

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS  
DEPARTMENT OF MERCHANT SHIPPING  
LEMESOS

Circular No. 5/2003

TEN 1/5  
TEN 40/22

27 February 2003

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

**Subject: The Cyprus Ships (Prohibition of Transportation of Arms , Military Equipment, Related Materiel and Diamonds from and to Ports of Sierra Leone ) Order 2003**

1. I refer to above subject and further to my Circulars No 3/99, 2/2000 and 12/2000, I wish to inform you that the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus in exercise of the powers vested in it by Section 3 of the Cyprus Ships Prohibition of Transportation Laws 1966-1971, adopted the Cyprus Ships (Prohibition of Transportation ) Order of 2003 (Published in the Official Gazette of the Republic No 3682, Supplement III(I), dated 14.02.2003 , P.I. 120/2003 ).
2. The above Order in conformity with UN Security Council Resolutions 1171(1998),1299(2000),1306(2000),1385(2001)and EU Common Position 98/409/CFSP, repeals Orders P.I. No 301/99 and 352/2000.

Therefore, the present situation regarding Sierra Leone is the following:

a) The transportation by Cyprus ships of arms and related materiel of all types, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment and relevant spare parts destined for the repair of the aforementioned to any port of Sierra Leone ,unless they are destined for the legal Government of Sierra Leone through named points of entry on a list already supplied or to be supplied by the said Government to the UN Secretary – General , is prohibited.

The above mentioned prohibitions are not applicable in relation to arms and related materiel destined for the sole use of the Military Observer Group of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) , of the United

Nations and of those Member States of United Nations cooperating with the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) and with the Government of Sierra Leone.

- b) The transportation by Cyprus ships of rough diamonds from Sierra Leone, is prohibited.

The above mentioned prohibition does not apply for rough diamonds controlled by the Government of Sierra Leone through the Certificate of Origin regime .

3. Under section 5 of the Cyprus Ships (Prohibition of Transportation ) Laws 1966-1971 ,the Master as well as the owner of any Cyprus ship which, in contravention of any prohibition Order issued under section 3 of said Laws, transports any cargo or calls at prohibited ports, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine not exceeding ten thousand pounds or to both such imprisonment and fine.

The Owners and Masters of Cyprus Ships are advised to strictly abide by the above Order.

Serghios S. Serghiou  
Director

Cc: Permanent Secretary ,Ministry of Communications and Works  
Permanent Secretary ,Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Attorney General of the Republic  
Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad  
Diplomatic Mission and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic  
Cyprus Shipping Council  
Association of Cypriot Shipowners ( Sea Rovers )Ltd  
Union of Cypriot Shipowners  
Cyprus Bar Association

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