

REPUBLIC



OF CYPRUS

41(I) of 1995  
9(I) of 1997  
69(I) of 1997  
98(I) of 1998  
68(I) of 2001  
71(I) of 2003  
198(I) of 2004  
83(I) of 2012  
151(I) of 2013  
166(I) of 2013.

**THE TOURISM AND TRAVEL OFFICES**

**AND TOURIST GUIDES LAWS**

**1995 TO (No.2) of 2013**

*(English translation and consolidation)*

**Office of the Law Commissioner**

**Nicosia,**

**May, 2014**

**THE TOURISM AND TRAVEL OFFICES  
AND TOURIST GUIDES LAWS, 1995 TO (No.2) of 2013**

**ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS**

**PART I.- PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**

**Section**

1. Short title
2. Interpretation

**PART II.- TOURISM AND TRAVEL OFFICES**

3. Description of Office
4. Licence to establish and operate an Office
5. Management of Office
6. Overseas Offices
- 6A. Supply of services by established offices in other member state
7. Deposit of guarantee
8. Revocation of licence
9. Office premises
10. Name of an Office, register, obligation to submit number of particulars to the Organization, etc
11. Forfeiture of guarantee
12. Exercise of supervision
13. Relations between Offices and Hotels

**PART III.- TOURIST GUIDES**

14. Tourist guide's licence and its revocation
- 14A. Tourist guide-courier, citizen of another member state
15. Duties of tourist guides and supervision thereof
16. School of Tourist Guides

**PART IV – CRIMINAL PROVISIONS**

- 17. Offences and penalties regarding the establishment and operation of an Office
- 18. Interim Order
- 19. Offences and penalties in relation to the practice of the tourist guide's occupation
- 20. Obstruction of officers of the Organization
- 21. Criminal liability of officers of legal persons

**PART V – MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

- 22. Regulations
- 23. Delegation of powers and competences of the Board of Directors
- 24. Repeals, reservations and transitional provisions

**A LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION  
OF TOURISM AND TRAVEL OFFICES, FOR THE PRACTICE OF THE GUIDE'S  
OCCUPATION AND FOR RELATED MATTERS**

41(I) of 1995  
9(I) of 1997  
69(I) of 1997  
98(I) of 1998  
68(I) of 2001  
71(I) of 2003\*  
198 (I) of 2004  
83(I) of 2012  
151(I) of 2013  
166(I) of 2013.

The House of Representatives enacts as follows:

**PART I- PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**

- Short title. 1. This Law may be cited as the Tourism and Travel Offices and Tourist Guides Laws, 1995 to (No.2) of 2013.
- Interpretation. 2. In this Law, unless the context otherwise requires-
- 2(a) of 71(I)/2003\*. «adaptation period» has the meaning assigned to it by the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Law;  
2 of 83(I)/2012\*\*.
- 31(I) of 2008. «aptitude test» has the meaning assigned to it by the Second General System for the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Law, 2003;
- 2(α) of 71(I)/2003\*. «Board of Directors» means the Board of Directors of the Organization;  
121(I) of 2003.
- 2(a) of 71(I)/2003\*. «certificate» has the meaning assigned to it by the Second General System for the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Law, 2003;
- 2(a) of 71(I)/2003\*. «diploma» has the meaning assigned to it by the Second General System for the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Law, 2003;
- «entrepreneur» means the natural or legal person, upon the name of whom the operation licence of the Office is issued;
- «local Office» means the office which is situated in the Republic;
- 2(a) of 71(I)/2003\*. «member state» means a member state of the European Union;
- «Minister» means the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism;
- «national carrier» means the aviation company designated by the Council of Ministers as the national carrier;
- 2(a) of 71(I)/2003\*. «overseas Office» means the Office which is not situated in the Republic;
- «Office» means the Tourism and Travel Office as prescribed by section 3, and includes a branch of such an Office;

---

\* See Note at the end of the text.

\*\* The term “adaptation period” does not constitute a new term but it was contained in Amending Law No. 71(I)/2003 (section 2) and had already been included in the consolidated text of the Law. With the Amending Law No. 83(I)/2012, the interpretation of the term “adaptation period” has been replaced by a new interpretation.

54 of 1969  
50 of 1977  
48 of 1979  
62 of 1979  
66 of 1980  
63 of 1981  
16 of 1985  
34(I) of 1995  
3(I) of 1997  
19(I) of 1999  
35(I) of 2005.

«Organization» means the Cyprus Tourism Organization, established under the Cyprus Tourism Organization Laws, 1969 to 2005;

2 of 83(I)/2012.

«organized trip/sightseeing tour or excursion» means a professional planning of excursions or sightseeing tours with the transfer of nationals or foreign tourists or visitors in order to provide special information on matters relating to history, archaeology, monuments and works of art which are connected with the Cyprus civilization, natural monuments and contemporary issues concerning the Republic;

«Regulations» means the Regulations made under this Law;

2(b) of 71(1)/2003\*.

«tourist guide» means the person whose occupation is to escort local or foreign tourists or other visitors in order to provide special information and explanations on matters relating to the history, archaeology, monuments and works of art, cultural development, natural beauties, sightseeing and generally any other matter that may promote Cyprus tourism;

«Tourist Guide School» means any school established under section 16.

## PART II – TOURISM AND TRAVEL OFFICES

Description of Office.

**3.-(1)** Office, for the purposes of this Law, shall be any permanently organized office which by its available means and the services rendered thereby undertakes professionally and on remuneration-

- (a) the organization of any kind of travel, seminars and touring either locally or abroad; or
- (b) the issue or the arrangement on commission for the issue of travel tickets by any means of transport; or
- (c) the securing of means of transport, guiding and accommodation of organized groups or individuals; or
- (d) any related work to facilitate the accommodation and transportation of tourists as well as the carriage of their luggage:

3 of 83(I)/2012.

Provided that, the planning of conferences for the purposes of this Law shall include the acquisition of means of transport, lodging places, provision of food and sightseeing tours of organized groups or persons.

(2) An Office is also any Office, established and operating as a special branch of another business unit of more general activity, provided that the same shall have as the object thereof any of the activities mentioned in subsection (1).

3 of 71(I) of 2003\*.

(3) *(Repealed)*.

Licence to establish and operate an Office.

**4.-(1)** Unless there is a licence granted or renewed by the Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions of this Law and the Regulations, the establishment and operation of

---

\* See Note at the end of the text.

Offices in the Republic shall be prohibited.

4 of 71(I) of 2003\*.

(2) A licence to establish and operate an Office, as well as a renewal of a licence of operation of an existing Office shall be granted only to resident natural or legal persons or citizens of another member state or legal persons situated in another member state, after examination of the concurrence of the requirements prescribed under this Law and the Regulations and upon payment of the prescribed fee and may include such terms which in the opinion of the Board of Directors are deemed necessary:

Provided that, upon the entry into force of this Law, foreign natural or legal persons who are licensed shall be exempted from the provisions of this subsection which concern only the renewal of their licence.

(3) The authority and the validity of the licence to operate an Office is directly linked both to the entrepreneur and to the establishment of the Office concerned. Regulations may prescribe a procedure for a temporary continuation of the activities of the Office in case of death of the licensee natural person or of dissolution of the licensee legal person.

(4) For the grant or renewal of the licence to establish and operate an Office, the applicant and, in the case of an applicant who is a legal person, all the members of the Board of Directors shall be required to have the qualifications provided for the manager in paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (3) of section 5.

4 of 83(I)/2012.

(5) The licence to operate shall be of a duration of two years or a part thereof, and shall expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December next following the date of issue and may provided that the Organization ascertains through supervision which it exercises in accordance with section 12 that the provisions of this Law continue to be observed, be renewed on payment of the fee prescribed by regulations made in accordance with this Law.

Management of Office.

**5.-(1)** Every licensed Office must be managed by a manager, whose name shall be notified to the Organization upon the submission of the application for the granting of the licence for the establishment and operation of the Office:

Provided that, in the case of a licensed branch of an Office, manager is considered to be the manager of the licensed Office.

(2) Irrespective of the liability of any other person, the manager of a licensed Office shall be legally liable for the operation of the Office, in accordance with the provisions of this Law and the Regulations. The management of a licensed Office may be exercised by the entrepreneur as well, provided it concerns a natural person and has the qualifications required by subsection (3).

(3) The manager of an Office-

2(a) of 98(I)/98.

(a) (i) shall either be a graduate of a recognized higher School of Tourist Occupations or holder of a University degree on matters related to tourism and shall have at least one year experience in an Office;

2(b) of 98(I)/98.

(ii) shall either be a holder of a University degree and shall have at least three years experience in an Office;

2(b) of 98(I)/98.

(iii) shall either be a holder of a leaving certificate of a six-class secondary school and shall have at least seven years practice in a tourist office or aviation or navigation company, in departments engaged mainly and directly with tourist and travel activities:

---

\* See Note at the end of the text

Provided that, upon the entry into force of this Law the managers of licensed Offices shall be exempted from the provisions of this paragraph;

5 of 83(I)/2012  
2 of 151(I)/2013.

(b) shall have good knowledge of at least one foreign language of those prevailing in the tourist industry;

(c) shall not be prohibited by reason of a judicial order from dealing with the property thereof; and

Cap. 199\*  
53 of 1972.

(c) shall not have been convicted of an offence which entails lack of honesty or moral turpitude or shall not have been convicted for a violation of any legislation for which the Organization has competence or of the legislation for the Control of Exchange:

Provided that, the Board of Directors has an authority, with the approval of the Minister, not to insist on the application of the provisions of this paragraph, if it is otherwise satisfied as to the character and honesty of the applicant and that, due to the special circumstances of the case and the time that has lapsed and the conduct shown during that time, it is reasonable not to insist on the application of the said provisions.

(4) The exercise of managerial duties by the same person in more than one Office shall be prohibited.

Overseas Offices.  
5 of 71(I)/2003\*.

**6.-(1)** No overseas Office, except those established in another member state, may carry on in the Republic, on an organized or permanent basis, the activities referred to in section 3, unless represented by a local Office:

Provided that, the overseas Office shall be entitled to enter directly into negotiations and signature of a contract of lease or of reservation with owners of licensed hotel businesses, provided that this contract, under invalidity penalty, shall be also signed by the local Office as the representative of the overseas Office in the Republic:

Provided further that, the representing local Office shall have no civil liability arising from the signing of a contract mentioned in the above proviso.

(2) The overseas Office and the local Office representing the same shall have an obligation to declare jointly to the Organization both the date of commencement and the date of expiration of their cooperation and to provide the Organization with any particulars which may be requested in relation to the arrival, transportation and place of accommodation of the tourists.

(3) The local Office shall be jointly with the overseas Office responsible for any contravention of the provisions of this Law and the Regulations, as if the contravention has been committed by the local Office.

Cap. 105.  
2 of 1972  
54 of 1976  
50 of 1988  
197 of 1989  
100(I) of 1996  
43(I) of 1997  
14(I) of 1998  
22(I) of 2001  
164(I) of 2001

(4) A local Office which represents an overseas Office shall have the right to employ the necessary foreign personnel, if such personnel shall secure a residence and work permit under the provisions of the Aliens and Immigration Law and the Regulations made thereunder.

88(I) of 2002  
 220(I) of 2002  
 66(I) of 2003  
 178(I) of 2004  
 8(I) of 2007  
 184(1) of 2007  
 29(1) of 2009  
 143(1) of 2009  
 153(1) of 2011  
 41(1) of 2012  
 100(I) of 2012  
 117(I) of 2012  
 32(I) of 2013  
 49(I) of 2013.

Supply of services by  
 established offices in  
 other member state.  
 2 of 198(I)/2004.  
 6 of 83(I)/2012.

**6A.**-(1) An Office established in a member state outside the Republic may temporarily carry out within the Republic the activities referred to in section 3 without the need of having a permanent organized Office within the Republic, provided it declares this intention in writing in a form prescribed by Regulations issued by the Council of Ministers under this Law and which is submitted to the Board of Directors.

(2) As respects Offices carrying out their activities within the Republic in accordance with the provisions of subsection (1), the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of section 5 of this Law, shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*.

Deposit of guarantee.  
 7(1) of 83(I)/2012  
 2 of 166(I)/2013.

**7.**-(1) For the grant of a licence to establish and operate an Office, a deposit of guarantee of fifteen thousand euros (€15.000) by the entrepreneur shall be required and for the renewal of an existing operation licence, a guarantee of equal amount shall be required in accordance with the provisions of this section.

2 of 69(I)/97.

(2) The guarantee may be deposited either in cash or by way of a letter of guarantee from a bank or a cooperative credit institution or an insurance company recognized by the Registrar of Insurance Companies for this purpose.

7(2) of 83(I)/2012.

Provided that, in case where the guarantee is given by a letter of guarantee from a bank or a cooperative credit institution, the same shall be approved by the Organization, be valid for at least two years and renewed at least two months before the expiration thereof.

(3) For the grant or renewal of a licence to establish and operate a branch-office, the deposit of guarantee shall not be required.

7(3) of 83(I)/2012.

(4) In case where the Office has a licence of establishment and operation granted by a competent authority of another member state and intends to provide temporary services in the Republic in accordance with section 6A, it is required, prior to the provision of such services, to submit a written declaration to the Organization, prescribed by Regulations issued by the Council of Ministers in accordance with this Law, certifying the possession of a guarantee recognized as such by the member state from which it comes.

Revocation of  
 licence.

**8.** A licence to establish and operate an Office may be revoked anytime before the expiration of the duration of its validity, if-

(a) the entrepreneur or the manager of the Office has been convicted for a contravention of any of the provisions of this Law or Regulations or has ceased to meet the requirements of section 4 or 5, as the case may be; or

(b) any violation of the prescribed terms of the licence has been ascertained by the Organization; or

(c) the Office has ceased to meet the requirements of sections 5, 7 and 9.

Office premises.

**9.**-(1) Every licensed Office shall-

(a) have complete, independent premises, and of such dimensions, appropriate furniture and equipment as may be prescribed by Regulations; and

8 of 83(I)/2012.

(b) be manned with an appropriate and a satisfactory in number personnel:

Provided that, the minimum number of personnel of an Office shall be two persons, including the manager.

(2) No other business or work shall be carried out in the premises which are used as an Office, save those which are connected to the activities mentioned in subsection (1) of section 3.

Name of an Office, register, obligation to submit number of particulars to the Organization etc.

**10.** -(1) Subject to the provisions of any other law for the time being in force, every licensed Office shall have its own name, which shall be the one recognized by the licence to establish and operate the same:

Provided that, the Board of Directors may not accept any name which, in its opinion, would be unsuitable or improper or would mistake the Office for any other operating Office or with any Office which has ceased to operate within a period of eighteen months:

Provided further that, the use of the term "national" or any other similar or derivative term shall be absolutely prohibited.

(2) The Organization shall keep a register where the licences to establish and operate Offices as well as the transfers thereof shall be entered. Any such transfer of a licence shall, within a month, be notified to the Organization for the relevant entry to be made:

Provided that, the Organization shall reserve the right to refuse the approval of the registration of any such transfer, if the person to whom the transfer is made does not meet the requirements and the qualifications of an entrepreneur mentioned in section 4.

(3) The approval of the Organization and the entry according to the previous subsection shall create a right of ownership on the name, in favour of the entrepreneur who is a holder of a licence to establish and operate an Office. The abovementioned right of ownership shall be lost after the expiration of eighteen months from the termination of operation of the Office.

(4) The right of ownership on the name shall be transferable.

(5) For the transfer of the ownership of the name an agreement shall be made, between the owner of the name and the person acquiring same, that the ownership shall be transferred to him. This agreement shall be in writing and notified to the Organization within a month from its conclusion, in which time the transfer of the name shall be subject to the entry in accordance with subsection (2).

(6) Any change of address of the Office or of the composition of the members of the board of directors of a legal person possessing a licence to establish and operate an Office shall be communicated to the Organization and, as the case may be, there shall be submitted thereto all the information and documents required by sections 5 and 7.

(7) Where the information and documents required by this section as well as sections 5 and 7 are not submitted within one month from the date of alteration or do not satisfy the conditions and requirements of this Law and the Regulations the licence may be revoked.

Forfeiture of guarantee.

**11.**-(1) The guarantee deposited under section 7 shall not be subject to forfeiture or to the issue of an interim order subject to the provisions of the Civil Procedure Law or the Courts of Justice Laws and shall be exclusively used for the satisfaction of claims arising only from

Cap. 6

11 of 1965  
 161 of 1989  
 228 of 1989  
 51(I) of 1999  
 134(I) of 1999  
 58(I) of 2003  
 66(I) of 2004  
 138(I) of 2006.

tourist transactions.

14 of 1960  
 50 of 1962  
 11 of 1963  
 8 of 1969  
 40 of 1970  
 53 of 1972  
 1 of 1980  
 35 of 1982  
 29 of 1983  
 91 of 1983  
 16 of 1984  
 51 of 1984  
 83 of 1984  
 93 of 1984  
 18 of 1985  
 71 of 1985  
 89 of 1985  
 96 of 1986  
 317 of 1987  
 49 of 1988  
 64 of 1990  
 136 of 1990  
 149 of 1991  
 237 of 1991  
 42(I) of 1992  
 43(I) of 1992  
 102(I) of 1992  
 26(I) of 1993  
 82(I) of 1995  
 102(I) of 1996  
 4(I) of 1997  
 53(I) of 1997  
 90(I) of 1997  
 27(I) of 1998  
 53(I) of 1998  
 110(I) of 1998  
 34(I) of 1999  
 146(I) of 1999  
 41(I) of 2000  
 32(I) of 2001  
 40(I) of 2002  
 80(I) of 2002  
 140(I) of 2002  
 206(I) of 2002  
 17(I) of 2004  
 165(I) of 2004  
 268(I) of 2004  
 21(I) of 2006  
 99(I) of 2007  
 170(I) of 2007  
 76(I) of 2008  
 81(I) of 2008  
 118(I) of 2008  
 119(I) of 2008  
 36(I) of 2009  
 129(I) of 2009  
 138(I) of 2009  
 19(I) of 2010  
 166 (I) of 2011  
 30(I) of 2013.

(2) Forfeiture of guarantee shall be carried out by the Board of Directors only upon pronouncement of claims resulting from final and executory judicial judgments and judgment debt referred to therein.

(3) The pronouncement of a claim, in order to be valid and to produce its lawful result, must be necessarily accompanied by the submission of the necessary evidence and documents of the final and executory judicial judgment.

(4) The discharge of the claims, which are pronounced, shall be made by the Board of

Directors in order of the date of their notification to the Organization:

Provided that, in case of submission on the same date of more than one pronouncement of claims and where the available amount of the guarantee is not enough to fully satisfy the claims, the satisfaction of the concurring beneficiaries shall be made in proportion to the amount of the claims thereof:

Provided further that, the Organization shall not be liable to compensate anyone in relation to any loss incurred by any act or omission thereof during the procedure of the forfeiture of the guarantee, unless a bad intention or fraud by the Organization or its officers is proved.

(5) If for any reason the amount of the guarantee is decreased the entrepreneur shall, within thirty days from the date of its decrease, make up the same:

Provided that, in case where the decrease of the guarantee is greater than half the whole amount thereof or if the same is exhausted, the making up or re-depositing thereof shall be effected within fifteen days.

(6) Where the entrepreneur does not comply with the time-limits mentioned in subsection (5), the licence shall be revoked and the further operation of the Office shall be prohibited.

(7) Where a licence to establish and operate an Office is revoked or the operation thereof is for any reason terminated or the guarantee is not renewed in accordance with the provisions of section 7, the remaining guarantee, in whole or in part, shall be forfeited for the benefit of the Organization and the amount thereof shall remain blocked for one year after the revocation of the licence, after the termination of the activities of the Office or the non-renewal of the guarantee, as the case may be, for the purpose of satisfying any claims arising exclusively from tourist transactions. In every case, any balance remaining after the satisfaction of these claims shall be returned to the entrepreneur or to any of his heirs or successors:

Provided that, the Board of Directors may, instead of the forfeiture of the guarantee for the benefit of the Organization, accept a bank's letter of guarantee valid for a period of one year from the date of the revocation of the licence or the termination of the operation of an Office.

(8) Where a licence of an Office is revoked due to failure to make up or re-deposit the guarantee, a new licence of an Office shall not be issued in the name of the former holder of a licence under any name or surname before the lapse of at least one year, unless a guarantee of forty thousand euros (€40.000), as the case may be, is deposited, subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of section 7, for the first two years from the re-grant of the licence.

(9) For the purposes of this section «tourist transactions» means the actions arising from the activities of the Office mentioned in subsection (1) of section 3.

**12.**-(1) The Organization shall supervise, in the prescribed manner, the operation of the Offices for the purpose of observing the compliance with the provisions of this Law and the Regulations and the terms of the licence, as well as the various activities of the Offices in order to avoid the creation of a bad reputation of the Republic or a damaging effect on the tourist trade thereof.

(2) Whenever it is requested by the Organization, the Offices shall submit thereto-

(a) the drafts of every advertising leaflet, issue of programs or any other printed matter, not including prices, which are about to be circulate, and

(b) any statistical information concerning the activities of the Offices.

**13.**-(1) The relations between Offices, as well as the fees to be imposed and collected for services rendered thereby may be prescribed.

(2) The relations between Offices and Hotels or other tourist occupations may be regulated

by Regulations made under this Law and within the framework of the accepted terms between the respective international professional organizations.

### PART III – TOURIST GUIDES

Tourist guide licence and its revocation.  
6(a) of 71(I)/2003  
6(b) of 71(I)/2003  
10 of 83(I)/2012.

**14.-**(1) For the exercise of the occupation of a tourist guide, a licence shall be required which is granted by the Board of Directors in accordance with the prescribed forms, terms and procedure and on payment of the prescribed fee and subject to such terms as prescribed by the licence:

Provided that, nothing in this section shall apply to guiding without remuneration by officers of the Department of Antiquities or officers of the Organization.

(2) The tourist guide's licence shall be of a duration of two years or part thereof and shall expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the year next following the date of issue and may, provided that the Organization ascertains through supervision which it exercises in accordance with section 12 that the provisions of this Law continue to be observed, be renewed with the submission of a prescribed fee.

(3) The Organization shall keep a Register wherein the licences and the names of the tourist guides shall be entered.

(4) Any person shall be entitled to a tourist guide licence or a renewal of a licence provided that-

(a) he is a citizen of a member state;

(b) he has not been convicted for an offence which involves lack of honesty or moral turpitude or has not been convicted for regular contravention of the tourist or hotel legislation or the legislation relating to the control or the protection of foreign exchange:

134(1) of 1988  
228 (1) of 2004.

Provided that, the Board of Directors shall, subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Convicted Persons Law regarding the conviction of a person for the contravention of any law within the framework of the jurisdiction of the Organization or and for the contravention of the Capital Movement Law, have the power not to insist on the application of the provisions of this paragraph, if it is otherwise satisfied as to the character and honesty of the applicant and that, due to the special circumstances of the case and the period that has lapsed and the conduct shown during that time, it would be reasonable not to insist on the application of the said provisions;

115(I) of 2003.

(c) he speaks very well the Greek language and at least one foreign language;

(d) he is a holder of a title of studies of the Tourist Guide School or any other recognized Tourist Guide School or diploma or certificate or other evidence of formal qualifications or has practiced the occupation in another member state, in accordance with the requirements set out in the Recognition of Professional Qualifications' Law; and

(d) he knows the history and art of Cyprus and the archaeological and historical sights, the natural environment and the modern life of the Republic.

(5) In addition to the requirements set out in sub-section (4), the Board of Directors may require, an adaptation period or an aptitude test, in accordance with the requirements of the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Law.

(6) The licence to guide shall be granted in the language that the applicant knows very well.

(7) The tourist guide licence may be revoked before its expiry, if the holder has been convicted for a contravention of any of the provisions of this Part of the Law or of the Regulations or has ceased to satisfy the conditions of sub-section (4) or has violated any of the conditions of his licence.

(8) In case of discontinuance of the practice of the tourist guide's occupation for a continuous period exceeding one year, the Organization may terminate his licence, unless he succeeds in oral or written examinations, as the Organization may require:

Provided that, in case where the licence of the tourist guide is revoked or terminated, the tourist guide is obliged to return his licence or distinctive mark to the Organization.

Tourist guide –  
courier, citizen of  
another member state.  
7 of 71(I)/2003\*.

**14A.**-(1) A tourist guide, citizen of another member state, who accompanies a group of tourists coming from a member state for an organized tour of a certain duration and of a prescribed route to places, except museums and historical monuments, and returns together with the group to his country of origin, shall be entitled to render tourist guide's services within the Republic for the purposes of this tour.

3 of 198(I)/2004\*

(2) A tourist guide who wishes to exercise the right under sub-section (1) shall have-

(a) A licence to practice the occupation, granted to him in accordance with the legislation of the home member state or of the member state from which he comes.

(b) *(Repealed)*.

3 of 198(I)/2004\*.

(3) *(Repealed)*.

3 of 198(I)/2004\*.

(4) The tourist guide mentioned in sub-section (1) must secure official translation of the above documents from the home member state or the member state from which he comes which he shall present at any time he is so requested by the Board of Directors:

11 of 83(I)/2012.

Provided that the provisions of the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Law shall apply to any tourist guide who is established in another member state and intends to provide temporary or occasional services in the Republic.

Duties of tourist  
guides and supervision  
thereof.

**15.**-(1) Subject to the provisions of any other Law in force, the tourist guides shall, in exercising the occupation thereof, comply with the provisions of this Part of the Law and of the Regulations, as well as with the general or special directions of the Organization and the local administrative or antiquities authorities:

2 of 68(I)/2001.  
12 of 83(I)/2012.

Provided that, the Board of Directors may issue regulations for the regulation of disciplinary matters and Code of Ethics for tourist guides.

(2) Further obligations of the tourist guides, the manner of exercising their occupation and the fees to be imposed and collected thereby, shall be prescribed.

(3) The Organization shall, in the prescribed manner, supervise the exercise of the tourist guide's occupation.

School of Tourist  
Guides.

**16.**-(1) The Organization may operate a Tourist Guide School for the training of tourist guides.

2 of 9(I)/97.

(2) For the aforesaid purpose, the Organization shall appoint the administrative Committee

\* See Note at the end of the text

of the Tourist Guide School, which shall have the responsibility to prescribe-

- (a) The frequency and period of operation of the School.
- (b) The curriculum.
- (c) The syllabus and the educational period.
- (d) The matters related to teaching and granting of certificates of studies.
- (e) The teaching staff.
- (f) Any other detail.

13 of 83(I)/2012.

(3) The Administrative Committee shall be composed of the Chairman designated by the Board of Directors of the Organization, who must be a senior officer of the Organisation and by four members as follows:

- (a) A representative of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism.
- (b) A representative of the Organization.
- (c) A representative of the Cyprus Travel Agents Association.
- (d) A representative of the Cyprus Tourist Guides Association.

(4) The term of office of the members of the Board of Directors shall be three years.

(5) The Organization shall have administrative responsibility of the School operation and with the decision of the Board of Directors may prescribe-

- (a) The tuition fees.
- (b) The remuneration for the services of the teaching staff.
- (c) Any other detail.

4 of 69(I)/97.

(6) The Organization may organize post-graduate tutorials for tourist guides whom it may call for supplementary training.

4 of 69(I)/97.

(7) In case of unjustified refusal to attend the post-graduate tutorials or unsuccessful attendance of the teaching thereof, the licence granted may be revoked.

#### **PART IV-CRIMINAL PROVISIONS**

Offences and penalties regarding the establishment and operation of an Office.

**17.-(1)** Any person who-

- (a) establishes, maintains or operates an Office or in any other manner acts in contravention of the provisions of sections 4, 5, 6 and 9(2) or of any of the terms of the licence that has been granted for this purpose or omits to comply with the above-mentioned provisions of sections or terms; or
- (b) whilst he is not a holder of a valid licence that has been granted under section 4, he advertises or uses, in printed or electronic form, the term "Office of Tourism and Travel" or the term "Tourist Office" or any other derivative or related term or a similar name or description; or
- (c) executes in any manner activities which fall within the scope of section 3, without a licence of establishment and operation which is granted by virtue of the provisions of this Law,

14(a) of 83(I)/2012.

14(b) of 83(I)/2012.

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding two thousand euros (€2.000) or to both such penalties and the court trying the case may, independently of the provided as above maximum limit of the fine, impose an additional fine of an amount not exceeding one hundred euros for each day during which the contravention continues.

(2) In addition to any other penalty provided for under subsection (1), the Court may order the termination of the operation of the Office or of the activities in relation to which the offence has been committed within such period of time and for such time limit as it may think fit to prescribe by its order.

14(d) of 83(1)/2012.

(3) In addition to any other penalty provided in this Law and the Regulations made thereunder the Court shall have the power to order any person who has been convicted for a criminal offence to comply with the relevant provisions of this Law and the Regulations made thereunder in relation to which the offence has been committed.

14(d) of 83(I)/2012 .

(4) If any person, against whom an order has been made in accordance with the provisions of subsection (2), omits to comply with such order within the period prescribed by the order, the Chief of Police shall execute the order and shall claim, from the person against whom the order has been made, the payment of the costs resulting from the execution of the order. Such costs shall be deemed to be a penalty within the meaning of the Criminal Code and their imposition and collection shall be made in all respects in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Law.

Cap. 154.

3 of 1962  
 4 of 1963  
 41 of 1964  
 69 of 1964  
 70 of 1965  
 5 of 1967  
 58 of 1967  
 5 of 1972  
 92 of 1972  
 29 of 1973  
 59 of 1974  
 3 of 1975  
 13 of 1979  
 10 of 1981  
 46 of 1982  
 36 of 1983  
 136 of 1986  
 111 of 1989  
 236 of 1991  
 6(I) of 1994  
 3(I) of 1996  
 99(I) of 1996  
 36(I) of 1997  
 40(I) of 1998  
 45(I) of 1998  
 15(I) of 1999  
 37(I) of 1999  
 38(I) of 1999  
 129(I) of 1999  
 30(I) of 2000  
 43(I) of 2000  
 77(I) of 2000  
 162(I) of 2000  
 169(I) of 2000  
 181(I) of 2000  
 27(I) of 2001  
 12(I) of 2002  
 85(I) of 2002  
 144(I) of 2002  
 145(I) of 2002  
 25(I) of 2003  
 48(I) of 2003  
 84(I) of 2003  
 164(I) of 2003  
 124(I) of 2004  
 31(I) of 2005  
 18(I) of 2006  
 130(I) of 2006  
 126(I) of 2007  
 127(I) of 2007  
 70(I) of 2008  
 83(I) of 2008  
 64(I) of 2009  
 56(I) of 2011  
 72(I) of 2011  
 163(I) of 2011  
 167(I) of 2011

84(I) of 2012  
 95(I) of 2012  
 134(I) of 2012  
 125(I) of 2013  
 131(I) of 2013.

Cap. 155.

93 of 1972  
 2 of 1975  
 12 of 1975  
 41 of 1978  
 162 of 1989  
 142 of 1991  
 9 of 1992  
 10(I) of 1996  
 89(I) of 1997  
 54(I) of 1998  
 96(I) of 1998  
 14(I) of 2001  
 185(I) of 2003  
 219(I) of 2004  
 57(I) of 2007  
 9(I) of 2009  
 111(I) of 2011  
 165(I) of 2011  
 7(I) of 2012  
 21(I) of 2012  
 160(I) of 2012  
 23(I) of 2013.

14(c) of 83(I)/2013  
 14(d) of 83(I)/2013.

(5) Any person who does not comply with an order made under the provisions of subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to a fine not exceeding two thousand euros (€2.000) or to both such penalties.

Interim Order.

**18.**-(1) The Court, before which a charge has been brought against a person for an offence that has been committed in violation of subsection (1) of section 17, may, after an application ex-parte, order suspension of all works with respect to the establishment, maintenance or operation of an Office, until the final adjudication of the case in respect of which the charge has been brought:

Provided that, the issue of such order shall be subject to the provisions of the Civil Procedure Law, the Courts of Justice Laws and the Civil Procedure Rules.

S.L. Volume 11  
 Page 120  
 Gazette,  
 Supplement No. 3:  
 20.5.54  
 21.6.56  
 8.5.58.

Official Gazette,  
 Supplement No.2:  
 14.10.65  
 23.12.65  
 29.1.69  
 24.10.69  
 6.10.72  
 18.1.74  
 4.6.76  
 23.5.80  
 3.9.82  
 31.12.83  
 25.4.86  
 12.2.88  
 29.10.90  
 12.3.93  
 2.4.93  
 19.11.93  
 24.2.95  
 2.2.96  
 23.2.96  
 5.7.96  
 19.7.96  
 18.10.96  
 1.11.96  
 11.12.96  
 4.4.97

30.5.97  
 13.6.97  
 25.7.97  
 31.12.97  
 6.2.98  
 8.5.98  
 29.5.98  
 3.7.98  
 27.11.98  
 23.12.99  
 29.12.2000  
 12.1.2001  
 1.6.2001  
 30.11.2001  
 21.12.2001  
 25.1.2002  
 18.10.2002  
 7.2.2003  
 4.7.2003  
 18.7.2003  
 14.11.2003  
 21.5.2004  
 17.12.2004  
 22.1.2005  
 20.1.2006  
 27.1.2006  
 5.12.2007  
 16.5.2008  
 20.2.2008  
 23.7.2010  
 9.9.2011.

(2) If any person against whom an order has been made by virtue of the provisions of subsection (1) fails to comply or omits or neglects to comply within the time limit prescribed by the order, it shall be lawful for the Chief of Police to execute this order and to claim payment of the execution costs by the person against whom the same has been made. Such costs shall be deemed to be a penalty within the meaning of the Criminal Procedure Law and shall be received accordingly on behalf of the Board.

(3) Any person, against whom an order has been made by virtue of subsection (2) and who denies or omits to comply with this order shall be guilty of an offence, irrespective of whether the Chief of Police has proceeded with the execution of such order, and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding one thousand euros (€1.000) or to both such penalties.

15 of 83(1)/2012.

Offences and penalties in relation to the exercise of the tourist guide's occupation.

**19.** Any person who, without being a holder of a valid tourist guide licence, granted or renewed by virtue of section 14, practices in any way the occupation of a tourist guide or, while he is the holder of such a licence, violates or omits to comply, during the practice of his occupation, with a condition of his licence or with any obligation or claim imposed by virtue of section 15 or of the Regulations, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable, on conviction, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding one thousand euros or to both such penalties.

16 of 83(1)/2012.

Obstruction of officers of the Organization.

**20.** Any person who obstructs or interferes with the work of any officer of the Organization, authorized to supervise the Offices or the guides in accordance with the provisions of this Law or of the Regulations, or unjustifiably denies to cooperate or facilitate this supervision or the work of the authorized officers of the Organization, shall be guilty of an offence, and on conviction, shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding one thousand euros (€1.000) or to both such penalties.

17 of 83(1)/2012.

Criminal liability of officers of legal persons.

**21.** Where it is proved that an offence under this Law, which has been committed by a legal person, has been committed with the consent or the tolerance or due to negligence of any managing advisor, director, secretary or other similar officer of the legal person or of any other person who appeared to act on such capacity, this person as well as the legal person shall be guilty of such offence and, on conviction, shall be liable to the penalties provided for by this Law for the specific offence.

## PART V - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Regulations.  
18 of 83(I)/2012.

**22.**-(1) The Council of Ministers may make regulations for any of the following purposes:

- (a) for prescribing the forms for the submission of an application in respect of a licence to establish and operate an Office and of a tourist guide licence and for the renewal of such licence;
- (b) for prescribing the prerequisites and obligations to be fulfilled by Offices and tourist guides;
- (c) for prescribing the fees in respect of the following:
  - (i) the issue or renewal of a licence to establish and operate an Office;
  - (ii) the change of seat or address or manager of an Office or name of an Office;
  - (iii) a copy of a licence to establish and operate;
  - (iv) the issue or renewal of a tourist guide licence.
- (d) the procedure concerning the forfeiture of the guarantee of an Office;
- (e) for prescribing the context of forms to be used by the Office with its name;
- (f) the procedure concerning the exercise of control and supervision of Offices by the Organization;
- (g) for prescribing the disciplinary offences, the disciplinary procedure and disciplinary penalties in relation to tourist guides.

(2) Regulations made under this Law may provide that omission to comply therewith shall constitute an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or a fine not exceeding two hundred fifty six euros \* \* or with both such penalties.

Delegation of powers  
and competences of  
the Board of  
Directors.

**23.** The Board of Directors may, by its decision, delegate any of its competences under the provisions of this Law to the Director-General or other officers of the Organization.

Repeals, reservations  
and transitional  
provisions.  
5 of 1980  
28 of 1984  
86 of 1991.

**24.**-(1) The Tourist Occupations and Associations Laws, 1980 to 1991, are hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding the repeal under subsection (1) of the Tourist Occupations and Associations Laws, 1980 to 1991 (in this subsection referred to as «the repealed Laws»)-

- (a) Any licence issued under the Laws hereby repealed and being valid on the date immediately before the coming into operation of this Law shall continue to be valid until the expiration thereof as if it had been issued under the corresponding provisions of this Law and any matter relating to the revocation or renewal thereof shall be regulated thereafter by the provisions of this Law;

- (b) any registers kept under the Laws hereby repealed shall be deemed to constitute part of the registers which shall be kept under this Law;
- (c) any right, privilege, obligation or liability that has been acquired or incurred under the Laws hereby repealed shall maintain its validity, irrespective of the abovementioned repeal;
- (h) any investigation or criminal procedure regarding the commission of an offence in contravention of the provisions of the Laws hereby repealed or civil procedure regarding the implementation or exercise of any right, privilege, obligation or liability, as mentioned above, shall not be affected and may be instituted, initiated, continued or imposed as if this Law had not been entered into force; and
- (i) any regulations, acts or decisions made or taken under the Laws hereby repealed and which could have been made or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Law shall continue, provided they are in force immediately before the date of the coming into operation of this Law, to be in force as if they had been made or taken under the abovementioned corresponding provisions of this Law.

**NOTE**

The following observations do not form part of the principal law and they cannot be included in the consolidated text of the Law as a part thereof. However, in view of the fact that they affect the application of the Law, it was considered expedient to include them in this Note:

1. The Tourism and Travel Offices and Tourist Guides (Amendment) Law, 2003 (L. 71(I)/2003) published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, Supplement I(I), dated 11.7.2003, contains the following provision:

“Entry into force of this Law.           **3.** This Law shall come into force on the date of accession of the Republic to the European Union”.

2. The Tourism and Travel Offices and Tourist Guides (Amendment) Law, 2004 (L. 198(I)/2004) published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, Supplement I(I), dated 30.4.2004, contains the following provision:

“Entry into force of this Law.           **4.** This Law shall come into force on the date of accession of the Republic to the European Union”.