**COVID-19 DECLARATION FOR VISTING VESSELS**

The COVID-19 pandemic poses both a grave public health risk and a major disruption of maritime traffic on a global scale. There are no medical facilities or air ambulances (helicopter or SAR) in BIOT and private medical evacuation takes several days to transport a patient to hospital. As such BIOT authorities have taken steps to limit the vectors through which the COVID-19 virus could spread to the Territory.

Firstly we ask that you provide both a primary destination after leaving BIOT (as listed in your application) and a secondary destination, to be used in the event that COVID restrictions limit access to your preferred port of call.

Primary destination after leaving BIOT: ……………………………………………………

Secondary destination after leaving BIOT: …………………………………………………

Permit extensions will not be granted once you have entered BIOT. You should be aware that any person who enters BIOT without a valid permit, or remains in BIOT after a valid permit has expired, is liable to imprisonment for 3 years and/or a fine of £5,000.

Whilst you are in BIOT you must obey the following protocols to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus:

* You must not board a vessel other than your own, either at anchor or at sea
* You must not transfer equipment or supplies between vessels except in case of serious mechanical failure or medical necessity.
* You must maintain a distance of six feet (two metres) from members of other crews whilst in anchorages

By signing below you declare that you understand and will follow these protocols while you are in the British Indian Ocean Territory.

Signed: ……………………………………………………….

Date: ………………………………………………………….

Vessel name: …………………………………………………