

On 11 September 2014, the Cotonou Port Authority issued Circular No. 2173/PAC/DG/DGA/SG/DCM/DOMS outlining new measures to be taken against the spread of the EBOLA virus.

Below is a free translation.

"Cotonou port MD informed port users in general, and especially shipping agents, that the following preventive measures are in force in order to fight the Ebola virus. Said measures should be strictly complied with before any vessels berth in Cotonou port:

1. All vessel calling Cotonou port must provide to the Harbor Master's office through their agent 3 days before arrival, the port of call list mentioning the last 10 ports of calls.
2. All vessels arriving from, or have called at, an Ebola virus infected country port should have on board prevention equipment (all crew in gloves and mask compulsory).
3. All vessels arriving from, or have called at, an Ebola virus infected country's port and having prevention equipment on board should stay at anchorage and receive FREE PRATIQUE from quarantine officers prior pilot boarding. (Boat transportation cost for embarkation and disembarkation of quarantine officers are on vessel's account and same to be arranged by the agent).
4. Gloves and masks are compulsory for all vessel's crew member and all person boarding the vessel during her stay in the port."

Source: OMA Benin

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