

(Translation)

AGREEMENT FOR DISPENSING WITH CONSULAR VISAS ON BILLS OF HEALTH

The under-mentioned Governments desiring, in accordance with the spirit of article 49 (4) and of article 57 of the International Sanitary Convention, signed at Paris on the 21st June, 1926, to reduce as far as possible the formalities to which merchant vessels are subject, the undersigned, provided with full powers found in good and due form, have agreed to the following provisions:—

1. Each of the Contracting Governments undertakes not to require in the ports of its metropolitan territory that the bills of health of vessels registered in the metropolitan territories of the other Contracting Governments, from whatever place arriving, shall bear visas issued by its consular officers.

2. Each of the Contracting Governments undertakes not to require such vessels on calling at its ports to produce any documents such as a consular bill of health or any other kind of certificate or to comply with formalities which would render ineffective the exemption provided for in article 1.

3. (a) Each of the Contracting Governments at the time of signing or acceding to this agreement may declare that it intends to make it applicable to all or to any of its colonies, overseas territories, protectorates or territories under its suzerainty or mandate.

(b) It shall likewise have the right subsequently to accede to this agreement in respect of all or part of its colonies, overseas territories, protectorates or territories under its suzerainty or mandate by notifying the French Government in writing. In this case the accession shall take effect six months after the date of such notification.

(c) At any time after the expiration of the period of five years mentioned in article 5 any Contracting Government may, by a notification in writing to the French Government, declare that this agreement shall cease to apply to all or to any of its colonies, overseas territories, protectorates or territories under its suzerainty or mandate, to which it has been extended under the terms of the foregoing paragraphs. Such declaration shall take effect six months after the said notification.

(d) The French Government shall immediately inform the Contracting Governments and the International Office of Public Health of any notifications which it may receive under the provisions of the two preceding paragraphs, indicating at the same time the date of each notification.

(e) Vessels registered in any territory to which this agreement is applicable under the previous paragraphs of this article shall be entitled to the benefits of the provisions of articles 1 and 2.

4. Any Government which is not a signatory of the present agreement, other than the Government of any of the territories mentioned in article 3, may accede to it hereafter at any time. Such accession shall be effected by notification in writing to the French Government and shall take effect six months after the date of such notification. The French Government shall notify the Contracting Governments and the International Office of Public Health of each accession and of the date of the notification.

5. The present agreement may be denounced by any Contracting Government at any time after the expiration of five years from this day. Denunciation shall be effected by means of a notification in writing to the French Government and shall take effect six months after the date of notification.

6. The French Government shall immediately notify the Contracting Governments and the International Office of Public Health of any denunciations received and of the date of each denunciation.

The present agreement shall not prevent any of the Contracting Governments from concluding separate agreements among themselves or with non-contracting countries for dispensing with consular visas on bills of health. Every such agreement shall be deposited with the French Government, which shall inform the International Office of Public Health and the Governments parties to the present agreement.