

## **ANNEX XII**

REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 5.21

MARITIME TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES

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#### MARITIME TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES

##### Article 1

###### ***Scope***

This Annex applies to measures by Parties affecting trade in maritime transport and related services.

##### Article 2

###### ***Definitions***

For the purposes of this Annex:

- (a) “international maritime transport services” means the supply of international maritime transport of cargo and passengers, including door to door or multi-modal transport operations;
- (b) “door to door” and “multi-modal transport” mean carriage of goods using more than one mode of transport, involving an international sea-leg, under a single transport document, and the supply or access to other modes of transport;<sup>1</sup>
- (c) “maritime auxiliary services” means the following services:
  - (i) "maritime cargo handling services" meaning activities exercised by stevedore companies, including terminal operators, but not including the direct activities of dockers when this workforce is organised independently of the stevedoring or terminal operator companies. The activities covered include the organisation and supervision of:
    - (aa) loading/discharging of cargo to/from a ship;
    - (bb) lashing/unlashing of cargo; and
    - (cc) reception/delivery and safekeeping of cargoes before shipment or after discharge.

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this definition, single transport document shall refer to a document that permits customers to conclude a single contract with a shipping company for a door to door transport operation.

- (ii) "customs clearance services" (alternatively "customs house brokers' services") meaning activities consisting in carrying out on behalf of another party customs formalities concerning import, export or through transport of cargoes, whether this service is the main activity of the service provider or a usual complement of its main activity;
- (iii) "container station and depot services" meaning activities consisting in storing containers, whether in port areas or inland, with a view to their stuffing/stripping, repairing and making them available for shipments;
- (iv) "maritime agency services" meaning activities consisting in representing, within a given geographic area, as an agent the business interests of one or more shipping lines or shipping companies, for the following purposes:
  - (aa) marketing and sales of maritime transport and related services, from quotation to invoicing, and issuance of bills of lading on behalf of the companies, acquisition and resale of the necessary related services, preparation of documentation, and provision of business information; and
  - (bb) acting on behalf of the companies organising the call of the ship or taking over cargoes when required.
- (v) "freight forwarding services" meaning the activity consisting of organising and monitoring shipment operations on behalf of shippers, through the acquisition of transport and related services, preparation of documentation and provision of business information.
- (d) "feeder services" means the pre- and onward transportation by sea, between ports located in a Party, of international cargo, including containerised cargo, *en route* to a destination, or from a port of shipment, outside the territory of that Party;
- (e) "crew members" means the master and any person employed on board the vessel during a voyage in performance of functions related to the management, operation and maintenance of the vessel and any other person included in the crew list of that vessel; and
- (f) "port" means a place where vessels may anchor or tie up for the purpose of shelter, repair, loading or discharge of cargo, embarking and disembarking of passengers, or for other such activities connected with water-borne commerce, and including all the land and water areas and the structure, equipment and facilities related to these functions.

Article 3

***Non-Discriminatory Market Access<sup>2</sup>***

1. International maritime transport service suppliers of a Party shall have unrestricted access to international maritime markets and trades on a commercial and non-discriminatory basis.

2. The Parties shall abolish and abstain from introducing any unilateral measures and administrative, technical and other obstacles which could have discriminatory effects on the free supply of international maritime transport services.

3. Each Party shall grant to ships flying the flag of another Party or operated by services suppliers of another Party treatment no less favourable than that accorded to its own ships or those of any non-party, whichever are the better, with regard to, *inter alia*, access to ports, the use of infrastructure and services of ports<sup>3</sup>, such as:

- (a) pilotage;
- (b) towing and tug assistance;
- (c) provisioning;
- (d) fuelling and watering;
- (e) garbage collection and ballast water disposal;
- (f) port captain services;
- (g) navigation aids;
- (h) shore-based operational services essential to ship operations, including communications, water and electrical supplies;
- (i) emergency repair;
- (j) anchorage, berth and berthing services,

and the use of maritime auxiliary services, as well as related fees and charges, customs facilities and the assignment of berths and facilities for loading and unloading.

4. A Party shall not introduce cargo-sharing arrangements in future agreements with other countries concerning international maritime transport services. Where these arrangements exist in previous agreements, such arrangements shall be terminated upon the entry into force of the Agreement.

5. With respect to activities covered by this Annex, a Party shall permit companies of another Party to have a commercial presence in its territory in the form of

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<sup>2</sup> This Article does not apply to Switzerland.

<sup>3</sup> As referred to in WTO Maritime Model Schedule – Additional Commitments.

subsidiaries, branches, or representative offices. This commercial presence shall be subject to conditions of establishment and operation no less favourable than those accorded to subsidiaries, branches or representative offices of companies of the host Party.

6. The activities which subsidiaries, branches and representative offices may engage in are to be in accordance with the laws and regulations of the host Party.

7. A Party shall not adopt or maintain measures that prevent international maritime transport services suppliers of another Party from directly contracting with providers of other modes of transport for the provision of multi-modal transport services.

8. International maritime transport service suppliers of a Party are permitted to reposition owned or leased transport equipment such as empty containers, not being carried as cargo against payment, between ports of another Party.

9. Each Party shall permit international maritime transport service suppliers of another Party to provide feeder services between ports located in that Party.

#### Article 4

##### *Applicability of National Laws*

1. The vessels and crew members of a Party shall observe the relevant laws, rules and regulations of another Party during their stay including in the latter's territorial waters, inland waters and ports.

2. The competent authorities of a Party shall not interfere in the internal affairs of the vessels of another Party in its ports, except:

- (a) at the request or with the consent of the diplomatic or consular authorities of the Party concerned;
- (b) where peace and *ordre public* of the port or on shore have been affected or the public security disturbed through activities on the vessel or as a consequence thereof;
- (c) where those involved in the matter are not members of the crew.

3. This Article does not restrict the rights of any Party to enforce its regulations concerning port state control, immigration, customs, public health, protection of life, safety of vessels and security within ports, dangerous cargoes and pollution of the environment.

4. This Article does not apply to requests for a vessel to be arrested in pursuit of claims for which a lien may be placed.

Article 5

***Recognition of Vessel Documents***

1. Documents for a vessel of a Party, which have been issued or recognised in accordance with the relevant international conventions, shall be recognised by the other Parties.
2. The Parties recognise the International Tonnage Certificate (1969) duly issued in accordance with the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969. In cases where the port charges and expenses are collected on the basis of tonnage, the mentioned tonnage certificate (1969) shall be the basis of the calculation.

Article 6

***Identity Documents, Entry and Transit of Seafarers***

1. For the facilitation of international maritime transport services, a Party shall recognise valid identification documents of seafarers and crew duly issued by the competent authorities of another Party.

These documents are:

- (a) for Georgia, the “Passport” and the “Seaman’s Book”;
  - (b) for Iceland, the “Passport” and the “Sea Service Book”;
  - (c) for Norway, the “Passport” and the “Sea Service Book”;
  - (d) for Switzerland, the “Passport” and the “Seaman Book”.
2. For nationals of a non-party working on board vessels of a Party, the identity documents are those issued by the competent authorities of the non-party.
  3. Subject to the immigration laws of a Party, a crew member on a vessel of another Party holding valid identity documents referred to in paragraph 1, shall:
    - (a) be admitted to the territory of that Party for temporary shore leave provided that the list of crew members is delivered to the passport control or the immigration authorities;
    - (b) be permitted to disembark a vessel as a crew member where this takes place in a port of that Party and leave the territory of that Party; and
    - (c) be admitted to the territory of that Party for the purpose of joining a vessel as a crew member, provided he is in possession of a declaration from the shipping company or its agent stating that he is to join a specific vessel at a port of that Party.

4. A Party shall not take discriminatory measures against the crew members of another Party during their stay in its ports and territory.

5. If a crew member of a Party requires medical observation or treatment of an illness during the stay of the vessel in a port of another Party, the competent authorities of the latter shall give permission for the crew member to stay in its territory for medical attention until declared able for travel by the competent medical authority, for a period not exceeding three months. That Party shall give medical aid in accordance with its national legislation.

6. Nothing in this Article shall be construed so as to limit the right of a Party to deny any person whom they consider unacceptable from entering or remaining in its territory.

#### Article 7

##### ***Recruitment and Training<sup>4</sup>***

Each Party shall allow companies or industry organisations of another Party to establish representation and recruitment offices on its territory, which will be permitted to establish direct employment relationships with seafarers or potential seafarers in the latter Party. Such companies or industry organisations shall be allowed to provide financial support for activities such as training. Seafarers who have been provided this type of support may be required to be contractually bound for a specific period of time to employment with the company that has provided the said support.

#### Article 8

##### ***Terms of Employment***

1. Each Party shall, when accepting crew members of another Party on its vessels, do so in accordance with international conventions in force between them.

2. The terms of employment of a national of a Party serving as a crew member on a vessel of another Party shall be stated in the contract of employment.

3. Each Party shall accept and respect the terms and conditions of employment of the crew members of a vessel of another Party, as established by employment contracts, collective bargaining agreements, social welfare standards and conditions of work and applicable for crew members on board the registered vessels of that Party.

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<sup>4</sup> This Article does not apply to Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

Article 9

***Rules on Labour Disputes***

1. Disputes or claims, including claims for torts arising from or related to the contract of employment or relations between a service supplier of a Party and a crew member of another Party, including but not limited to wage claims, and claims for damages as a result of the illness, personal injury or death of a crew member, shall be referred for determination and resolution solely to the exclusive jurisdiction of the competent courts, tribunals or authorities, as the case may be, of the Party where the vessel is registered or of the Party of which the complainant is a national provided that the procedure does not conflict with domestic laws, rules and regulations. The Parties will provide the appropriate mechanisms for such cases to be heard when raised.
2. This Article does not affect a request for a vessel to be arrested in pursuit of claims for which a lien may be placed.

Article 10

***Assistance in Cases of Offences Committed by Crew on Board the Vessel***

1. If an offense might have taken place or a crew member is suspected of having committed an offense on board of a vessel and under the law of the Party where a vessel is registered, that Party may request another Party to obtain evidence and take proceedings in the case.
  2. The competent authorities of the requested Party shall examine the request and decide, in accordance with its own law, which action to take.
  3. If the requested Party considers that the information supplied by the requesting Party is not adequate, it may ask for additional information.
  4. Proceedings may not be taken by the requested Party, unless the alleged offense would be an offense if committed in its territory and if, under these circumstances, the offender would also be liable to sanctions under its own law.
  5. The requested Party shall promptly communicate its decision to the requesting Party and inform it of any procedural acts performed or measures taken.
  6. All requests and communications between the Parties specified in this Article shall take place through diplomatic notes.
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