

CHAPTER 321

THE FOREIGN SEAMEN DESERTERS ACT

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CHAPTER 321

THE FOREIGN SEAMEN DESERTERS ACT

Commencement: 1 June, 1908

An Act relating to foreign seamen deserters.

1. Interpretation

In this Act, “currency point” has the value assigned to it in the Schedule to this Act.

2. Reciprocal arrangements with foreign countries as to merchant seamen deserters

Where it appears to the Minister that due facilities are or will be given by the government of any foreign country for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from Uganda merchant ships in that country, the Minister may by statutory instrument stating that such facilities are or will be given, declare that this Act shall apply in the case of such foreign country subject to any limitations, conditions and qualifications contained in the instrument.

3. Apprehension of foreign merchant seamen deserters

Where this Act applies in the case of any foreign country, and a seaman or apprentice, not being a slave, deserts when within Uganda from a merchant ship belonging to a subject or citizen of that country, any court, justice or officer that would have had cognisance of the matter if the seaman or apprentice had deserted from a Uganda ship shall, on the application of a consular officer of the foreign country, aid in apprehending the deserter and for that purpose may, on information given on oath, issue a warrant for his apprehension and, on proof of the desertion, order him to be conveyed on board his ship or delivered to the master or mate of his ship, or to the owner of the ship or his agent, to be so conveyed; and any warrant or order may be executed accordingly.

4. Penalty for harbouring deserters

If any person harbours or secretes any deserter liable to be apprehended under section 3, knowing or having reason to believe that he has deserted, that person shall for each offence be liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding one hundred fifty currency points.

5. Act may cease to apply to certain countries

The Minister may, by statutory instrument, declare that any instrument made with respect to the application to a foreign country of this Act shall, as and from a date specified, cease to have effect, and this Act shall, as and from the said date, cease to apply in the case of the foreign country named in that instrument.

6. Power to amend Schedule

The Minister responsible for finance may, by statutory instrument, with the approval of Cabinet, amend the Schedule to this Act.

SCHEDULE

Sections 1, 6

Currency Point

A currency point is equivalent to twenty thousand shillings.

History: Cap. 300 (Revised Edition, 2000); Act 17/2023
