

THIS DOCUMENT CONSTITUTES A FREE TRANSLATION OF THE OFFICIAL TEXT ISSUED IN THE GREEK LANGUAGE. THE GREEK VERSION IS THE ONLY LEGALLY BINDING TEXT.

AAK 3/2018 (A)
61/73

Circular nr. E1. 2026.ΔΡΛΘ

To The Cyprus Shipping Agents Association

To Terminal and Port Facility Operators, Shipowners, Ship Managers, Masters of Vessels and Ship Agents, Pilotage and Towage Service Providers

SUBJECT: Protection of the waters of port areas

The Cyprus Ports Authority (hereinafter referred to as "the Authority"), in the exercise of the powers conferred upon it by the Cyprus Ports Authority (Operation of Port Areas) Decree of 2016 (K.D.P. 373/2016), as amended or replaced from time to time, and having regard to paragraphs 3 and 131 thereof, wishes to remind all concerned of their obligations under the applicable legislation regarding the protection of the waters of port areas.

More specifically, paragraph 3 of Part II – Operation of Port Areas provides as follows:

3. Encumbrances, obstruction, ballast, refuse.

- (1) No person shall cause or do or omit to do anything which may cause in any manner:-
 - (a) an encumbrance of the water or shores of the port area.
 - (b) an obstruction or danger to navigation in the port area.
- (2) Nothing shall be or allowed to be thrown, drained or discharged into the water, or come in contact with the water, or deposited anywhere within the limits of the port areas, which may in any manner:
 - (a) cause damage to vessels or property; or
 - (b) cause any nuisance or endanger life or health of people or cause disease of animals or plants.
- (3) No vessel shall unload refuse into the water of the port, into another vessel in the port or to any place within the port areas, except at such place, during such time and in such manner as may be specified for that purpose by the Authority, and provided that the prior written permission of the Authority has been obtained

Furthermore, particular attention is drawn to the fact that many of the designated anchorage areas are situated in close proximity to bathing areas, fishing grounds, aquaculture facilities, and other environmentally sensitive coastal areas. Consequently, all parties involved are required to take every necessary measure to prevent the discharge of pollutants into the marine environment.

For the avoidance of doubt, and without prejudice to the provisions of the applicable legislation in force from time to time, the following discharges are considered incompatible with the provisions of the Regulations and are therefore prohibited within port areas unless prior authorisation has been granted by the Authority:

- sewage, whether treated or untreated,
- grey water originating from accommodation, domestic, hotel and food preparation activities,

- oily mixtures, sludge and oily residues,
- cargo residues and tank-washing water,
- deck-washing water resulting from the washing or cleaning of decks, the superstructure, equipment, or other external surfaces of a vessel and discharged into the sea,
- waste generated by exhaust gas cleaning systems (scrubbers),
- garbage and food waste, and
- any other substance capable of causing pollution or adversely affecting human health, marine life, property, or the marine environment.

The Master, or the person having responsibility for any vessel, shall ensure that the substances referred to above are retained in suitable holding tanks on board the vessel and disposed of either through licensed companies registered with the Department of Environment and authorised by the Authority to collect such waste, through the Authority's cleaning services, or through contractors appointed by the Authority.

Where the available holding capacity is insufficient, the owner, the agent, or the person having responsibility for the vessel shall make the necessary arrangements to ensure compliance with the applicable requirements.

Nothing in the present notice shall be construed as amending or replacing the provisions of the applicable legislation governing the management and control of ballast water.

Authorised officers of the Authority may board vessels, conduct inspections, examine certificates, plans, logbooks, records and any other relevant documents, take statements, collect samples, take photographs, and undertake any other action considered necessary to verify compliance with the applicable legislation, the Regulations, and the requirements set out herein.

Such inspections may include, among other things, the examination of the Oil Record Book, the Garbage Record Book, the Ballast Water Record Book, sewage management procedures, tank plans, and records relating to the delivery of waste.

Any refusal to cooperate with the authorised officers of the Authority, any attempt to conceal information, or any breach of the applicable legislation, the Regulations, or the Authority's instructions may result in the adoption of administrative measures, the imposition of sanctions, or any other measures provided for by law.

CYPRUS PORTS AUTHORITY

10 August 2026

Cc. : Shipping Deputy Ministry
 : Department of Fisheries and Marine Research
 : Department of Environment
 : Limassol Port Management
 : Larnaca Port Management