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## **NEWS RELEASE**

August 20, 2020

## **COVID-19 testing for seafarers from PH to China**

The government of China has imposed a new requirement for all seafarers coming from the Philippines to further ensure the security of maritime transportation and fishery cooperation between the two nations amid the threat of the pandemic COVID-19.

Effective immediately, all seafarers, including Filipinos, Chinese and other foreign seafarers coming from the Philippines are required to provide a negative COVID-19 nucleic acid test result within 3 days before boarding.

A seafarer who will fail to comply with the new requirement will be denied entry into China.

The said new health travel protocol was announced by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Philippines, following the incident of confirmed COVID-19 cases among 23 Filipino seafarers who arrived in China since July 2020.###