

SCHEDULE TO THE ORDER

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT 1995

PART VI

PREVENTION OF POLLUTION

CHAPTER IV

INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION FUND

Supplemental

Jurisdiction and effect of judgments.

177.—(1) Paragraph (d) of section 1(1) of the Administration of Justice Act 1956 as applied in Montserrat by the Admiralty Jurisdiction (Montserrat) Order 1964⁽¹⁾ shall be construed as extending to any claim in respect of a liability falling on the Fund under this Chapter.

(2) Where in accordance with rules of court made for the purposes of this subsection the Fund has been given notice of proceedings brought against an owner or guarantor in respect of liability under section 153, any judgment given in the proceedings shall, after it has become final and enforceable, become binding upon the Fund in the sense that the facts and evidence in the judgment may not be disputed by the Fund even if the Fund has not intervened in the proceedings.

(3) Where a person incurs a liability under the law of a Fund Convention country corresponding to Chapter III of this Part for damage which is partly in the territory of Montserrat, subsection (2) above shall, for the purpose of proceedings under this Chapter, apply with any necessary modifications to a judgment in proceedings under the law of the said country.

(4) Subject to subsection (5) below, the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act⁽²⁾ shall apply, whether or not it would so apply apart from this subsection, to any judgment given by a court in a Fund Convention country to enforce a claim in respect of liability incurred under any provision corresponding to section 175; and in its application to such a judgment the said Ordinance shall have effect as if any reference in that Act to the High Court in England were a reference to the Court in the Fund Convention country in which that judgment has been given and with the omission of paragraphs (b) and (f) of subsection 2 of section 3 of that Act.

(5) No steps shall be taken to enforce such a judgment unless and until the court in which it is registered under the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act gives leave to enforce it; and—

- (a) 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 paragraph 4 of Article 4 of the Fund Convention (as set out in Part I of Schedule 5 to this Act) or that it is to be reduced to a specified amount; and
- (b) in the latter case, the judgment shall be enforceable only for the reduced amount.

Extinguishment of claims.

178.—(1) No action to enforce a claim against the Fund under this Chapter shall be entertained by a court in Montserrat unless—

(1) S.I.1964/1662 (1964 III, p. 3769).

(2) Laws of Montserrat, Revised Ed. 1962, Cap 67.

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- (a) the action is commenced, or
- (b) a third party notice of action to enforce a claim against the owner or his guarantor in respect of the same damage is given to the Fund,

not later than three years after the claim against the Fund arose.

In this subsection “third party notice” means a notice of the kind described in section 177(2) and (3).

(2) No action to enforce a claim against the Fund under this Chapter shall be entertained by a court in Montserrat unless the action is commenced not later than six years after the occurrence, or first of the occurrences, resulting in the discharge or escape or (as the case may be) in the relevant threat of contamination, by reason of which the claim against the Fund arose.

Subrogation.

179.—(1) In respect of any sum paid by the Fund as compensation for pollution damage the Fund shall acquire by subrogation any rights in respect of the damage which the recipient has (or but for the payment would have) against any other person.

(2) In respect of any sum paid by a public authority in Montserrat as compensation for pollution damage, that authority shall acquire by subrogation any rights which the recipient has against the Fund under this Chapter.

Supplementary provisions as to proceedings involving the Fund.

180.—(1) Any proceedings by or against the Fund may either be instituted by or against the Fund in its own name or be instituted by or against the Director of the Fund as the Fund’s representative.

(2) Evidence of any instrument issued by any organ of the Fund or of any document in the custody of the Fund, or any entry in or extract from such a document, may be given in any legal proceedings by production of a copy certified as a true copy by an official of the Fund; and any document purporting to be such a copy shall, in any such proceedings, be received in evidence without proof of the official position or handwriting of the person signing the certificate.

Interpretation.

181.—(1) In this Chapter, unless the context otherwise requires—

“damage” includes loss;

“discharge or escape”, in relation to pollution damage, means the discharge or escape of oil from the ship;

“dollars” means East Caribbean dollars;

“guarantor” means any person providing insurance or other financial security to cover the owner’s liability of the kind described in section 163;

“incident” means any occurrence, or series of occurrences having the same origin, resulting in a discharge or escape of oil from a ship or in a relevant threat of contamination;

“oil”, except in section 173 and 174, means persistent hydrocarbon mineral oil;

“owner” means the person or persons registered as the owner of the ship or, in the absence of registration, the person or persons owning the ship, except that, in relation to a ship owned by a State which is operated by a person registered as the ship’s operator, it means the person registered as its operator;

“pollution damage” means—

- (a) damage caused outside a ship by contamination resulting from a discharge or escape of oil from the ship,
- (b) the cost of preventive measures, and
- (c) further damage caused by preventive measures,

but does not include any damage attributable to any impairment of the environment except to the extent that any such damage consists of—

- (i) any loss of profits, or
- (ii) the cost of any reasonable measures of reinstatement actually taken or to be taken;

“preventive measures” means any reasonable measures taken by any person to prevent or minimise pollution damage, being measures taken—

- (a) after an incident has occurred, or
- (b) in the case of an incident consisting of a series of occurrences, after the first of those occurrences;

“relevant threat of contamination” means a grave and imminent threat of damage being caused outside a ship by contamination resulting from a discharge or escape of oil from the ship; and

“ship” means any ship (within the meaning of Chapter III of this Part) to which section 153 applies.

(2) For the purposes of this Chapter—

- (a) references to a discharge or escape of oil from a ship are references to such a discharge or escape wherever it may occur, and whether it is of oil carried in a cargo tank or of oil carried in a bunker fuel tank; and
- (b) where more than one discharge or escape results from the same occurrence or from a series of occurrences having the same origin, they shall be treated as one.

(3) References in this Chapter to the territory of any country shall be construed in accordance with section 170(4) reading the reference to a Liability Convention country as a reference to a Fund Convention country.