

1975 No. 159

**DIPLOMATIC AND INTERNATIONAL IMMUNITIES
AND PRIVILEGES****The International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund
(Immunities and Privileges) Order 1975***Laid before Parliament in draft*

<i>Made</i> - - - -	12th February 1975
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	<i>On a date to be notified in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes</i>

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 12th day of February 1975

Present,

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Whereas a draft of this Order has been laid before Parliament in accordance with section 10 of the International Organisations Act 1968(a) and has been approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers conferred on Her by section 1 of the said Act or otherwise in Her Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. This Order may be cited as the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (Immunities and Privileges) Order 1975. It shall come into operation on the date on which the International Convention on the establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage(b), opened for signature at Brussels on 18th December 1971, enters into force in respect of the United Kingdom. This date shall be notified in the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes.

2. The Interpretation Act 1889(c), shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. The International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (hereafter referred to as the Fund) is an organisation of which the United Kingdom and foreign sovereign Powers are members.

4. The Fund shall have the legal capacities of a body corporate.

5. The Fund shall have the like exemption or relief from taxes, other than customs duties and taxes on the importation of goods, as is accorded to a foreign sovereign Power.

(a) 1968 c. 48.

(b) Cmnd. 5061.

(c) 1889 c. 63.

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6. The Fund shall have the like relief from rates on its official premises as, in accordance with Article 23 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations signed in 1961 which is set out in Schedule 1 to the Diplomatic Privileges Act 1964(a), is accorded in respect of the premises of a diplomatic mission.

7. The Fund shall have exemption from customs duties and taxes on the importation of goods imported by or on its behalf for its official use in the United Kingdom, such exemption to be subject to compliance with such conditions as the Commissioners of Customs and Excise may prescribe for the protection of the Revenue.

8. The Fund shall have relief, under arrangements made by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, by way of refund of customs duty paid on any hydrocarbon oil (within the meaning of the Hydrocarbon Oil (Customs & Excise) Act 1971(b)) which is bought in the United Kingdom and used for the official purposes of the Fund, such relief to be subject to compliance with such conditions as may be imposed in accordance with the arrangements.

9. The Fund shall have relief, under arrangements made by the Secretary of State, by way of refund of car tax paid on any vehicles and value added tax paid on the supply of any goods or services which are used for the official purposes of the Fund, such relief to be subject to compliance with such conditions as may be imposed in accordance with the arrangements.

N. E. Leigh.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order confers the legal capacities of a body corporate and certain fiscal privileges on the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund. It will enable the United Kingdom to give effect to Articles 2(2) and 34(1) to (4) of the International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage (Cmd. 5061) which the United Kingdom signed at Brussels on 18th December 1971. It will come into operation on the date on which the Convention enters into force with respect to the United Kingdom.

(a) 1964 c. 81.

(b) 1971 c. 12.

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