



THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG  
Ministry of the Economy

Maritime Administration

Luxembourg, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023

**Circular CAM 01/2023**

O/Ref.: JS/115810

Subject: **Note Verbale with reference 20.01.011-No.16/2023 received from the Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus**

To: All Accredited Shipping Managers, ship owners, ship operators, Designated Persons Ashore, Masters of Luxembourg flagged ships, Recognised Organisations and Flag State Inspectors

The present Circular brings to your attention the Note Verbale with reference 20.01.011-No.16/2023 received from the Embassy of the Republic of Cyprus (cf. attachment).

It is hereby reminded that the Government of the Republic of Cyprus has declared the ports of Famagusta, Karavostasi and Kyrenia as closed for all vessels by an Order of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus issued on 3.10.1974 (P.I. 265/74).

**Therefore, all vessels, including cargo and passenger ships, ferry boats and yachts, which call these ports, are in breach of the relevant national laws of the Republic of Cyprus and are subject to sanctions as described in the Note Verbale.**

You are kindly requested to ensure adequate dissemination of this information within your company and to the relevant Luxembourg flagged vessels.



(s) André Hansen  
Government Commissioner  
for maritime affairs



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
SURINAMESTRAAT 15  
2585 GG THE HAGUE

Ref. 20.01.011-No.16/2023

**NOTE VERBALE**

[...]

It is recalled that the Government of the Republic of Cyprus does not recognize any ports, harbors, marinas or fishing shelters in the occupied part of Cyprus as legal points of entry/exit to the territory of the Republic of Cyprus. The ports of Famagusta, Karavostasi and Kyrenia, which operated before the Turkish invasion in 1974, have been declared as closed for all vessels by an Order of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cyprus on 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 1974.

The fact that the Republic of Cyprus does not exercise effective control over the occupied part of its territory does not preclude it from exercising its rights under international law. Therefore, all vessels which call at the occupied part of Cyprus, are in breach of the relevant national laws of the Republic and are subject to sanctions. The relevant legislation provides that the master or/and the owner of a ship which arrives and departs from a port which is closed or enters and stays therein shall be guilty of an offence and be liable to imprisonment not exceeding two years or to a fine not exceeding seventeen thousand eighty-six euros (17.086) or both penalties simultaneously. The said measures were taken in order to uphold and maintain the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus over its ports and harbors and due to the fact that safety of navigation could no longer be guaranteed in the occupied part of Cyprus.

In this respect, and in the context of the excellent relations between the Republic of Cyprus and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Embassy kindly requests the esteemed Ministry to take all necessary action in order to inform and advise the relevant national associations of ship owners and the ship owner of the aforementioned vessel specifically, so as to avert any similar incidents in the future, and inform the Embassy accordingly.

[...]



The Hague, 17 January 2023

To  
The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs  
of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg  
Luxembourg