

REPUBLIC



OF CYPRUS

**MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS
DEPARTMENT OF MERCHANT SHIPPING
LEMESOS**

Circular No: 42/2004

TEN 1/18

25 August 2004

To all Owners and Representatives
Of Ships flying the Cyprus flag.

Subject: **Pilotage service when transiting the Great Barrier Reef
and the Torres Strait in Australia**

I refer to refer to the above subject and wish to advise you that the Australian Government, in order to prevent any accident occurring in this ecologically sensitive area, requests all Governments to ensure the use of the Pilotage service when transiting the Great Barrier Reef and the Torres Strait.

Furthermore the IMO Assembly at its 17th Session with Resolution A.710(17) recommends that ships of 70 meters in length and all loaded oil tankers, chemical tankers or Liquefied Gas Carriers irrespective of size, use the pilotage services licensed under the Australian Commonwealth State or Territory Law when navigating in the said area.

Although the use of pilotage is a recommendation, the Government of the Republic of Cyprus which is committed to its policy for the protection of the environment, urges the owners and the managers of the Cyprus Flag ships to conform to the recommendation for the use of pilotage in these areas.

Any notification of the Australian Authorities referred to Cyprus ships for not using the Pilotage services, will be treated by the Department of Merchant Shipping as a contravention of Regulation V/10 of SOLAS 74 as amended (amendments 2000), ratified by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus by Law 10 (III) of 2001 and as a total disregard of our policy for the protection of the environment.

S.S.Serghiou
Director
Department of Merchant Shipping

C.C. Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping
Diplomatic and Consular Missions of the Republic
Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
Cyprus Bar Association
Cyprus Shipping Association (Sea Rovers) Ltd
Cyprus Shipping council
Union of Cypriot Shipowners