



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
MINISTRY OF  
COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS



DEPARTMENT  
OF MERCHANT SHIPPING  
LEMESOS

## **SEAFARERS' REPATRIATION PROVISIONS**

***(TO BE PROVIDED TO ALL SEAFARERS BY THE SHIPOWNER UPON SIGNING ON IN  
LANGUAGE UNDERSTOOD TO THEM)***

### **SEAFARER'S ENTITLEMENTS**

1) A seafarer working on board Cypriot ship is entitled to free repatriation in the following cases:

(A) When his Seafarer Employment Agreement (SEA) has expired whilst still abroad

(B) When the SEA is terminated by the Shipowner or the Seafarer for one of the following reasons:

- (I) in case of illness or injury or other medical condition which requires his/her repatriation if medically able to travel or
- (II) in case of shipwreck or
- (III) in case where the Shipowner cannot meet the legal or contractual obligations as an employer of seafarers due to bankruptcy, selling the ship, change of flag or
- (IV) if the ship is heading into a war zone and the seafarer does not consent to go, or
- (V) in the event of termination or interruption of employment under a collective agreement, where applicable, or termination of employment for a similar reason

(C) When the Seafarer could no longer perform his/her duties under his/her SEA or is not expected to perform (his/her duties) under the particular circumstances.

(2) The maximum period of service on board after which the Seafarer is entitled to repatriation, cannot exceed 12 months.

(3) A young Seafarer, whose age is 16 years but not more than 18 who has served on a ship for at least four (4) months and during the first trip abroad has become evident that he/she is not appropriate for the seafaring profession, is entitled to repatriation from the first port at which there are consular services of the Republic of Cyprus, or of the country of his/her residence, or of the country of his/her nationality.

(4) The waiting time for repatriation and the journey time to the place of repatriation, should not be deducted from the paid leave entitlements of the Seafarer.

## **SHIPOWNER COSTS**

(1) The Shipowner in case of repatriation of a seafarer who is working on board his ship, is obliged to cover at least the following:

(A) the cost of transport to the destination selected for repatriation

(B) the costs of accommodation and food from the moment the Seafarer leaves the ship until he/she reaches his/her repatriation destination

(C) pay and allowances from the moment the seafarer leaves the ship until he/she reaches the repatriation destination

(D) the transfer of 30 kg of the seafarer's personal luggage to the repatriation destination

(E) medical treatment (when and where necessary), until the Seafarer becomes medically fit to travel to the repatriation destination

(2) The Shipowner is responsible for regulating the repatriation by appropriate and expeditious means. The normal mode of transportation should be by air and the destinations of repatriation should include countries with which the seafarer is considered to have a substantial connection, including:

(A) the place where the seafarer agreed to be recruited

(B) the place specified by collective agreement

(C) the country of residence of the Seafarer or

(D) another site which mutually agreed upon at the time of recruitment

(3) The Shipowner is not entitled to require the Seafarer to pay an advance against the cost of repatriation at the beginning of employment or to recover the cost of repatriation from the salary or other rights of the Seafarer.

(4) The costs of repatriation shall in no case be borne by the Seafarer, except in the case where the Seafarer is found in serious breach of his/her employment obligations.

(5) The shipowner shall provide financial security or other insurance coverage to ensure the repatriation of Seafarers.

**MASTER**

**SEAFARER**

STAMP & SIGN

SIGN