



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

PRESS RELEASE

De-Registration of Fishing Vessels From the International Registry of the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration (SLMARAD)

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The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone, by Cabinet Conclusion dated 9th July 2018 under Memorandum **No.: CP (2018) 6**, decided that (i) all fishing vessels and fish carrying/fishing related vessels flying the flag of Sierra Leone should be de-registered from the Sierra Leone International Ship Register in Cyprus; and (ii) that fishing vessels and fish carrying/fishing related vessels should also not be registered under the Sierra Leone flag by the Sierra Leone International Register in Cyprus or anywhere else in the world, except in Sierra Leone. The Sierra Leone Maritime Administration has ordered its Ship Registration Bureau Registry to delete all such vessels from its flag of registry with immediate effect.

By these decisions, any act or attempt to fly the Sierra Leone flag by a fishing vessel registered outside Sierra Leone is rendered criminal pursuant to Section 106 of the Merchant Shipping Act, No. 3 of 2003 (as amended) and not in any way representing the Republic of Sierra Leone.

The international community, international law enforcement agencies, fisheries management organizations and all other interested entities are hereby requested to report any fishing vessel found flying the Sierra Leone flag to the Government of Sierra Leone, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Sierra Leone Maritime Administration, the Ministry of Transport and Aviation and the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources.



HONOURABLE KABINEH M. KALLON
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND AVIATION