



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT,
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



DEPARTMENT
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING
LEMESOS

Circular No. 03/2016

9 February 2016

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, Representatives and Agents in Cyprus of Ships, irrespective of flag they are flying, calling at Cyprus ports
c/o Cyprus Shipping Chamber
c/o Cyprus Union of Shipowners
c/o Cyprus Shipping Association

Subject: Lifting/ Suspension of European Union restrictive measures (sanctions) against Iran (relating to Iran's Nuclear Programme)

1. I refer to the above matter 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. 05/2013¹, No. 09/2013, No. 3/2014, No. 24/2014, No. 41/2014, No. 42/2014 and No. 23/2015 I wish to inform you of the adoption by the Council of the European Union of the following instruments relating to the sanction's on Iran's Nuclear Programme:

- **Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1863** of 18 October 2015 amending Council Decision 2010/413/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Iran;

Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/37 of 16 January 2016 concerning the date of application of Decision (CFSP) 2015/1863 amending Decision 2010/413/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Iran;

- **Council Regulation (EU) 2015/1861** of 18 October 2015 amending Regulation (EU) No 267/2012 concerning restrictive measures against Iran.

2. By virtue of the aforementioned instruments, a number of restrictive measures (sanctions) against Iran have been **lifted/ suspended** as of 16 January 2016. These include the following that directly or indirectly relate to merchant shipping:

¹ It is recalled that DMS Circulars No. 17/2012 (Part II), No. 63/2012 and No.05/2013 relate to the deterioration of the human rights situation in Iran.



- (a) the prohibition to sale, supply and transfer items, materials, equipment, goods and technology contained in the Nuclear Suppliers Group and Missile Technology Control Regime or which could contribute to enrichment-related, reprocessing or **heavy water-related activities**, or to the development of **nuclear weapon delivery systems** (Article 1(1)(a), (b), (d), (e) and Article 2 of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (b) the prohibition to import, purchase or transport of **Iranian crude oil, petroleum and petrochemical products** and of **Iranian natural gas**, as well as, the prohibition to provide, directly or indirectly, financing or financial assistance as well as **insurance and reinsurance**, related to the import, purchase, or transport of Iranian crude oil and petroleum products (Articles 3a, 3b and 3c of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (c) the prohibition to sale, supply or transfer of **key equipment** and technology for certain key sectors of the **oil and natural gas industry** and the **petrochemical industry** in Iran or to Iranian or Iranian-owned enterprises engaged in those sectors (Articles 4 and 4a of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (d) the prohibition relating to the direct or indirect sale, purchase, transportation or **brokering of gold and precious metals**, as well as of **diamonds** (Article 4c of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (e) the prohibition relating to the delivery of newly printed or minted or unissued **Iranian denominated banknotes and coinage** (Article 4d of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (f) the prohibition to sale, supply or transfer to Iran of **graphite** and **raw or semi-finished metals such as aluminium and steel** (Article 4e of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (g) the prohibition to sale, supply, transfer or export of **naval equipment and technology for ship building**, maintenance or refit, to Iran or to any Iranian persons engaged in this sector (Article 4g of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (h) the prohibition to sale, supply or transfer to Iran of **software for integrating industrial processes** (Article 4i of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (i) the prohibition relating to the **construction of new oil tankers** for Iran or for Iranian persons or entities (Article 8a of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (j) the prohibition relating to the provision of **insurance and re-insurance** to the Government of Iran, or to entities incorporated in Iran or subject to Iran's jurisdiction (Article 12 of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (k) the obligation to communicate to the Committee any **information** available on **transfers** or activity by **vessels** owned or operated by the **Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines (IRISL)** to other companies (Article 16 of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (l) the prohibition to provide **flagging and classification services**, including registration and identification numbers of any kind, to **Iranian oil tankers and cargo vessels** (Article 18a of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended);
- (m) the prohibition to **supply vessels** designed for the **transport or storage of oil and petrochemical products** to Iranian persons, entities or bodies (Article 18b of Council Decision 2010/413 as amended).

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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
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

LMK