



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



DEPARTMENT
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING
LEMESOS

Circular No 16 /2008

TEN 5.13.09
TEN 12.3.02.6

To all Owners, Managers
and Representatives
of Ships under the Cyprus Flag

2 September 2008

Subject: The Merchant Shipping (Issue and Recognition of Certificates and Marine Training) Law of 2008 (Law 27(I)/2008) / Implementation of relevant EU Harmonising Legislation and of the STCW '78 Convention as amended

1. I wish to inform you of the enactment of the *Merchant Shipping (Issue and Recognition of Certificates and Marine Training) Law of 2008 (Law 27(I)/2008)*, published in the Official Gazette of the Republic No. 4164, Supplement I (I), dated 30.05.2008.

Law 27(I) of 2008 , in force since 30 May 2008 , repeals and replaces *The Merchant Shipping (Issue and Recognition of Certificates and Marine Training) Laws of 2000 to 2005 (Law 109(I) of 2000, as amended with Laws 168(I)/2004 and 56(I)/2005).*

Law 27(I)/2008) was actually enacted for the transposition into our national legislation of Directive 2005/45/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7th September 2005, (amending the basic Directive 2001/25/EC on the minimum level of training of seafarers) and for the effective implementation of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers ,1978 (STCW `78 Convention as amended)

The text of the above Community Directives is available on the European Union website at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>

2. The new Law 27(I)/2008 mainly provides for :
 - a) The issue by the Republic,
 - b) The issue by any other country and the recognition by the Republic, and
 - c) The endorsement

of the certificates of the seafarers serving on board seagoing ships flying the Cyprus flag, including the qualifications that the seafarers should fulfil in order to obtain such certificates.

Furthermore, Law 27(I)/2008 provides for the supervision and approval , by the Competent Authority, of the training programmes as well as of the marine training schools.

3. Circular No 16/2008 replaces my previous Circulars No 38/2004 and No. 23/2005.

Serghios S. Serghiou
Director
Department of Merchant Shipping

- cc. - Attorney General of the Republic
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works
 - Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad
 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - Permanent Secretary, Planning Bureau
 - 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

CPL