

**CHAPTER 6.****CONSULAR CONVENTIONS.****ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS.****SECTION.**

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**CHAPTER 6.****CONSULAR CONVENTIONS.**

**An Ordinance to Confer upon the Consular Officers of Foreign States with which Consular Conventions are concluded by Her Majesty certain Powers relating to the Administration of the Estates and Property of Deceased Persons: and to restrict the Powers of Constables and other Persons to enter the Consular Offices of such States.**

7 of 1950.  
14 of 1950.

[11TH MAY, 1950.]

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Consular Conventions Ordinance, and shall apply to the Colony and the Protectorate.

Short title  
and  
application.

2. (1) Where any person who is a national of a State to which this section applies is named as executor in the will of a deceased person disposing of property in Sierra Leone, or is otherwise a person to whom a grant of representation to the estate in Sierra Leone of a deceased person may be made, then if the court is satisfied, on the application of a consular officer of the said State, that the said national is not resident in Sierra Leone, and if no application for a grant of such representation is made by a person duly authorised by power of attorney to act for him in that behalf, the court shall make to that officer any such grant of representation to the estate of the deceased as would be made to him if he were so authorised as aforesaid.

Powers of  
consular  
officers in  
relation to  
property in  
Sierra Leone  
of deceased  
persons.

(2) Where any person who is a national of a State to which this section applies—

(a) is entitled to any money or other property in Sierra Leone forming part of the estate of a deceased person, or to

receive payment in Sierra Leone of any money becoming due on the death of a deceased person; or

(b) is among the persons to whom any money or other property of a deceased person may under any Act or Ordinance, whether passed before or after the commencement of this Ordinance, be paid or delivered without grant of probate or other proof of title;

then if the said national is not resident in Sierra Leone, a consular officer of that State shall have the like right and power to receive and give a valid discharge for any such money or property as if he were duly authorised by power of attorney to act for him in that behalf:

Provided that no person shall be authorised or required by this sub-section to pay or deliver any money or property to a consular officer if it is within his knowledge that any other person in Sierra Leone has been expressly authorised to receive that money or property on behalf of the said national.

20 and 21  
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(3) Notwithstanding anything in section 81 of the Court of Probate Act, 1857, as applied to Sierra Leone, sureties shall not be required to an administration bond given by a consular officer upon the grant of administration by virtue of this section.

Supple-  
mentary  
provisions as  
to section 2.

3. Notwithstanding any rule of law conferring immunity or privilege in respect of the official acts and documents of consular officers, a consular officer shall not be entitled to any immunity or privilege in respect of any act done by virtue of powers conferred on him by or under section 2 of this Ordinance or in respect of any document for the time being in his possession relating thereto.

Restriction  
of powers of  
entry in  
relation to  
consular  
officers.

14 of 1950.

4. (1) Subject to the provisions of this section a consular office of a State to which this section applies shall not be entered by a constable or other person acting in the execution of any warrant or other legal process or in the exercise of powers conferred by or under any enactment (whether passed before or after the commencement of this Ordinance), or otherwise, except with the consent of the consular officer in charge of that office or, if that consent is withheld or cannot be obtained, with the consent of one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State:

Provided that the foregoing provisions of this sub-section shall not apply in relation to any entry effected—