



Date Decemeber 18, 2023

Subject **Customer Advisory Ocean Freight
Stop of Red Sea Routes**

Dear customer,

Since December 15 in the afternoon, several major shipping lines have suspended their services via the Red Sea. Currently, Maersk, Hapag Lloyd, MSC, and CMA CGM have announced that they will be diverting all scheduled journeys through the Red Sea immediately to secure the safety of their seafarers and vessels. Ships will likely be routed via the Cape of Good Hope until a safe passage can be guaranteed.

The diversion will significantly increase transit times between Asia and Europe and require shipping lines to increase planned capacity. We expect the additional capacity requirements on this route will have a ripple effect on other routes. Affected will be services in and out of Europe and the Middle East and into Africa, where the Mediterranean ports are often used as hubs. Sailings from Asia to the East Coast of the Americas may also be impacted, as many shipping lines currently use the route to avoid congestion in the Panama Canal.

We are following up on all shipments already onboard or booked on services that will be impacted. Please note that due to these circumstances which are beyond our reasonable control, DHL Global Forwarding may not be able to meet the originally agreed transit times and that there may be pricing changes due to the stop of sailing through the Red Sea. Your customer service representatives will inform you if you have affected shipments and discuss the best shipping options to meet your supply chain requirements.

We are in contact with our carrier partners and will continue to update you on contingency plans and service changes.

Kind regards,

DHL Global Forwarding