



ΠΑΡΑΡΤΗΜΑ ΠΡΩΤΟΝ

ΤΗΣ ΕΠΙΣΗΜΟΥ ΕΦΗΜΕΡΙΔΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑΣ

ὀπ' Ἄρ. 1819 τῆς 26ης ΝΟΕΜΒΡΙΟΥ 1982

ΝΟΜΟΘΕΣΙΑ

Ὁ περί τῆς Συμβάσεως διὰ τὴν Λήψιν Μαρτυρικῆς Ἀποδείξεως ἐν τῇ Ἀλλοδαπῇ εἰς Ἀστικές καὶ Ἐμπορικές Ὑποθέσεις (Κυρωτικός) Νόμος τοῦ 1982 ἐκδίδεται διὰ δημοσιεύσεως εἰς τὴν ἐπίσημον ἐφημερίδα τῆς Κυπριακῆς Δημοκρατίας συμφώνως τῷ ἄρθρῳ 52 τοῦ Συντάγματος.

Ἀριθμὸς 67 τοῦ 1982

ΝΟΜΟΣ ΚΥΡΩΝ ΤΗΝ ΣΥΜΒΑΣΙΝ ΔΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΛΗΨΙΝ ΜΑΡΤΥΡΙΚΗΣ ΑΠΟΔΕΙΞΕΩΣ ΕΝ ΤΗ ΑΛΛΟΔΑΠΗ ΕΙΣ ΑΣΤΙΚΑΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΜΠΟΡΙΚΑΣ ΥΠΟΘΕΣΕΙΣ

Ἡ Βουλὴ τῶν Ἀντιπροσώπων ψηφίζει ὡς ἀκολούθως:

1. Ὁ παρῶν Νόμος θὰ ἀναφέρηται ὡς ὁ περί τῆς Συμβάσεως διὰ τὴν Λήψιν Μαρτυρικῆς Ἀποδείξεως ἐν τῇ Ἀλλοδαπῇ εἰς Ἀστικές καὶ Ἐμπορικές Ὑποθέσεις (Κυρωτικός) Νόμος τοῦ 1982. Συνοπτικός τίτλος.

2. Ἐν τῷ παρόντι Νόμῳ, ἐκτὸς ἐὰν ἐκ τοῦ κειμένου προκύπτῃ διάφορος ἔννοια— Ἐρμηνεία.

«Σύμβασις» σημαίνει τὴν Σύμβασιν διὰ τὴν Λήψιν Μαρτυρικῆς Ἀποδείξεως ἐν τῇ Ἀλλοδαπῇ εἰς Ἀστικές καὶ Ἐμπορικές Ὑποθέσεις, τῆς ὁποίας τὸ κείμενον ἐκτίθεται εἰς τὸ Μέρος I τοῦ Πίνακος εἰς τὴν Ἀγγλικὴν καὶ ἐν μεταφράσει εἰς τὴν Ἑλληνικὴν εἰς τὸ Μέρος II τοῦ Πίνακος: Πίναξ. Μέρος I. Μέρος II.

Νοεῖται ὅτι ἐν περιπτώσει ἀντιθέσεως μεταξὺ τῶν δύο κειμένων ὑπερισχέει τὸ εἰς τὸ Μέρος I τοῦ Πίνακος ἐκτιθέμενον κείμενον.

3. Ἡ Σύμβασις, εἰς τὴν ὁποίαν ἡ Δημοκρατία ἀπεφάνισε νὰ προσχωρήσῃ, δυνάμει τῆς Ἀποφάσεως τοῦ Ὑπουργικοῦ Συμβουλίου ὑπ' ἄρ. 21.795 τῆς 27ης Μαΐου, 1982, διὰ τοῦ παρόντος Νόμου κυροῦται. Κύρωσις Συμβάσεως.

Π Ι Ν Α Ξ
 ("Αρθρον 2)
 ΜΕΡΟΣ Ι

CONVENTION ON THE TAKING OF EVIDENCE ABROAD IN
 CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS

The States signatory to the present Convention,

Desiring to facilitate the transmission and execution of Letters of Request and to further the accommodation of the different methods which they use for this purpose,

Desiring to improve mutual judicial co-operation in civil or commercial matters,

Have resolved to conclude a Convention to this effect and have agreed upon the following provisions—

CHAPTER I
 LETTERS OF REQUEST

Article 1

In civil or commercial matters a judicial authority of a Contracting State may, in accordance with the provisions of the law of that State, request the competent authority of another Contracting State, by means of a Letter of Request, to obtain evidence, or to perform some other judicial act.

A Letter shall not be used to obtain evidence which is not intended for use in judicial proceedings, commenced or contemplated.

The expression "other judicial act" does not cover the service of judicial documents or the issuance of any process by which judgments or orders are executed or enforced, or orders for provisional or protective measures.

Article 2

A Contracting State shall designate a Central Authority which will undertake to receive Letters of Request coming from a judicial authority of another Contracting State and to transmit them to the authority competent to execute them. Each State shall organize the Central Authority in accordance with its own law.

Letters shall be sent to the Central Authority of the State of execution without being transmitted through any other authority of that State.

Article 3

A Letter of Request shall specify—

- (a) the authority requesting its execution and the authority requested to execute it, if known to the requesting authority;
- (b) the names and addresses of the parties to the proceedings and their representatives, if any;
- (c) the nature of the proceedings for which the evidence is required, giving all necessary information in regard thereto;
- (d) the evidence to be obtained or other judicial act to be performed.

Where appropriate, the Letter shall specify, inter alia—

- (e) the names and addresses of the persons to be examined;
- (f) the questions to be put to the persons to be examined or a statement of the subject-matter which they are to be examined;
- (g) the documents or other property, real or personal, to be inspected;

(h) any requirement that the evidence is to be given on oath or affirmation, and any special form to be used;

(i) any special method or procedure to be followed under Article 9.

A Letter may also mention any information necessary for the application of Article 11.

No legalization or other like formality may be required.

Article 4

A Letter of Request shall be in the language of the authority requested to execute it or be accompanied by a translation into that language.

Nevertheless, a Contracting State shall accept a Letter in either English or French, or a translation into one of these languages, unless it has made the reservation authorized by Article 33.

A Contracting State which has more than one official language and cannot, for reasons of internal law, accept Letters in one of these languages for the whole of its territory, shall, by declaration, specify the language in which the Letter or translation thereof shall be expressed for execution in the specified parts of its territory. In case of failure to comply with this declaration, without justifiable excuse, the costs of translation into the required language shall be borne by the State of origin.

A Contracting State may, by declaration, specify the language or languages other than those referred to in the preceding paragraphs, in which a Letter may be sent to its Central Authority.

Any translation accompanying a Letter shall be certified as correct, either by a diplomatic officer or consular agent or by a sworn translator or by any other person so authorized in either State.

Article 5

If the Central Authority considers that the request does not comply with the provisions of the present Convention, it shall promptly inform the authority of the State of origin which transmitted the Letter of Request, specifying the objections to the Letter.

Article 6

If the authority to whom a Letter of Request has been transmitted is not competent to execute it, the Letter shall be sent forthwith to the authority in the same State which is competent to execute it in accordance with the provisions of its own law.

Article 7

The requesting authority shall, if it so desires, be informed of the time when, and the place where, the proceedings will take place, in order that the parties concerned, and their representatives, if any, may be present. This information shall be sent directly to the parties or their representatives when the authority of the State of origin so requests.

Article 8

A Contracting State may declare that members of the judicial personnel of the requesting authority of another Contracting State may be present at the execution of a Letter of Request. Prior authorization by the competent authority designated by the declaring State may be required.

Article 9

The judicial authority which executes a Letter of Request shall apply its own law as to the methods and procedures to be followed.

However, it will follow a request of the requesting authority that a special method or procedure be followed, unless this is incompatible with the internal law of the State of execution or is impossible of performance by reason of its internal practice and procedure or by reason of practical difficulties.

A Letter of Request shall be executed expeditiously.

Article 10

In executing a Letter of Request the requested authority shall apply the appropriate measures of compulsion in the instances and to the same extent as are provided by its internal law for the execution of orders issued by the authorities of its own country or of requests made by parties in internal proceedings.

Article 11

In the execution of a Letter of Request the person concerned may refuse to give evidence in so far as he has a privilege or duty to refuse to give the evidence—

- (a) under the law of the State of execution; or
- (b) under the law of the State of origin, and the privilege or duty has been specified in the Letter, or at the instance of the requested authority, has been otherwise confirmed to that authority by the requesting authority.

A Contracting State may declare that, in addition, it will respect privileges and duties existing under the law of States other than the State of origin and the State of execution, to the extent specified in that declaration.

Article 12

The execution of a Letter of Request may be refused only to the extent that—

- (a) in the State of execution the execution of the Letter does not fall within the functions of the judiciary; or
- (b) the State addressed considers that its sovereignty or security would be prejudiced thereby.

Execution may not be refused solely on the ground that under its internal law the State of execution claims exclusive jurisdiction over the subject-matter of the action or that its internal law would not admit a right of action on it.

Article 13

The documents establishing the execution of the Letter of Request shall be sent by the requested authority to the requesting authority by the same channel which was used by the latter.

In every instance where the Letter is not executed in whole or in part, the requesting authority shall be informed immediately through the same channel and advised of the reasons.

Article 14

The execution of the Letter of Request shall not give rise to any reimbursement of taxes or costs of any nature.

Nevertheless, the State of execution has the right to require the State of origin to reimburse the fees paid to experts and interpreters and the costs occasioned by the use of a special procedure requested by the State of origin under Article 9, paragraph 2.

The requested authority whose law obliges the parties themselves to secure evidence, and which is not able itself to execute the Letter, may, after having obtained the consent of the requesting authority, appoint a suitable person to do so. When seeking this consent the requested authority shall indicate the approximate costs which would result from this procedure. If the requesting authority gives its consent it shall reimburse any costs incurred; without such consent the requesting authority shall not be liable for the costs.

CHAPTER II

TAKING OF EVIDENCE BY DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS, CONSULAR AGENTS AND COMMISSIONERS

Article 15

In a civil or commercial matter, a diplomatic officer or consular agent of a Contracting State may, in the territory of another Contracting State and within the area where he exercises his functions, take the evidence without compulsion of nationals of a State which he represents in aid of proceedings commenced in the courts of a State which he represents.

A Contracting State may declare that evidence may be taken by a diplomatic officer or consular agent only if permission to that effect is given upon application made by him or on his behalf to the appropriate authority designated by the declaring State.

Article 16

A diplomatic officer or consular agent of a Contracting State may, in the territory of another Contracting State and within the area where he exercises his functions, also take the evidence, without compulsion, of nationals of the State in which he exercises his functions or of a third State, in aid of proceedings commenced in the courts of a State which he represents, if—

(a) a competent authority designated by the State in which he exercises his functions has given its permission either generally or in the particular case, and

(b) he complies with the conditions which the competent authority has specified in the permission.

A Contracting State may declare that evidence may be taken under this Article without its prior permission.

Article 17

In a civil or commercial matter, a person duly appointed as a commissioner for the purpose may, without compulsion, take evidence in the territory of a Contracting State in aid of proceedings commenced in the courts of another Contracting State if—

(a) a competent authority designated by the State where the evidence is to be taken has given its permission either generally or in the particular case; and

(b) he complies with the conditions which the competent authority has specified in the permission.

A Contracting State may declare that evidence may be taken under this Article without its prior permission.