

CAP. 263.

CYPRUS

CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA

CHAPTER 263 OF THE LAWS

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CHAPTER 263.

CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA.

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TO AMEND THE LAW WITH RESPECT TO THE CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA.

1949
Cap. 190.

[4th February, 1927.]

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Carriage of Goods by Sea Law.

Application
of rules in
Schedule.

2. Subject to the provisions of this Law, the rules set out in the Schedule hereto (in this Law referred to as "the rules") shall have effect in relation to and in connection with the carriage of goods by sea in ships carrying goods from any port in Cyprus to any other port in or outside Cyprus.

Absolute
warranty of
seaworthi-
ness not to
be implied in
contracts to
which rules
apply.

3. There shall not be implied in any contract for the carriage of goods by sea to which the rules apply any absolute undertaking by the carrier of the goods to provide a seaworthy ship.

Statement
as to
application

4. Every bill of lading or similar document of title, issued in Cyprus which contains or is evidence of any contract to

which the rules apply shall contain an express statement that it is to have effect subject to the provisions of the said rules as applied by this Law.

of rules to be included in bills of lading.

5. Article VI of the rules shall, in relation to the carriage of goods by sea in ships carrying goods from any port in Cyprus to any other port in Cyprus have effect as though the said article referred to goods of any class instead of to particular goods and as though the proviso to the second paragraph of the said article were omitted.

Modification of article VI. of rules in relation to coasting trade.

6. Where under the custom of any trade the weight of any bulk cargo inserted in the bill of lading is a weight ascertained or accepted by a third party other than the carrier or the shipper and the fact that the weight is so ascertained or accepted is stated in the bill of lading, then, notwithstanding anything in the rules, the bill of lading shall not be deemed to be *prima facie* evidence against the carrier of the receipt of goods of the weight so inserted in the bill of lading, and the accuracy thereof at the time of shipment shall not be deemed to have been guaranteed by the shipper.

Modification of rules 4 and 5 of article III. in relation to bulk cargoes.

7. (1) Nothing in this Law shall affect the operation of sections four hundred and forty-six to four hundred and fifty both inclusive, five hundred and two, and five hundred and three of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, as amended by any subsequent enactment, or the operation of any enactment for the time being in force limiting the liability of the owners of sea-going vessels.

Saving and operation.

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(2) The rules shall not by virtue of this Law apply to any contract for the carriage of goods by sea made before the first day of January nineteen hundred and twenty-seven, nor to any bill of lading or similar document of title issued, whether before or after such day as aforesaid in pursuance of any such contract as aforesaid.

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SCHEDULE.

(Section 2.)

RULES RELATING TO BILLS OF LADING.

Article I.

In these rules the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to say—

Definitions.

- (a) "carrier" includes the owner or the charterer who enters into a contract of carriage with a shipper;
- (b) "contract of carriage" applies only to contracts of carriage covered by a bill of lading or any similar document of title,

in so far as such document relates to the carriage of goods by sea, including any bill of lading or any similar document as aforesaid issued under or pursuant to a charter party from the moment at which such bill of lading or similar document of title regulates the relations between a carrier and a holder of the same;

- (c) "goods" includes goods, wares, merchandise, and articles of every kind whatsoever, except live animals and cargo which by the contract of carriage is stated as being carried on deck and is so carried;
- (d) "ship" means any vessel used for the carriage of goods by sea;
- (e) "carriage of goods" covers the period from the time when the goods are loaded on to the time when they are discharged from the ship.

Article II.

Risks.

Subject to the provisions of article VI, under every contract of carriage of goods by sea the carrier, in relation to the loading, handling, stowage, custody, care, and discharge of such goods, shall be subject to the responsibilities and liabilities, and entitled to the rights and immunities hereinafter set forth.

Article III.

Responsibilities and liabilities.

1. The carrier shall be bound, before and at the beginning of the voyage, to exercise due diligence to—

- (a) make the ship seaworthy;
- (b) properly man, equip, and supply the ship;
- (c) make the holds, refrigerating and cool chambers, and all other parts of the ship in which goods are carried, fit and safe for their reception, carriage and preservation.

2. Subject to the provisions of article IV, the carrier shall properly and carefully load, handle, stow, carry, keep, care for and discharge the goods carried.

3. After receiving the goods into his charge, the carrier, or the master or agent of the carrier, shall, on demand of the shipper, issue to the shipper a bill of lading showing among other things—

- (a) the leading marks necessary for identification of the goods as the same are furnished in writing by the shipper before the loading of such goods starts, provided such marks are stamped or otherwise shown clearly upon the goods if uncovered, or on the cases or coverings in which such goods are contained, in such a manner as should ordinarily remain legible until the end of the voyage;
- (b) either the number of packages or pieces, or the quantity, or weight, as the case may be, as furnished in writing by the shipper;
- (c) the apparent order and condition of the goods:

Provided that no carrier, master or agent of the carrier, shall be bound to state or show in the bill of lading any marks, number, quantity, or weight which he has reasonable ground for suspecting not accurately to represent the goods actually received, or which he has had no reasonable means of checking.