



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



DEPARTMENT
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING
LEMESOS

Circular No. 36/2012

25 July 2012

TEN 5.13.09
TEN 4.2.12.3.11

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

To all Owners, Managers and Representatives of ships, irrespective of flag,
calling Cyprus ports or sailing within the territorial sea of the Republic of Cyprus
c/o Cyprus Shipping Chamber
c/o Cyprus Union of Shipowners
c/o Cyprus Shipping Association

Subject: New European Union restrictive measures against Syria adopted in July 2012-Council Decision 2012/420/CFSP

I refer to the above matter and further to my Circulars No. 38/2011, No.13/2012 and No. 30/2012, I wish to inform you of the recent adoption by the Council of the European Union of **Decision 2012/420/CFSP** of 23 July 2012 **amending Decision 2011/782/CFSP** concerning restrictive measures against Syria.

2. Decision 2011/782/CFSP as now amended, stipulates that, if Member States have information that provides reasonable grounds to believe that the cargo of vessels bound for Syria contains items whose supply, sale, transfer or export is prohibited or, is subject to authorisation under Decision 2011/782/CFSP as amended, they shall inspect, in accordance with their national legislation and consistent with international law, in particular the law of the sea and relevant maritime transport agreements, such vessels in their seaports, as well as in their territorial sea, in accordance with decisions and capabilities of their competent authorities and with the consent, as necessary in accordance with international law for the territorial sea, of the flag State (see new Article 17b(1) of the Decision).

3. Items discovered to be transported in breach of the prohibition shall be seized and disposed of by the authorities of the EU Member States in accordance with their national legislation and consistent with international law (see new Article 17b(2)).



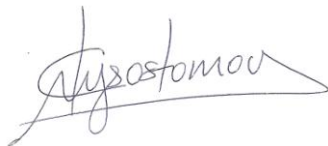
4. Furthermore, Decision 2011/782/CFSP as now amended introduces the obligation for all vessels transporting cargo to Syria to submit additional pre-arrival or pre-departure information for all goods brought into or out of a Member State (see new Article 17b(4)).

5. The text of the aforesaid EU instrument, effective as of its publication in the Official Gazette of the EU, being the 24th July 2012, is obtainable from <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>. A regularly updated list of all the European Union restrictive measures in force can be found at http://eeas.europa.eu/cfsp/sanctions/docs/measures_en.pdf.

6. It is recalled that EU instruments have a direct effect and are binding on shipowners /ship operators and any violation may expose them to relevant penalties under the Cyprus legislation or the legislation of any other Member State.

7. All recipients of the present Circular are invited to take note of its content (in addition to the content of previous Circulars on the matter) and should strictly abide by the provisions of the EU Instruments imposing restrictive measures against Syria.

This Circular must be placed on board vessels flying the Cyprus flag.



Andreas Chrysostomou
Acting Director
Department of Merchant Shipping

Cc: -Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works

- Attorney General of the Republic
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice and Public Order
- Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
- Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad
- General Manager, Cyprus Ports Authority
- Director, Department of Customs and Excise
- Registrar of Companies
- Commander, Cyprus Marine Police
- Cyprus Shipping Chamber
- Cyprus Union of Shipowners
- Cyprus Shipping Association
- Cyprus Bar Association

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