



# Merchant Shipping Act 1974

## CHAPTER 43

### MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT 1974

#### PART I

##### THE INTERNATIONAL OIL POLLUTION COMPENSATION FUND

1 Interpretation of Part I

*Contributions to Fund*

- 2 Contributions by importers of oil and others  
3 Power to obtain information

*Compensation for persons suffering pollution damage*

4 Liability of the Fund

*Indemnification of shipowners*

- 5 Indemnification where damage is caused by ship registered in Fund  
Convention country

*Supplemental*

- 6 Jurisdiction and effect of judgments  
7 Extinguishment of claims  
8 Subrogation and rights of recourse  
9 Modification of limitation of liability under Act of 1971

**PART II**

## OIL TANKERS

- 10 Interpretation of Part II
- 11 Design and construction of oil tankers
- 12 Restrictions on tankers sailing from United Kingdom ports
- 13 Restrictions on uncertificated tankers

**PART III**

## PROTECTION OF SHIPPING AND TRADING INTERESTS

- 14 Foreign action affecting shipping
- 15 Parliamentary control of orders under Part III

**PART IV**

## SUBMERSIBLE APPARATUS

- 16 Apparatus to which Part IV applies
- 17 Safety of submersible and supporting apparatus

**PART V**

## MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTAL

*Miscellaneous*

- 18 Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses
- 19 Offences by seamen

*Supplemental*

- 20 Extension to British possessions etc.
- 21 Financial provisions
- 22 Offences by bodies corporate
- 23 Construction and interpretation
- 24 Citation, commencement, repeals and extent

---

**SCHEDULES****SCHEDULE 1 — OVERALL LIMIT ON LIABILITY OF FUND**

## Article 4—paragraphs 4, 5 and 6

**SCHEDULE 2 — Oil Tankers***Surveys, inspections and certificates*

- 1 (1) Oil tanker construction rules may provide for any surveys...

*Duty to notify alterations*

- 2 (1) The rules may require the owner of a United...

*Clearance of outgoing tanker*

- 3 (1) Before a certificated oil tanker proceeds to sea, the...

*Inspection of foreign tanker*

- 4 (1) For the purpose of determining whether an oil tanker...

*Offences*

- 5 (1) Oil tanker construction rules may provide for the punishment...

*Fees*

- 6 Oil tanker construction rules— (a) may, with the approval of...

SCHEDULE 3 — Certificated Oil Tankers

- 1 In Part II of this Act a " certificated oil...  
2 An oil tanker is certificated if it is a United...  
3 (1) An oil tanker registered in a Convention country (other...  
4 (1) An oil tanker is certificated if a certificate of...  
5 An order made under this Schedule may be varied or...

SCHEDULE 4 — Protection of Shipping and Trading Interests

*Customs powers*

- 1 (1) An order made under the principal section with the...

*Orders imposing charges*

- 2 (1) An order under subsection (3)(d) of the principal section—...

*Criminal proceedings*

- 3 A person shall not be guilty of an offence against...

*Interpretation*

- 4 In the principal section " port" includes an off-shore terminal,...

SCHEDULE 5 — Regulations Relating to Submersible and Supporting Apparatus

- 1 (1) In this Schedule " regulations " means regulations made...

*Registration of submersible apparatus*

- 2 Regulations made by virtue of section 17(1)(e) of this Act...

*Offences*

- 3 (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) below, regulations—

*Exemptions from regulations*

- 4 (1) The operation of any regulations may be excluded in...

*General*

- 5 Regulations— (a) may provide for their operation anywhere outside the...