



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY

Circular No 30/2023

SDM 05.13.002 & 12.03.001.033.001

27 December 2023

To all Registered owners, Registered bareboat charterers,
Managers and Representatives of ships flying the Cyprus flag
Certified Private Ship Security Companies

**Subject: The Protection of Cyprus Ships Against Acts of Piracy and other Unlawful Acts Law (Law 77(I) of 2012)¹
Temporary alteration of the northern limit in the Red Sea of the East Africa and Northwest Indian Ocean High-risk area- Order issued pursuant to sections 71(1)(e) and (f) and 71(2)(a) - Circular issued pursuant to section 71(2)(b)**

I wish to refer to the above subject matter and inform you as follows:

1 In view of the attacks of Yemeni Houthi against ships crossing the Straits of Bab-el-Madeb, the adoption of additional provisional specific security measures was deemed appropriate for the protection of Cyprus ships pursuant to sections 71(1)(e) and (f) and 71(2)(a) of the Protection of Cyprus Ships Against Acts of Piracy and other Unlawful Acts Law (Law 77(I) of 2012, "the Law").

2 As a result, the Minister of Transport, Communications and Works has issued an Order in accordance with the above-mentioned sections. The Order **amends on a temporary basis the First Schedule** of the Law, as follows:

- I. Part I of the First Schedule of the Law is amended on a temporary basis by replacing point (a) of subparagraph (1) of paragraph B with the following new point (a):

"in the Red Sea, the latitude of 16° 24' 14.8" North", the land border of Saudi Arabia with Yemen on the Red Sea;"

- II. Part II of the First Schedule of the Law is amended on a temporary basis by adding the following new paragraph (2):

"(2) Within the High-Risk Area of the East African the Northwest Indian Ocean

The sea area between the following lines:

(a) in the North, from the land the border of Saudi Arabia with Yemen on the Red Sea at geographical point at 16° 14' 14.8" N 042° 46' 19.7" E, along the latitude of 16° 14' 14.8" N to a point at 16° 14' 14.8" N 040° 26' 00" E;

¹ An unofficial translation of the Law in the English language is available on the SDM website.



(b) *in the West, from a geographical point at 16° 14' 14.8" N 040° 26' 00" E, along a straight line to the point at 15° 00' 00" N 040° 52' 00" E, then along a line at a distance of 12 nautical miles at sea off the coast of Eritrea up to the point at 13° 06' 00" N 042° 55' 00" E, then along the latitude of 16° 14' 14.8" N up to intersection with the coast of Eritrea, then along the coast of Eritrea and then Djibouti up to the intersection of the coast of Djibouti with the latitude at 12° 28' 00" N, then along the latitude of 12° 28' 00" N to a point at 12° 28' 00" N 043° 32' 00" E, and then along a line at a distance of 12 nautical miles at sea off the coast of Djibouti up to the point at 11° 48' 00" N 043° 27' 00" E;*

(c) *in the South and Southeast, from a geographical point at 11° 48' 00" N 043° 27' 00" E along a straight line to a point at 11° 48' 00" N 045° 00' 00" E, then along a straight line to a point at 14° 18' 00" N 053° 00' 00" E, and then along a straight line to a point at 16° 38' 51.62" N 053° 06' 39.22" E along the land border of Oman with Yemen;*

(d) *in the North in the Gulf of Aden, from a geographical point at 16° 38' 51.62" N 053° 06' 39.22" E southwest by west along the coast of Yemen in the Gulf of Aden; and*

(e) *In East in the Red Sea, northwest by north along the coast of Yemen in the Red Sea up to the land border of Saudi Arabia with Yemen at geographical point at 16° 24' 14.8" N 042° 46' 19.7" E."*

2.1 The first amendment extends, in the Red Sea, the area of the East Africa and Northwest Indian Ocean high-risk area, northwards from the parallel of 15° N to the parallel of 16° 24' 14.8" N. The second amendment establishes, within the aforesaid high-risk area, an additional geographic region in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden in relation to section 47(1)(a) and the entitlements of seafarers serving on board.

3 The above-mentioned Order has been issued on 22.12.2023, **entered into force² as of 23 December 2023** and shall **remain in force for 3 months** from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

4 For further information on the matter and requests pursuant to the Law kindly send an email at maritime.security@dms.gov.cy.

Dr. Anthony A. Madella

Dr. Anthony A. Madella
for Permanent Secretary

- Cc: - Attorney General of the Republic
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works
- Diplomatic and Consular Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
- Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry abroad
- General Manager, Cyprus Ports Authority
- Director, Department of Customs and Excise
- Registrar of Companies and Intellectual Property
- Commander, Cyprus Marine Police
- Cyprus Bar Association
- Cyprus Shipping Chamber
- Cyprus Union of Shipowners
- Cyprus Shipping Association

² Section 71(2)(a) of the Law is of relevance.