

L.N. 365 of 2012**TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDINANCE
(CAP. 65)****AUTHORITY FOR TRANSPORT IN MALTA ACT
(CAP. 499)****Pedal and Low-Powered Cycles (Amendment) Regulations, 2012**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 54 of the Traffic Regulation Ordinance and article 43 of the Authority for Transport in Malta Act, the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Communications has, after consultation with the Authority for Transport in Malta, made the following regulations:-

Citation and
notification.

S.L. 65.26

1. (1) The title of these regulations is the Pedal and Low-Powered Cycles (Amendment) Regulations, 2012, and these regulations shall be read and construed as one with the Pedal and Low-Powered Cycles Regulations, hereinafter referred to as "the principal regulations".

(2) These regulations have been notified in accordance with Directive 98/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 June 1998 laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations and of rules on Information Society services.

Substitutes
regulation 1 of
the principal
regulations.

2. Regulation 1 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:

"1. The title of these regulations is the Low-Powered Vehicles and Pedal Cycles Regulations."

Amends
regulation 2 of
the principal
regulations.

3. Regulation 2 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:

(a) the definition "low-powered vehicles" shall be substituted by the following:

" "low-powered vehicles" means vehicles which do not exceed the speed of 45km per hour;"

(b) the definition "moped" shall be substituted by the following:

" "moped" means a two or three-wheel vehicle (category L1e) or three wheel vehicle (category L2e) with

a maximum design speed of not more than 45km/h, and characterized by -

(i) in the case of the two-wheel type, an engine whose:

- cylinder capacity does not exceed 50cm³ in the case of the internal combustion type, or

- maximum continuous rated power is no more than 4kW in the case of an electric motor;

(ii) in the case of the three-wheel type, an engine whose:

- cylinder capacity does not exceed 50cm³ if of the spark (positive) ignition type, or

- maximum net power output does not exceed 4kW in the case of other internal combustion engines, or

- maximum continuous rated power does not exceed 4kW in the case of an electric motor;"

(c) in the definition "power assisted cycle" for the words "power assisted cycle" there shall be substituted the words "power assisted pedal cycle"; and for the words "power assisted cycle" wherever they occur in the principal regulations there shall be substituted the words "power assisted pedal cycle";

(d) immediately after the definition "promenade" there shall be added the following new definition:

" "self-balancing vehicle" means a vehicle concept that is based on an inherent unstable equilibrium and that needs an auxiliary control system to maintain its balance, and which includes powered one-wheel vehicles or powered two-wheel, two-track vehicles;"

(e) the definition "public road" shall be deleted and for the words "public road" or "public roads" wherever they occur in the principal regulations there shall be substituted the word

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"road" or "roads", respectively;

(f) immediately after the definition "promenade" there shall be added the following new definition:

" "road" means any road, street, lane, square, or other place of public thoroughfare, and it includes any bridge over which, and any tunnel through which, a road passes;" ; and

(g) immediately after the definition "tunnel" there shall be added the following new definition:

" "very low-speed vehicle" means, for the purpose of these regulations, a motorised foot scooter, a mobility scooter or a motorised wheelchair that can travel not more than 6km per hour.".

Substitutes
regulation 3 of
the principal
regulations.

4. Regulation 3 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:

"Motor fitted
to a pedal
cycle.

3. (1) No pedal cycle may be fitted with an internal combustion motor or with an auxiliary electric motor having an output of more than 250 watts and producing a travelling speed of more than 25 kilometres per hour.

(2) Where a pedal cycle is fitted with a motor satisfying the provisions of sub-regulation (1), it shall also be fitted with -

(a) a speedometer capable of indicating the vehicle speed in kilometres; and

(b) in the case of a cycle fitted with an internal combustion motor, a complete exhaust system emitting a sound level of not more than 91dbA.

(3) Where a pedal cycle is fitted with a motor in breach of the provisions of sub-regulations (1) and (2), it shall neither be registered by the Authority nor used on the road.".

Amends
regulation 4 of
the principal
regulations.

5. In regulation 4 of the principal regulations, the marginal note thereto shall be substituted by the following:

"Power assisted pedal cycle to be registered.".

6. In the proviso to sub-regulation (1) of regulation 11 of the principal regulations, for the words "along bypasses" there shall be substituted the words "along bypasses and on footpaths along tunnels".

Amends regulation 11 of the principal regulations.

7. The words "LOW-POWERED VEHICLES" in the title of Part IV of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the words "SELF-BALANCING VEHICLES AND VERY LOW-SPEED VEHICLES".

Amends the title of Part IV of the principal regulations.

8. Regulation 27 of the principal regulations and the word "Usage" immediately thereafter shall be deleted.

Deletes regulation 27 of the principal regulations.

9. Regulation 28 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:

Substitutes regulation 28 of the principal regulations.

"Registration and usage.

28. (1) Self-balancing vehicles shall be registered with the Authority in terms of regulation 25.

(2) No self-balancing vehicle may be used on the road unless it is fitted with -

(a) a single front lamp showing a white light, positioned centrally or offside and visible from the front;

(b) a rear lamp showing a red light, positioned centrally or offside and visible from behind; and

(c) a horn or bell designed to give warning of approach.

(3) No person shall ride a self-balancing vehicle on the road unless -

(a) he has reached the age of fourteen years;

(b) at dark, a white light is clearly visible from a reasonable distance in front of the vehicle and a red light is clearly visible from a reasonable distance behind the driver;

(c) he is wearing a bicycle helmet made of materials resistant to blows, securely fitted and fastened to the rider's head.

(4) With the exception of use by members of the police force in the exercise of their duties, self-balancing vehicles may only be used on the road where the road forms part of a "Tour Route" designated by the Authority by means of a notice in the Gazette, which may be subject to additional specific rules for operation.

(5) Very low-speed vehicles, other than a motorised foot scooter, may be used on a road where it is impracticable to travel on a footpath.

(6) Self-balancing vehicles and very low-speed vehicles shall be permitted to travel on a footpath or promenade or within a pedestrian zone at speeds of not more than 6 km per hour.

(7) When travelling along a road, vehicles mentioned in sub-regulations (4) and (5) shall keep as far as to the left side of the road as possible except on the approach to an intersection."

