



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
**SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY**

Circular No. 5/2023

7 February 2023

SDM File No.05.13.002

To all Registered owners, Registered bareboat charterers  
Managers and Representatives of ships flying the Cyprus Flag

To all Owners, Managers, Representatives and  
Agents in Cyprus of Ships, irrespective of flag they are flying,  
calling at Cyprus ports

To all Recognised Organisations

**Subject: Entry into force of amendments to IMO International Conventions and Instruments: June to December 2023**

I refer to the above subject and I wish to inform you of the forthcoming entry into force of amendments to International Conventions and Instruments as shown in the below **Table**:

<b>Date of entry into force</b>	<b>International Convention/ Instrument</b>	<b>Description</b>
1 June 2023	<b>MARPOL Convention</b>  Annex IV	In accordance with the requirements set out in regulation 13.2 of MARPOL Annex IV, the discharge requirements for Special Areas in regulation 11.3 of MARPOL Annex IV for the Baltic Sea Special Area shall take effect on 1 June 2023 for existing passenger ships en route directly to or from a port located outside the special area and to or from a port located east of longitude 28°10' E within the special area that do not make any other port calls within the special area.  <b>IMO Resolution:</b> Resolution MEPC 275(69) adopted on 22 April 2016.
1 November 2023	<b>MARPOL Convention</b>  Annex II	Amendments to Appendix I of MARPOL Annex II related to the revised GESAMP Hazard Evaluation Procedure used for classification of new products carried on chemical tankers. Column E1 is reassigned for the rating of the flashpoint, and Column C3 concerning inhalation toxicity has been expanded to introduce sub-categorization with thresholds for mist and vapour concentrations.  <b>IMO Resolution:</b> Resolution MEPC 344(78) adopted on 10 June 2022.

<p>1 December 2023</p>	<p><b>SOLAS Convention</b>  IMSBC Code</p>	<p>Updates to the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code to include new definitions (including an updated definition for group A cargoes), references and requirements for cargoes which may undergo dynamic separation. Section 7 will be amended to cover cargoes which may liquefy or undergo dynamic separation. The section aims to bring attention to the risks associated with liquefaction or dynamic separation and the precautions to minimize the risk. This follows research by the Global Bauxite Working Group, which identified a new phenomenon affecting some bauxite cargoes, known as dynamic separation, which can cause instability of cargo and ship. Other IMSBC Code amendments relate to updates to individual schedules and new individual schedules. Contracting Governments to the SOLAS Convention are invited to apply them from 1 January 2023 on a voluntary basis.</p> <p><b>IMO Resolution:</b> Resolution MSC 500(105) adopted on 28 April 2022.</p>
----------------------------	--	---



Liana Charalambous Tanos  
Acting Permanent Secretary

**Cc.**

- Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry abroad
- General Manager, Cyprus Ports Authorities
- Cyprus Shipping Chamber
- Cyprus Union of Shipowners
- Cyprus Shipping Association
- Cyprus Bar Association