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**ATTI LEGISLATIVI ED AMMINISTRATIVI
ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE ACTS**

LAW No. 37 of 10 September 1972.

Law on the Somali Territorial Sea and Ports.

THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL

HAVING SEEN The First Charter of the Revolution;

CONSIDERING The approval of the Councils SRC and Secretaries
of State;

PROMULGATES

the following Law:

DRAFT LAW ON
THE SOMALI TERRITORIAL SEA AND PORTS

Article 1

The Territorial Sea

1. The Somali Territorial Sea includes the portion of the Sea to the extent of 200 nautical miles within the continental and insular coasts, delimited according to the provisions of Articles 2, and 3 of this Law.

2. The Somali Territorial Sea is under the sovereignty of the Somali Democratic Republic. Offences committed within this limits of the territorial sea on board a vessel relating to penal health, and public security shall be governed by Somali Law.

Article 2

Measurement of the Territorial Sea

1. The normal base line for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea is the low water line along, the coast.

2. In localities where the coastline is deeply indented or if there is a frings of islands along the coast in its immediate vicinity, the method of straight baseline joining appropriate points may be employed in drawing the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial Sea is measured.

3. Waters on the landward side of the baseline of the Territorial Sea form part of the internal waters of the State within the meaning of Article 4 below.

Article 3

Territorial Sea for islands and archipelagos

1. Where an island is situated within the 200 mile limit the belt of waters round it will constitute territorial waters. This belt will be 200 miles wide and will be measured from low-water mark following the sinuities of the island.

2. A group of islands forming part of an archipelago shall be considered as a unit and its territorial waters shall be measured from the centre of the archipelago.

Article 4

Internal Waters and Maritime Ports

1. The internal maritime waters include all navigable waters in Somali rivers open for maritime vessels and maritime ports with the areas as delimited by the table annexed herewith.

2. The internal Somali waters are subject to the sovereignty of the Republic according to Somali Laws and the provision of this Law.

Article 5

Fishing and Coastal Navigation

1. Fishing in the territorial Sea and regular transportation of persons and goods between Somali Ports are reserved for vessels flying the Somali Flag, and other authorised vessels.

2. Any infringement of the above provision shall be punished with a fine from 5,000/- to 100,000/- So. Shs. and in case of repetition of the infringement by the vessel or the operator, the punishment may be doubled and the captain shall be liable for offences prescribed by the Somali Penal Laws and the vessel may be confiscated.

3. Any contract of transportation made in violation of paragraph 1 above is void and without effect and the vessel executing or intending to execute the contract shall be subject to a fine equal to 5 times the freight or the fare stipulated or fixed by the usage for similar operation.

Article 6

Innocent Passage Through the Territorial Sea

Subject to the provisions of the Law merchant ships of all nationalities are allowed to the right of innocent passage through the Territorial Sea within the limits laid down by this Law and the general principles of the international Law of the Sea.

Article 7

Meaning of Innocent Passage

1. Passage means navigation through the Territorial Sea for the purpose of either traversing that sea without entering internal waters or of proceeding to internal waters or of making for the high Sea from internal waters.

2. Passage includes stopping and anchoring, but only in so far as the same are incidental to ordinary navigation or are rendered necessary by force majeure or by distress, but not for loading or unloading goods for passengers.

Article 8

Limits of Innocent Passage

Passage is innocent so long as it is not prejudicial to peace, good order, health or security of the Republic. Such passage shall take place in conformity with the provisions of this Law, and with the general rules and principles of international Law.

Article 9

Prohibited Passage

1. Passage in the Territorial Sea and internal waters is not allowed to vessels having the nationality of States not recognised by the Somali Democratic Republic.

2. In case of violation of the above paragraph the Somali authorities may take any measures necessary to ensure its.

Article 10

Warships

1. Foreign Warships are not allowed to passage through the Territorial Sea unless they are authorised by the Somali Government.

Article 11

Respect of Somali Laws in Territorial Sea

1. All Ships exercising the right of innocent passage shall comply with Somaly Laws and regulations.
2. Each vessel while passing through the Territorial Sea shall hoist its national flag and comply with the orders made according Somali Laws — by the competent Authorities.
3. In case of infringement of any of the two above paragraphs the vessel shall be punished with a fine from 1,000/ to 100,000/- So. Shs. unless the fact or the omission constitutes a more grave crime.

Article 12

Entering to Internal Waters

1. All Ships proceeding to internal waters or ports shall comply with the provisions set by the maritime Code for this purpose.
2. Subject to the limitation laid down by Article 5 of this Law all mercant ships except those mentioned by Article 9 paragraph 1 above are granted the rights to enter in Somali Ports for any commercial operation, especially to load, unload, unload cargoes, embark or disembark passengers.

Article 13

Defence Zones

The Somali competent Authorities may take the necessary measures to suspend temporarily innocent passage of all foreign ships, in specified areas of the territorial sea, if this becomes necessary for the protection of the security of the State.

Article 14

Charges for Services Rendered

Charges levied on Ships in internal waters are also levied upon foreign Ships passing through the Territorial sea for services rendered or measures taken regarding the vessels for their security and the implementation of rules of the police of the navigation.

Article 15

Criminal Jurisdiction on Foreign Ships

1. The criminal jurisdiction of the Republic shall be exercised on board foreign ships passing through the Territorial sea or anchoring in

Article 18

Arrest Vessels by the Authorities

In case where a punishment is prescribed for infringement committed by a foreign vessel the Somali Authorities may arrest the vessel until the said punishment is fulfilled or a sufficient security for this purpose is furnished.

Article 19

Any provision contrary to this Law or inconsistent with it is hereby abrogated.

Article 20

Entry into Force of this Law

This Law shall come into force on the thirtieth day of its publication.

Mogadishu, 10 September 1972.

THE PRESIDENT

of the Supreme Revolutionary Council

Major Gen. Mohamed Siad Barre
