

Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command

Customer Advisory

November 17, 2022

CA-22-11-17/0104

Subject: FIFA World Cup International Soccer Tournament (Qatar)

Purpose: To inform the shipping community of the disruption of cargo movements that are scheduled in the country of Qatar during the World Cup tournament timeframe. Anticipated operational delays due to government working hours and MHE constraints.

Be Advised: Beginning 01 November to 19 December 2022, the Qatari Government will reduce the in-office government workforce personnel to 20% per day. Additionally, government offices will only be open four (4) hours per weekday from 0700 to 1100hrs (Sunday-Thursday) and local and foreign national block leave approvals are implemented. Operational delays due to the decreased government office hours are expected to cause operational delays for inland support and cargo clearance. The Customs clearance process will be greatly affected, with the following offices working under the reduced in-person schedule: Ministry of Defense (MOD), Security Industry Regulatory Agency (SIRA), State Service Department (SSD), and port customs inspection stations throughout Qatar.

IMPACT ON CENTCOM AOR: There will be a significant disruption in cargo flow within the standard allotted timeframe. Due to administrative and operational delays across the Qatar public sector, cargo clearing operations will be significantly impacted, causing significant cargo movement delays. As of 03 November 2022, the Host Nation Officials have requested that the Qataris allow for those movements not containing firearms, explosives, or military vehicles to be allowed to move without Qatar Military Police escort to help reduce their tasking orders and alleviate shipment delays. Customers, please be advised that perishable goods can be transported from the port to the customers once the trucks and drivers are available.

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