

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH MERCHANT SHIPPING AGREEMENT

His Majesty's Governments in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Irish Free State and Newfoundland, having considered the report of the Conference on the Operation of Dominion Legislation and Merchant Shipping Legislation, 1929, undertake to propose any necessary legislation and take such other steps as may be required for the purpose of giving full effect to the provisions of the present Agreement with regard to Merchant Shipping.

Part I.—Common Status.

Part II.—Standards of Safety.

Part III.—Extra-territorial Operation of Laws

Part IV.—Equal Treatment.

Part V.—Ships' Articles, Internal Discipline, and Engagement and Discharge of Seamen.

Part VI.—Certificates of Officers.

Part VII.—Shipping Enquiries.

Part VIII.—Relief and Repatriation of Seamen; Wages and Effects of deceased Seamen.

Part IX.—Offences on Board Ship.

Part X.—General.

Article 1.—In this agreement, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expression has the meaning hereby assigned to it, that is to say:—

“Part of the Commonwealth” means any Part of the British Commonwealth of Nations the Government of which is a party to this Agreement.

PART I

Common Status

Common Qualifications

Article 2.—(1) No ship shall be registered in any port within the British Commonwealth so as to acquire the status and recognition mentioned in paragraph (2) of this Article unless it is owned wholly by persons of the following description, namely:—

(a) Persons recognized by law throughout the British Commonwealth of Nations as having the status of natural born British subjects;

(b) Persons naturalized by or in pursuance of the law of some part of the British Commonwealth;

(c) Persons made denizens by letters of denization; and

(d) Bodies corporate established under and subject to the law of some part of the British Commonwealth and having their principal place of business within the British Commonwealth.