

## Cyprus Union of Shipowners

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**To:** ECSA - Committee Legal Advisory; ECSA - Committee Social Affairs; ECSA - National Associations  
**Cc:** ECSA - Secretariat  
**Subject:** ECSA C-13510 SAC LAC - French Law on seafarers' wages - Signature of implementing Decree

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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To ECSA - Committee Legal Advisory  
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ECSA - National Associations  
ECSA - Secretariat

Ref. ECSA C-13510

20/03/2024

### **SAC LAC - French Law on seafarers' wages - Signature of implementing Decree**

Dear members,

We would like to inform you that on 19 March, the **French Minister of the Sea signed the implementing decree of the law concerning seafarers' wages and working conditions.**

The text has not yet been published, but reports confirm that the law's scope will be limited to passenger vessels operating in the English Channel, which make at least 120 calls to a French port.

According to reports, the new law mandates French minimum wages for all seafarers, irrespective of the vessels' flag and nationality, which must be equivalent to those of shore workers. Additionally, it imposes restrictions on onboard working hours, which should not exceed the rest time ashore. Companies failing to comply may face substantial fines, as well as criminal penalties.

The information received indicates that the text is expected **to be published in the Official Journal in the coming days, and both the decrees and the law will take effect three months later.**

The Secretariat has already been in contact with the Commission regarding this new development and will continue to closely monitor any action on this matter.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,  
Eurico

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