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IALA COUNCIL MEETING 71

Agenda item 7 National matters from the Netherlands

COVID-19 pandemic

The Netherlands, like all countries in the world are facing tremendous problems caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. There was no total lockdown, but we had what was called an intelligent lockdown. People were asked to work from home, take social distance (1,5 meter). Shops stayed open. Also the ports stayed open and freight transport is completely allowed.

VTS and AtoN were pointed out as vital, and we can say that during this period VTS and AtoN were without any restriction available in all coastal areas. There were no limitations in our services.

Crew changes

We see that quite a lot of shipping companies under the Carnival cruise group use the port of Rotterdam as a place to change crew. We are glad that we can accommodate these essential crew changes. Crew is often away from home a long time and due to the COVID-19 pandemic the whole cruise industry is now out of order. A lot of countries do not allow these crew to come ashore and we are glad we can help the cruise line companies to bring their crew back home.

VTS-ENAV Symposium

Everything is being done to organize the symposium in 2021. We will give more information at item 14.