



THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

HIGH COURT (ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION) ACT 1961

2020 REVISED EDITION

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High Court (Admiralty Jurisdiction) Act 1961

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An Act relating to admiralty jurisdiction, legal proceedings in connection with ships and aircraft and the arrest of ships and other property and for purposes connected therewith.

[15 January 1962]

Short title

1. This Act is the High Court (Admiralty Jurisdiction) Act 1961.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —
 - “goods” includes baggage;
 - “master” has the same meaning as in the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 and accordingly includes every person (except a pilot) having command or charge of a ship;
 - “ship” includes any description of vessel used in navigation;

“towage” and “pilotage”, in relation to an aircraft, mean towage and pilotage while the aircraft is waterborne.

Admiralty jurisdiction of General Division of High Court

3.—(1) The admiralty jurisdiction of the General Division of the High Court shall be as follows, that is to say, jurisdiction to hear and determine any of the following questions or claims:

- (a) any claim to the possession or ownership of a ship or to the ownership of any share therein;
- (b) any question arising between the co-owners of a ship as to possession, employment or earnings of that ship;
- (c) any claim in respect of a mortgage of or charge on a ship or any share therein;
- (d) any claim for damage done by a ship;
- (e) any claim for damage received by a ship;
- (f) any claim for loss of life or personal injury sustained in consequence of any defect in a ship or in her apparel or equipment, or of the wrongful act, neglect or default of the owners, charterers or persons in possession or control of a ship or of the master or crew thereof or of any other person for whose wrongful acts, neglects or defaults the owners, charterers or persons in possession or control of a ship are responsible, being an act, neglect or default in the navigation or management of the ship, in the loading, carriage or discharge of goods on, in or from the ship or in the embarkation, carriage or disembarkation of persons on, in or from the ship;
- (g) any claim for loss of or damage to goods carried in a ship;
- (h) any claim arising out of any agreement relating to the carriage of goods in a ship or to the use or hire of a ship;
- (i) subject to section 168 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 (which requires salvage disputes to be determined summarily by a District Court in certain cases), any claim —

- (i) under the Salvage Convention;
- (ii) under any contract for or in relation to salvage services; or
- (iii) in the nature of salvage other than a claim mentioned in sub-paragraph (i) or (ii),
or any corresponding claim in connection with an aircraft mentioned in subsection (3A);
- (j) any claim in the nature of towage in respect of a ship or an aircraft;
- (k) any claim in the nature of pilotage in respect of a ship or an aircraft;
- (l) any claim in respect of goods or materials supplied to a ship for her operation or maintenance;
- (m) any claim in respect of the construction, repair or equipment of a ship or dock charges or dues;
- (n) any claim by a master or member of the crew of a ship for wages and any claim by or in respect of a master or member of the crew of a ship for any money or property which, under any of the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 is recoverable as wages or in the General Division of the High Court and in the manner in which wages may be recovered;
- (o) any claim by a master, shipper, charterer or agent in respect of disbursements made on account of a ship;
- (p) any claim arising out of an act which is or is claimed to be a general average act;
- (q) any claim arising out of bottomry;