

SCHEDULE TO THE ORDER

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT 1995 PREVENTION OF POLLUTION PART VI CHAPTER IV INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION FUND

Compensation for persons suffering pollution damage

Liability of the Fund.

175.—(1) The Fund shall be liable for pollution damage in the territory of the Sovereign Base Areas if the person suffering the damage has been unable to obtain full compensation under section 153—

- (a) because the discharge or escape, or the relevant threat of contamination, by reason of which the damage was caused—
 - (i) resulted from an exceptional, inevitable and irresistible phenomenon, or
 - (ii) was due wholly to anything done or omitted to be done by another person (not being a servant or agent of the owner) with intent to do damage, or
 - (iii) was due wholly to the negligence or wrongful act of a government or other authority in exercising its function of maintaining lights or other navigational aids for the maintenance of which it was responsible,(and because liability is accordingly wholly displaced by section 155), or
- (b) because the owner or guarantor liable for the damage cannot meet his obligations in full, or
- (c) because the damage exceeds the liability under section 153 as limited by section 157.

(2) Subsection (1) above shall apply with the substitution for the words “the Sovereign Base Areas” of the words “a Fund Convention country” where the incident has caused pollution damage in the territory of the Sovereign Base Areas and of another Fund Convention country, and proceedings under the Liability Convention for compensation for the pollution damage have been brought in a country which is not a Fund Convention country or in the Sovereign Base Areas.

(3) Where the incident has caused pollution damage in the territory of the Sovereign Base Areas and of another country in respect of which the Liability Convention is in force, references in this section to the provisions of Chapter III of this Part shall include references to the corresponding provisions of the law of any country giving effect to the Liability Convention.

(4) . . .

(5) For the purposes of this section an owner or guarantor is to be treated as incapable of meeting his obligations if the obligations have not been met after all reasonable steps to pursue the legal remedies available have been taken.

(6) Expenses reasonably incurred, and sacrifices reasonably made, by the owner voluntarily to prevent or minimise pollution damage shall be treated as pollution damage for the purposes of this section, and accordingly he shall be in the same position with respect to claims against the Fund under this section as if he had a claim in respect of liability under section 153.

(7) The Fund shall incur no obligation under this section if—

- (a) it proves that the pollution damage—
 - (i) resulted from an act of war, hostilities, civil war or insurrection, or

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- (ii) was caused by oil which has escaped or been discharged from a warship or other ship owned or operated by a State and used, at the time of the occurrence, only on Government non-commercial service, or
 - (b) the claimant cannot prove that the damage resulted from an occurrence involving a ship identified by him, or involving two or more ships one of which is identified by him.
- (8) If the Fund proves that the pollution damage resulted wholly or partly—
- (a) from anything done or omitted to be done with intent to cause damage by the person who suffered the damage, or
 - (b) from the negligence of that person,

the Fund may (subject to subsection (10) below) be exonerated wholly or partly from its obligations to pay compensation to that person.

(9) Where the liability under section 153 in respect of the pollution damage is limited to any extent by subsection (8) of that section, the Fund shall (subject to subsection (10) below) be exonerated to the same extent.

(10) Subsections (8) and (9) above shall not apply where the pollution damage consists of the costs of preventive measures or any damage caused by such measures.

Limitation of Fund's liability under section 175.

176.—(1) The Fund's liability under section 175 shall be subject to the limits imposed by paragraphs 4 and 5 of Article 4 of the Fund Convention (which impose an overall limit on the liabilities of the Fund and the text of which is set out in Part I of Schedule 5), and in those provisions references to the Liability Convention are references to the Liability Convention within the meaning of this Chapter.

(2) A certificate given by the Director of the Fund stating that subparagraph (c) of paragraph 4 of Article 4 of the Fund Convention is applicable to any claim under section 175 shall be conclusive evidence for the purposes of this Chapter that it is so applicable.

(3) For the purpose of giving effect to paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Fund Convention a court giving judgment against the Fund in proceedings under section 175 shall notify the Fund, and—

- (a) no steps shall be taken to enforce the judgment unless and until the court gives leave to enforce it,
- (b) that leave shall not be given unless and until the Fund notifies the court either that the amount of the claim is not to be reduced under those paragraphs, or that it is to be reduced to a specified amount, and
- (c) in the latter case the judgment shall be enforceable only for the reduced amount.

(4) Any steps taken to obtain payment of an amount or a reduced amount in pursuance of such a judgment as is mentioned in subsection (3) above shall be steps to obtain payment in Cyprus pounds; and—

- (a) for the purpose of converting such an amount from special drawing rights into Cyprus pounds one special drawing right shall be treated as equal to such a sum in Cyprus pounds as the International Monetary Fund have fixed as being the equivalent of one special drawing right for—
 - (i) the relevant day, namely the day on which the Assembly of the Fund decide the date for the first payment of compensation in respect of the incident, or
 - (ii) if no sum has been so fixed for the relevant day, the last day before that day for which a sum has been so fixed; and
- (b) a certificate given by or on behalf of the Administrator stating—

- (i) that a particular sum in Cyprus pounds has been so fixed for the relevant day, or
- (ii) that no sum has been so fixed for the relevant day and that a particular sum in Cyprus pounds has been so fixed for a day which is the last day for which a sum has been so fixed before the relevant day,

shall be conclusive evidence of those matters for the purposes of this Chapter.

(5) The Secretary of State may by order make such amendments of this section and Part I of Schedule 5 as appear to him to be appropriate for the purpose of giving effect to the entry into force of any amendment of the provisions set out in that Schedule.

(6) Any document purporting to be such a certificate as is mentioned in subsection (2) or (4)(b) above shall, in any legal proceedings, be received in evidence, and, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to be such a certificate.