



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY

Circular No. 28/2020

28 December 2020

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To all Registered Owners, Registered bareboat charterers,
Managers and Representatives of ships flying the Cyprus flag

To all Members of the Cyprus Shipping Chamber (c/o Cyprus Shipping Chamber)

To all Members of the Cyprus Union of Shipowners (c/o Cyprus Union of Shipowners)

Subject: New Cyprus Legislation: “The Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships, Sales and Mortgages)(Amendment) Law of 2020 (Law 186(I)/2020)”

1. I wish to inform you of the enactment of *The Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships, Sales and Mortgages)(Amendment) Law of 2020 (Law 186(I)/2020)*, which was published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cyprus No 4794, Supplement I(I), dated 17 December 2020 (hereinafter “the amendment Law of 2020”) and which amends the *Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships, Sales and Mortgages) Laws of 1963-2005* (hereinafter “the basic Law”).

“The basic Law” as amended by “the amendment Law of 2020” is cited as *the Merchant Shipping (Registration of Ships, Sales and Mortgages) Laws of 1963-2020* (hereinafter “the new Law”) and an unofficial consolidated translation of “the new Law” is available on the web site of the Shipping Deputy Ministry www.shipping.gov.cy (click Info Centre / Legislation / Ship Registration, Maritime Safety / Security)

2. The main amendments/ provisions incorporated by the amendment Law of 2020 into the basic Law are the following:

2.1. Name of Master

Sections 10(c) and 20 of the basic Law have been deleted as the requirement to provide the name of the master as part of the registration procedure is deemed to be obsolete.

2.2. Mortgage Procedure

Sections 32 and 33 of the basic Law have been amended to legislate the practice already followed by the Registrar of Cyprus Ships with respect to mortgages on Cyprus ships.



More specifically:

(i) Section 32(2)

A new subsection (2) has been inserted in section 32 of the basic Law which permits the submission of a separate discharge receipt or consent (duly signed and executed) for the discharge of a registered mortgage.

(ii) Section 33(3)

Prior to the registration of a mortgage on a Cyprus ship, the consent of all registered mortgagees (where there are already registered one or more mortgages) is required to be produced, except where the registered mortgagee is the same as the mortgagee of the mortgage to be registered.

2.3. Deletion of Cyprus ship

A new paragraph (g) has been inserted in subsection (1) of section 54A of the basic Law to expressly provide for the deletion of a Cyprus ship from the Register of Cyprus Ships following the sale of the ship by Court order.

2.4. Other Amendments

Following the set-up of the Shipping Deputy Ministry on 1st March 2018, in addition to the amendments included above, certain other minor amendments were deemed necessary to the basic Law in order for the new Law to be in line with *the Establishment of a Shipping Deputy Ministry and Appointment of a Shipping Deputy Minister to the President and for Matters Connected Therewith Law of 2017 (Law 123(I)/2017)*.

More specifically there have been introduced the following new terms and their definitions: "Shipping Deputy Ministry", "Shipping Deputy Minister", "Permanent Secretary" and other minor amendments throughout the text of the new Law.



Dr. Neophytos Papadopoulos
Acting Permanent Secretary
Shipping Deputy Ministry

cc:- Permanent Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry to the President abroad
- Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
- Cyprus Bar Association
- Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Cyprus