



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT,
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



DEPARTMENT
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING
LEMESOS

Circular No.23/2015

30 July 2015

TEN 5.13.09
TEN 4.3.08.13

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

To all Owners, Managers and Representatives of ships under a foreign flag calling at
Cyprus ports

*c/o Cyprus Shipping Chamber
c/o Cyprus Union of Shipowners
c/o Cyprus Shipping Association*

Subject: Six month suspension of certain European Union restrictive measures against Iran (Iran`s Nuclear Programme) by virtue of EU Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1148 of 14th July 2015 amending EU Council Decision 2010/413/CFSP – Circular under paragraph 4¹ of national Prohibition Order P.I. 369/2010²

1. I refer to the above subject and further to DMS Circulars No. 19/2010, No. 30/2010, No. 34/2010, No. 7/2012, No. 17/2012, No. 48/2012, No. 55/2012, No. 63/2012, No. 5/2013³, No. 9/2013, and especially No. 3/2014, No. 24/2014 and No. 41/2014, I wish to inform you of the adoption by the European Union Council on 14th July 2015 of **EU Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1148** amending EU Council Decision 2010/413/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Iran.
2. By virtue of the above adopted European Union Decision, the following **prohibitions** have been **suspended** until the **14 January 2016** from the entry into force of the aforesaid Decision, i.e. 14th July 2015:
 - (a) the prohibition of **transportation of Iranian crude oil**;

¹ It is recalled that paragraph 4 of national Prohibition Order P.I. 369/2010 extends the prohibition of transportation by Cyprus ships to “any items, materials and equipment in contravention of EU Council Decision 2010/413/CFSP and of any related Regulations or other instruments of the European Union adopted towards the implementation, amendment or replacement of the said Decision” (paragraph 2(e) of DMS Circular No. 30/2010 and Part I of DMS Circular No. 17/2012 are of relevance).

² The Cyprus Ships (Prohibition of Transportation of Specific Items, Materials, Equipment, Goods and Technology to and from Iran) Order of 2010, P.I. 369/2010 published in the Official Gazette of the Republic No. 4447, Supplement III (I), dated 20.08.2010.

³ It is recalled that DMS Circulars No. 17/2012 (Part II), No. 63/2012 and No.5/2013 relate to the deterioration of the human rights situation in Iran.



- (b) the **prohibition** of the provision of **insurance and reinsurance** relating to the import, purchase and transportation of **Iranian crude oil**;
- (c) the **prohibition** of the import, purchase or **transportation** of **Iranian petrochemical products**;
- (d) the **prohibition** of the provision of **insurance and reinsurance**, related to the import, purchase, or transportation of **Iranian petrochemical products**;
- (e) the **prohibition** of the transportation of **gold and precious metals**;
- (f) the **prohibition** to **supply vessels** designed for the transport or storage of oil and petrochemical products to Iranian persons, entities or bodies.
- (g) the **prohibition** to **supply vessels** designed for the transport or storage of oil and petrochemical products to any person, entity or body for the transport or storage of Iranian oil and petrochemical products;
- (h) the **freezing of funds** as set out in Article 20(1)(b) and (c) and in Article 20(2) of EU Council Decision 2010/413/CFSP, as amended, relating only to the Ministry of Petroleum, listed in Annex II, shall be suspended until 14 January 2016, insofar as necessary for the execution, until 14 January 2016, of contracts for the import or purchase of Iranian petrochemical products.

3. Consequently-

- (a) the prohibition of the transportation by Cyprus Ships of **Iranian crude oil** as well as the provision of **insurance or reinsurance** related to the transportation of Iranian crude oil contained in Paragraph (D)/ Part I.1 of DMS Circular No. 17/2012 of 9.04.2012 is suspended until 14 January 2016;
- (b) the prohibition of the transportation by Cyprus Ships of **Iranian petrochemical products** as well as the provision of **insurance or reinsurance** related to the transportation of such products, contained in Paragraph (E)/ Part I.1 of DMS Circular No. 17/2012 of 9.04.2012 is suspended until 14 January 2016;
- (c) the prohibition of the transportation by Cyprus Ships of **gold and precious metals**⁴ contained in Paragraph (F)/ Part I.1 of DMS Circular No. 17/2012 of 9.04.2012 is suspended until 14 January 2016. The prohibition with respect to the transportation of diamonds (referred to in the same paragraph of DMS Circular No. 17/2012) remains in force.
- (d) the **prohibition to supply vessels** designed for the transport or storage of oil and petrochemical products contained in paragraph 5 and 6 of DMS Circular No. 55/2012 of 26.10.2012 is suspended until 14 January 2016.

4. Notwithstanding the above suspension until the 14 January 2016, the owners/ managers of ships under the Cyprus flag are **strongly advised to consult their insurance providers** (Protection and Indemnity, "P&I" Clubs) **prior to entering into a contract** for the transportation of the above goods within the aforesaid period of suspension in order to **ensure that insurance cover arrangements will be available** to them for such a carriage.

⁴ See new Annex XII introduced by Council Regulation (EU) No. 42/2014.

5. It is recalled that by virtue of DMS Circular No. 42/2014, our Department advised that it has been brought to our attention that the number of entities engaged in shipping and oil and gas sectors, that have been included in the lists of targeted entities subject to EU and UN restrictive measures, has significantly increased. Therefore it is imperative that all owners, bareboat charterers, managers and representatives of ships under the Cyprus flag as well as of ships, irrespective of flag, calling Cyprus ports, or managed from Cyprus, study thoroughly the said sanctions lists before entering into any agreement/transaction with Iranian entities.
 6. The EU sanctions lists are set out in the Annexes of EU Council Decision 2010/413/CFSP as lastly amended as well as EU Council Regulation (EU) No. 267/2012 as lastly amended (in their latest version – please consult the latest consolidated version from www.eur-lex.europa.eu).
- The UN sanctions list is set out on the United Nations website at the following link http://www.un.org/sc/committees/1737/sanctions_list.shtml
7. The text of the aforesaid EU instruments may be obtained from <http://eur-lex.europa.eu> whereas, 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
 8. 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 EU Member State.
 9. Owners, bareboat charterers, managers and representatives of ships under the Cyprus flag as well as of ships, irrespective of flag, calling Cyprus ports, are advised to strictly abide by the prohibitions on transportation contained in the EU Instruments with respect to Iran.

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



Andreas I. Chrysostomou
Acting Director
Department of Merchant Shipping

Cc: - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport, 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