of Transport](#) published 2 May 2016 for details.

Vessels calling at Yemeni ports under the control of the Government of Yemen (**the ports of Aden and Mukalla**) still need clearance from the Saudi Arabian-led coalition prior to entering Yemeni waters, and a copy of the Ministry of Transport's form "[Entry permission for commercial and relief ships to Yemeni ports](#)" should be completed and sent by email to the Operations Unit of the Evacuation and Humanitarian Operations at: yemen.transport@gmail.com not less than a week before vessel's entry/arrival.

Entry to Yemeni territorial waters will be permitted only following an inspection by the naval forces of Saudi Arabian-led coalition. Once a vessel reaches the outskirts of Bab Al Mandab, some 3nm from Yemen's territorial waters, a notice of arrival must be called in by the Master on VHF channel 16. The naval forces of the Saudi Arabian-led coalition will then advise where the vessel should anchor pending completion of the inspection and approval of the port entry.

Once the vessel is allowed to enter port, the Master must register the vessel's arrival with the port authorities (on VHF Channel 14 or 16) and will then be assigned an anchoring position until the berthing time is confirmed by the Harbour Master.

Recommendations

Members and clients calling at Yemeni ports are advised to take note of the above vessel clearance procedures and well before arrival, clarify the status of a port's services as availability of cranes, fuel, manpower, etc. may be limited.

Since the political situation in Yemen remains volatile and advice concerning port security and operations may change rapidly, it is important to make frequent checks with local sources of information, e.g. vessel's agent, Gard's correspondent, etc., to obtain the most up to date and reliable security information available at any given time in order to assess the current security situation prior to entering Yemeni waters.

Source of Information: Gard P&I Club