

Circular No. 1/2024

25 January 2024

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 and ILO International Conventions and Instruments: July 2024 to December 2024

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 **Annex** to this Circular.

Dr Stelios D. Himonas 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



Annex

Amendments to International Conventions and Instruments

Date of entry into	International	Description
force	Convention/ Instrument	
1 July 2024	MARPOL Annex I	Entry into effect of amendments to MARPOL Annex I (addition of a new regulation 43A) to introduce a prohibition on the use and carriage for use as fuel of heavy fuel oil (HFO) by ships in Arctic waters on and after 1 July 2024. The prohibition will cover the use and carriage for use as fuel of oils having a density at 15°C higher than 900 kg/m3 or a kinematic viscosity at 50°C higher than 180 mm2/s. Ships engaged in securing the safety of ships, or in search and rescue operations, and ships dedicated to oil spill preparedness and response would be exempted. Ships which meet certain construction standards with regard to oil fuel tank protection would need to comply on and after 1 July 2029. A Party to MARPOL with a coastline bordering Arctic waters may temporarily waive the requirements for ships flying its flag while operating in waters subject to that Party's sovereignty or jurisdiction, up to 1 July 2029.
		IMO Resolution: Resolution MEPC.329(76) adopted on 17 June 2021.
1 July 2024	IBC Code	Amendments to the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships Carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk (IBC Code) related to watertight doors. IMO Resolutions: Resolutions MEPC.345(78) and MSC.526(106) adopted on 10 June 2022 and 10 November 2022 respectively.
1 July 2024	SOLAS Chapter XV IP Code	New SOLAS chapter XV and the new mandatory Code for Industrial Personnel - new SOLAS chapter XV and the associated new International Code of Safety for Ships Carrying Industrial Personnel (IP Code), developed by the Sub-Committee on Ship Design and Construction (SDC 8). The aim is to provide minimum safety standards for ships that carry industrial personnel, as well as for the personnel themselves, and address specific risks of maritime operations within the offshore and energy sectors, such as personnel transfer operations. Such personnel may be engaged in the construction, maintenance, decommissioning, operation or servicing of offshore facilities, such as windfarms, as well as offshore oil and gas installations, aquaculture, ocean mining or similar activities. IMO Resolutions: Resolutions MSC.521 (106) and MSC.527 (106) adopted on 10 November 2022.
	ESP Code	the Enhanced Programme of Inspections during Surveys of Bulk Carriers and Oil Tankers, 2011 (2011 ESP Code)

		include those addressing inconsistencies on examination of ballast tanks at annual surveys for bulk carriers and oil tankers the following requirement contained in the condition evaluation report. IMO Resolution: Resolution MSC.525 (106) adopted on 10 November 2022.
23 December 2024	Maritime Labour Convention, 2006	Amendments of 2022 to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006) approved by the Conference at its one hundred and tenth session, Geneva, 6 June 2022 are the following: • Amendment to the Code relating to Regulation 1.4 - Recruitment and placement • Amendment to the Code relating to Regulation 2.5 - Repatriation • Amendments to the Code relating to Regulations 3.1 and 4.4 - Accommodation and recreational facilities/Access to shore-based welfare facilities • Amendments to the Code relating to Regulation 3.2 - Food and catering • Amendments to the Code relating to Regulation 4.1 - Medical care on board ship and ashore • Amendment to the Code relating to Regulation 4.3 - Health and safety protection and accident prevention • Amendments to Appendices The text of the amendments is available here.