



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
**MINISTRY OF
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS**



**DEPARTMENT
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING
LEMESOS**

Circular No. 20/2009

22 September 2009

TEN 5.13.09
TEN 12.15.02.4

To all Owners, Managers
and Representatives of Ships
under the Cyprus Flag

Subject: Piracy off the coast of Somalia and East Africa- New York Declaration

1. Further to my Circulars No. 04/2009 and No. 10/2009, I wish to inform you that on 09 September 2009, the Republic of Cyprus signed the *Commitment to Best Management Practices to Avoid, Deter or Delay Acts of Piracy* ("New York Declaration").
2. By virtue of the *New York Declaration*, the signatory countries (including the Republic of Cyprus):
 - (a) recognise the increasing problem of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia and East Africa;
 - (b) note with gratitude the efforts of the international Naval operations assigned with the prevention of acts of piracy and hijackings in the affected region;
 - (c) acknowledge that self protection measures taken by vessels can be highly effective in avoiding, deterring or delaying piracy attacks;
 - (d) commit to promulgate internationally recognised best management practices for self protection to vessels on their registers;
 - (e) recognise that self protection measures taken by vessels avoid, deter or delay acts of piracy are an essential part of compliance with the ISPS Code;
 - (f) commit to ensure when carrying out their obligations under the ISPS Code, that vessels on their Registry have adopted and documented appropriate self protection measures in their Ship Security Plans as part of ISPS Code compliance.
3. To date, the New York Declaration on Piracy has also been signed by the Bahamas, Japan, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Panama, Singapore, the United Kingdom, the United States of America.

Owners, managers and representatives of ships under the Cyprus flag are advised to take note of this Circular.

Serghios S. Serghiou
Director
Department of Merchant Shipping

- Cc:** -Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Works
- Maritime Offices of the Department of Merchant Shipping abroad
 - Attorney General of the Republic
 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - Diplomatic Missions and Honorary Consular Officers of the Republic
 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence
 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice and Public Order
 - Chief, Cyprus Police Force
 - General Manager, Cyprus Ports Authority
 - Cyprus Shipping Chamber
 - Cyprus Union of Shipowners
 - Cyprus Bar Association

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