



"For safe and efficient water transport"

KENYA MARITIME AUTHORITY
White House, Moi Avenue, P. O. Box 95076 - 80104,
Mombasa, Kenya.

Phones: : +254 (0) 41 231 8398 / 9, + 254 (0) 20 238 1203/4
Mobile: : +254 (0) 724 319 344 / +254 (0) 733 221 322
Fax : +254 (0) 41 231 8397 / +254 (0) 20 238 1202

E-mail : info@kma.go.ke
Website : www.kma.go.ke

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NOTICE TO SHIPPING LINES (KSAA) AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON EXTENSION OF CONTAINER FREE PERIODS FOR TRANSIT TRAFFIC

As the Covid-19 pandemic continues to ravage all sectors of the economy, measures put in place to contain its spread have partly led to delays in clearance and movement of cargo at the port of Mombasa and along the Northern Corridor.

Under the prevailing circumstances, it is important that penalties associated with delays in cargo clearance and return of empty containers prior to Covid19 reflect the prevailing circumstances on the ground.

To this end, Kenya Ports Authority, in a recent notice extended the free period for transit traffic and considerations are also under way to do the same for local traffic. In an effort to have shipping lines through their local ships agents adjust demurrage penalties, two consultative meetings by key stakeholders in the maritime industry were held.

Arising from the consideration of all presented positions and in line with the regulatory mandate vested on Kenya Maritime Authority, shipping lines through their local ships agents are hereby directed as follows:-

- a) To extend free period on return of empty containers by additional 7 days and 3 days for transit and local traffic respectively, from the existing granted periods;
- b) To note that the directive will be valid until the Covid19 pandemic challenges subside and a further directive issued at the opportune time;
- c) To note that the directive takes effect from 1st July 2020. This means that cargo currently held at the border posts will enjoy 7 extra days free of demurrage penalties by shipping lines.

MAJ. (RTD) GEORGE NYAMOKO OKONG'O
DIRECTOR GENERAL