

REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



LEMESOS

Circular No 6/2013

15 February 2013

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To all
Owners, Masters and
Representatives of
Foreign Vessels calling at Cyprus Ports

c/o Cyprus Shipping Association

Subject: <u>Harmonised Verification Program on Passenger Ships Calling the ports</u> of the Republic of Cyprus

I wish to refer to the above subject and to inform you that a Harmonized Verification Program (HAVEP) on operational controls of passenger ships will take place within the Paris MoU region and will last for the entire year of 2013.

In view of the above, please note that all passenger ferries and passenger high-speed craft ships not engaged in regular trade eligible for port State control (PSC) inspection under the Paris MoU regime will undergo the HAVEP during PSC inspections.

Section 6 of *The Merchant Shipping (Community Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information System) Laws of 2004 to 2012 (Law 131(I)/2004 as amended)* provides for the notification arrival of the vessel at least twenty four (24) hours prior to its arrival or at the latest, at the time the ship leaves the previous port, if the voyage time is less than twenty four (24) hours. Section 12 (1) of *The Merchant Shipping (Port State Control) Law of 2011 (Law 95(I)/2011)* provides that the operator, representative or master of any foreign vessels calling at Cyprus Ports liable for an expanded inspection as defined in section 17 of the said Law should submit the relevant information at least seventy two (72) hours prior to its arrival or at the latest, at the time the ship leaves the previous port, if the voyage time is less than seventy two (72) hours. The notification should take place using the Cyprus Ports Authority (CPA) system CyPoS.

Bearing in mind the tight schedule of the passenger ships calling the ports of the Republic of Cyprus, the Department of Merchant Shipping strongly advices/recommends the Master and/or the vessel representatives in Cyprus to notify the competent authorities of the ships' arrival well in advance (at least 72 hours prior

ship's arrival) giving them the time to organise the PSC inspection in a such a way as to ensure a minimum interference with the ships operation. This timely notification will enable the Port State Control Authorities of the Republic of Cyprus to organize the inspection so that unnecessary delay for the ship will be avoided.

It is advised that the Press Release of the Paris MoU on HAVEP is taken into account by the Masters of the affected vessels calling the ports of the Republic of Cyprus. The Press Release can be accessed on the Paris MOU web site (www.parismou.org).

In case you need any additional information please refer to the Department of Merchant Shipping.

Dr. Anthony Madella Acting Director

Att welles

cc: - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works

- Attorney General of the Republic
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad
- Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
- General Manager Cyprus Ports Authority
- Cyprus Shipping Chamber
- Cyprus Union of Shipowners
- Cyprus Bar Association