



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY

Circular No. 03/2026

30 January 2026

SDM 05.13.002 & 04.28.005.004.002

To all Registered owners, Registered bareboat charterers
Managers and Representatives of Cyprus ships

Subject: Safety and security of vessels under Cyprus Flag calling or approaching ports/countries where armed/civil conflicts take place

The Shipping Deputy Ministry wishes to reiterate its recommendation (Circulars No. [20/2015](#), [33/2021](#), [25/2023](#) and [15/2025](#) are of relevance) to the owners and operators of Cyprus flagged vessels **to avoid any callings and transactions at foreign ports and/or countries where political instability and/ or armed and/or civil conflicts take place** (or are evidently imminent).

2 The situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Persian/Arabian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman and the Straits of Hormuz remains, for the time being, volatile. Therefore, the Shipping Deputy Ministry wishes to reiterate its recommendations included in SDM Circular No. [15/2025](#) (**attached**).

Dr. Theodoulos Mesimeris
Acting Permanent Secretary

- Cc:** - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Maritime Offices of the Shipping Deputy Ministry abroad
- Recognised Organisations
- Cyprus Bar Association
- Cyprus Shipping Chamber
- Cyprus Union of Shipowners
- Cyprus Shipping Association





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Circular No. 15/2025

17 June 2025

SDM 05.13.002 & 04.28.005.004.002

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2 The situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, the Persian/Arabian Gulf, the Gulf of Oman and the Straits of Hormuz remains, for the time being, volatile. Therefore, it is recommended, in the absence of any specific security-related threats, that owners, operators, managers and masters of Cyprus flagged operating in said area:

- maintain increased vigilance and close communication with Port and Flag State authorities and local shipping agents, in accordance with the requirements of the ISPS Code and increase, as necessary, the rigorousness of implementing the security measures aboard in order to protect the vessel and its crew,
- make frequent checks with local sources of information, e.g. vessel agents, local authorities, Hull and Machinery and Protection and Indemnity insurance providers, in order to obtain the most up-to-date and reliable security-related information available at any given time,
- carefully assess the security-related situation at each port call or when remaining or navigating through territorial waters, on a case-by-case basis and, as necessary, to implement appropriate security measures aboard in order to protect the vessel and its crew,
- review, exercise and, if necessary, implement the relevant contingency plans,
- contact the vessel's Protection and Indemnity Club/ war insurer well in advance for any voyage in the area.

3 For any security- related concerns please contact the SDM by email at maritime.security@dms.gov.cy or ssas@dms.gov.cy or by telephone at the number: +357 99 377988 (during out of office hours).



4 Vessels operating in the area are advised to report to the UK Maritime Trade Operations ([UKMTO](#), Voluntary Reporting Scheme for the Indian Ocean, specifically Red Sea, Gulf Of Aden, and Arabian Sea) and register with the Maritime Security Centre for the Indian Ocean ([MSCIO](#)) in accordance with industry BMP ([Best Management Practices](#)).



Dr. Stelios D. Himonas
Permanent Secretary

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