

## No Use of Drones Onboard and Ashore by Passengers or Crew

### Background:

Drones (also known as Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) or Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)) are becoming increasingly popular and available for use.

Regulations differ across countries but in most places permits are required both for flying and/or taking photos (especially if in sensitive areas) and even small UAVs are typically regarded in the same way as other aircraft. Under some jurisdictions they could be also considered as “arms” and treated accordingly.

One of our vessels has recently had an issue with a port authority whereas a passenger had flown a drone ashore in the vicinity of the port area. The Local authorities had spotted it and required that all photo/images taken by the drone are deleted and have threatened severe penal actions. After a meeting onboard with the passenger the photos have been deleted and the drone not used further.

### References:

- 1) VMS: [Fleet Ops > 7.0 Passengers](#) > 7.6 Use of Drones
- 2) Expedition Operations Manual > 6.0 Drone Operations > 6.5 Guests and RPAS/UAVs

## ACTIONS REQUIRED

### The Master does the following procedure:

- 1) Advise Passengers and Crew that drones are prohibited and may not be brought onboard

**Note:** The Company, via its website and other documentation, will be also providing advance notice to passengers on the above, with wording similar to:  
*“Due to the differing local regulatory requirements and restrictions in destinations around the world regarding the use of aerial drones, and in the interest of maintaining a safe and secure environment for all guests and crew aboard all of our ships, please be advised that aerial drones are prohibited and may not be brought on board the ship. They must be surrendered to the Captain at and will be kept in storage for the duration of the cruise”*

- 2) If nevertheless Drones turn up onboard by passengers or crew, have them surrendered to an assigned Officer and keep them in a locked storage onboard till the relevant individual disembarks

**Do not allow use of Drones brought by passengers and crew neither onboard nor ashore**

*There is risk is that the ship could be considered liable for facilitating the “import” of illegal equipment, even if it is not used onboard but ashore*

- 3) Instruct security and excursion personnel accordingly to watch-out and report drones brought or used onboard, around the ship or ashore as applicable

**Note:** We will further update and enhance the VMS in next revision as per above

***The above does not apply to professional photographers, scientists or similar parties with legitimate scientific or commercial RPAS/ UAVs projects, who have been hired and/or approved by the Company.***

■ ■ Completed ■ ■