



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY TO THE PRESIDENT

Circular No. 26/2021

23 June 2021

SDM 5.13.09

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

Subject: **Passenger ships: Application for Extension, Dispensation, Equivalence or Exemption.**

The purpose of this Circular is to advise the ship owners/managers that as from 15 May 2021 the applications for Service Extension, Dispensation, Equivalence or Exemption for Passenger Ships should be submitted in the format as per Appendix 1 of this Circular. All applications should be sent to the Shipping Deputy Ministry, at passengerships@dms.gov.cy.

2. This procedure applies to all passenger ships registered under the Cyprus Flag. For the purposes of this Circular, passenger ship means a ship which carries more than twelve (12) passengers and for which the SOLAS Convention or any European Regulation and Directive, the High Speed Craft Code (HSC), or Dynamically Supported Craft code (DSC) or any other International Instruments are applicable.

3. Furthermore, please take into consideration the following basic definitions when addressing such issues:

Extension: An Extension is a postponement of the term of validity of a Statutory certificate, servicing interval, or Dispensation, in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Convention, due to extenuating circumstances encountered that prevent the crediting of a requisite task prior to the nominal due date. Extensions of servicing intervals in particular are referred to as "Service Extensions." Extensions are also issued with time specific corrective action requirements compliance with which is reportable to the Administrator by the expiration date.

Dispensation: A Dispensation is a temporary allowance granted in writing (Dispensation Letter) by the Administrator to permit a ship to proceed without being in full compliance with a specific Convention requirement due to mitigating circumstances preventing the immediate rectification of the subject deficiency. Dispensations are issued with time specific corrective action requirements compliance with which are reportable to the Administrator by the expiration date.

Equivalence: Equivalence is an equivalent arrangement, which provides the same general level of safety or intent of a Convention requirement without meeting all criteria for full compliance. Such arrangements can be accomplished, either independently or in combination with, alternative equipment, additional procedures/precautions, operational restrictions, etc.



Exemption: An Exemption is a permanent release from compliance with a Statutory Convention requirement due to the existence of specific circumstances as sanctioned by the provisions of that Convention. The Exemption Certificate is linked to, and retained with, its associated statutory certificate, and is issued by the Recognised Organisation (RO) issuing that certificate under authorisation from the Administrator. Applications for Exemptions can also be requested directly by the shipowner, however, the Administrator will review these request with the relevant RO.



Neophytos Papadopoulos
Permanent Secretary

cc: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry abroad
Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
Cyprus Shipping Chamber
Cyprus Union of Shipowners
PEO Trade Union
SEK Trade Union
Cyprus Bar Association
All Recognised Organisations and Inspectors of Cyprus Ships

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