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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1999 No. 1125**

**The International Mobile Satellite Organisation  
(Immunities and Privileges) Order 1999**

**PART II**

**THE ORGANISATION**

**4.** The Organisation is an organisation of which the United Kingdom and foreign sovereign powers are members.

**5.** The Organisation shall have the legal capacities of a body corporate.

**6.** The Organisation shall have the like inviolability of official archives as, in accordance with the 1961 Convention Articles, is accorded in respect of the official archives of a diplomatic mission.

**7.—(1)** Within the scope of its official activities the Organisation shall have immunity from suit and legal process except:

- (a) to the extent that it shall have waived such immunity in a particular case;
- (b) in respect of a civil action by a third party for damage arising from an accident caused by a motor vehicle belonging to, or operated on behalf of, the Organisation or in respect of a motor traffic offence involving such a vehicle;
- (c) in respect of an attachment order pursuant to the order of a Court of law, of the salaries, wages or other emoluments owed by the Organisation to a staff member, or a former staff member; and
- (d) in respect of a counter-claim directly connected with proceedings initiated by the Organisation.

(2) Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not prevent the taking of such measures as may be permitted by law in relation to the property and assets of the Organisation in so far as they may be temporarily necessary in connection with the prevention and investigation of accidents involving motor vehicles belonging to, or operated on behalf of, the Organisation.

**8.** Within the scope of its official activities, the Organisation shall have exemption from taxes on income and capital gains.

**9.** The Organisation shall have the like relief from non-domestic rates on its official premises as, in accordance with Article 23 of the 1961 Convention Articles, is accorded in respect of the premises of a diplomatic mission.

**10.** The Organisation shall have exemption from duties (whether of customs or excise) and taxes on the importation of goods imported by the Organisation and necessary for the exercise of its official activities, 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.

**11.** The Organisation shall have exemption from prohibitions and restrictions on importation or exportation in the case of goods imported or exported by or on behalf of the Organisation

and necessary for the exercise of its official activities and in the case of any publications of the Organisation imported or exported by it within the scope of its official activities.

**12.** The Organisation shall have relief, under arrangements made by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise, by way of refund of duty (whether of customs or excise) paid on imported hydrocarbon oil within the meaning of the Hydrocarbon Oil Duties Act 1979<sup>(1)</sup> or value added tax paid on the importation of such oil which is bought in the United Kingdom by the Organisation and necessary for the exercise of its official activities, such relief to be subject to compliance with such conditions as may be imposed in accordance with the arrangements.

**13.** The Organisation shall have relief, under arrangements made by the Secretary of State, by way of refund of value added tax paid on the purchase of new vehicles which are necessary for the official activities of the Organisation, and of value added tax paid on the supply of any other goods and services of substantial value which are necessary for the official activities of the Organisation, such relief to be subject to compliance with such conditions as may be imposed in accordance with the arrangements.

**14.** The Organisation shall have relief, under arrangements made by the Secretary of State, by way of a refund of insurance premium tax and air passenger duty paid by the Organisation in the exercise of its official activities.

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<sup>(1)</sup> 1979 c. 5.