

Public authorities should endeavour to establish regular working hours for their services at ports consistent with the usual periods of substantial work load.

5.4.1 Recommended Practice. Contracting Governments should adopt all practicable measures to organize the normal services of public authorities at ports in order to avoid unnecessary delay of ships after their arrival or when ready to depart and reduce the time for completion of formalities to a minimum, provided that sufficient notice of estimated time of arrival or departure shall be given to the public authorities.

5.4.2 Standard. No charge shall be made by a health authority for any medical examination, or any supplementary examination, whether bacteriological or otherwise, carried out at any time of the day or night, if such examination is required to ascertain the health of the person examined, nor for visit to and inspection of a ship for quarantine purposes except inspection of a ship for the issue of a Deratting or Deratting Exemption Certificate, nor shall a charge be made for any vaccination of a person arriving by ship nor for a certificate thereof. However, where measures other than these are necessary in respect of a ship or its passengers or crew and charges are made for them by a health authority, such charges shall be made in accordance with a single tariff which shall be uniform to the territory concerned and they shall be levied without distinction as to the nationality, domicile or residence of any person concerned or as to the nationality, flag, registry or ownership of the ship.

5.4.3 Recommended Practice. When the services of public authorities are provided outside the regular working hours referred to in Recommended Practice 5.4, they should be provided on terms which shall be moderate and not exceed the actual cost of the services rendered.

5.5 Standard. Where the volume of traffic at a port warrants, public authorities shall ensure that services are provided for the accomplishment of the formalities in respect of cargo and baggage, regardless of value or type.

5.6 Recommended Practice. Contracting Governments should endeavour to make arrangements whereby one Government will permit another Government certain facilities before or during the voyage to examine ships, passengers, crew, baggage, cargo and documentation for customs, immigration, public health, plant and animal quarantine purposes when such action will facilitate clearance upon arrival in the latter State.

D. Cargo not Discharged at the Port of Intended Destination

5.7 Standard. Where any cargo listed on the Cargo Declaration is not discharged at the port of intended destination, public authorities shall permit amendment of the Cargo Declaration and shall not impose penalties if satisfied that the cargo was not in fact loaded on the ship, or if loaded, was landed at another port.

5.8 Standard. When by error, or for other valid reason, any cargo is discharged at a port other than the port of intended destination, public authorities shall facilitate reforwarding to its intended destination. This provision does not apply to dangerous, prohibited or restricted cargo.