



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
MINISTRY OF  
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



DEPARTMENT  
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING  
LEMESOS

Circular 8/2010

TEN 5.13.09  
TEN 16.3.01.1.15

15 March 2010

Owners, Managers  
and Representatives  
of Ships under the Cyprus Flag

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

Cyprus Shipping Association

**Subject: New Inspection Regime on Port State Control**

I wish to refer to the above mentioned subject and inform you the following:

On January 1, 2011 the New Inspection Regime (NIR) on port State control (PSC) will commence in the Paris MOU region. Some of the changes from the existing regime will be highlighted.

The selection of the ships to be inspected by the PSC authorities will be made based on the risk profile (SRP) of each individual ship. Ships will be assigned one of three following risk profiles: High risk (HRS), Standard risk (SRS) and Low risk (LRS). The SRP will be determined by a number of parameters including but not limited to the type, age, flag state performance, the recognised organisation performance, the company performance, the detentions and deficiencies over the years of the ship. The Paris MOU has on its website ([www.parismou.org](http://www.parismou.org)) tools by which the SRP and the company performance can be calculated. The SRP will also determine the intervals at which a ship will be inspected unless other factors arise. HRS will be liable for an inspection between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> month, SRS between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> month and LRS between 24<sup>th</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> month. It is clear that good performing ships are rewarded with a lighter burden of inspections. Cyprus is fulfilling all the requirements for its ships to be categorised as LRS. The remaining obligations must be fulfilled by the companies (see ship risk profile scheme at Paris MOU website).

Within the NIR ships liable for expanded inspections, amongst other, are all HRS, passenger ships, oil tankers, gas or chemical tankers and bulk carriers older than 12 years. The operator, master or agent of a ship which is liable to an expanded inspection must notify its arrival at least 72 hours before the expected time of arrival at the port or anchorage or prior its departure from a foreign port if the voyage is less than 72 hours, using in most countries

including Cyprus, the SafeSea Net system indicating that the ship is liable for an expanded inspection.

The operator, master or agent of all ships must notify its arrival at least 24 hours before the expected time of arrival in the port or anchorage or prior its departure from a foreign port if the voyage is less than 24 hours, using again the SafeSea Net system.

Failure to comply with the above notification requirements may cause the ship to be targeted for inspection and penalties to be imposed.

The refusal of access (banning) into the Paris MOU region is expanded to include now all types of ships flying the flags of a State whose detention rate falls into the black or grey list adopted by the Paris MOU. The 3<sup>rd</sup> detention within 36 months of a ship flying the flag of a State whose detention rate falls into the black list will lead into a refusal of access. The 3<sup>rd</sup> detention within 24 months of a ship flying the flag of a State whose detention rate falls into the grey list will lead into a refusal of access. Also, it is important to know that minimum periods of refusal of access will apply.

All owners, managers and representatives of Cyprus flag ships and foreign ships visiting the Republic of Cyprus are strongly advised to visit the Paris MOU website ([www.parismou.org](http://www.parismou.org)) and familiarise themselves with the new requirements and obligations under the NIR. Also a “Frequently Asked Questions” section has been created at the website which may be of assistance. Any questions that may arise can be forwarded to the Department of Merchant Shipping in writing at [psc@dms.mcw.gov.cy](mailto:psc@dms.mcw.gov.cy) and a reply will be forwarded back.

S. S. Serghiou  
Director  
Department of Merchant Shipping

cc: Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works  
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad  
Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Offices of the Republic  
Cyprus Ports Authority  
Recognised Classification Societies  
Cyprus Shipping Chamber  
Cyprus Union of Shipowners  
Cyprus Bar Association