

Uganda

Foreign Seamen Deserters Act Chapter 321

Legislation as at 31 December 2000

Note: There are **outstanding amendments** that have not yet been applied:
Act 17 of 2023.

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Foreign Seamen Deserters Act (Chapter 321)

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Uganda

Foreign Seamen Deserters Act Chapter 321

Commenced on 1 June 1908

[This is the version of this document as it was at 31 December 2000 to 27 July 2023.]

[Note: This legislation was revised and consolidated as at 31 December 2000 and 31 December 2023 by the Law Reform Commission of Uganda. All subsequent amendments have been researched and applied by Laws.Africa for ULII.]

An Act relating to foreign seamen deserters.

1. Reciprocal arrangements with foreign countries as to merchant seamen deserters

Where it appears to the Minister that due facilities are or will be given by the government of any foreign country for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from Uganda merchant ships in that country, the Minister may by statutory instrument stating that such facilities are or will be given declare that this Act shall apply in the case of such foreign country subject to any limitations, conditions and qualifications contained in the instrument.

2. Apprehension of foreign merchant seamen deserters

Where this Act applies in the case of any foreign country, and a seaman or apprentice, not being a slave, deserts when within Uganda from a merchant ship belonging to a subject or citizen of that country, any court, justice or officer that would have had cognisance of the matter if the seaman or apprentice had deserted from a Uganda ship shall, on the application of a consular officer of the foreign country, aid in apprehending the deserter and for that purpose may, on information given on oath, issue a warrant for his apprehension and, on proof of the desertion, order him to be conveyed on board his ship or delivered to the master or mate of his ship, or to the owner of the ship or his agent, to be so conveyed; and any such warrant or order may be executed accordingly.

3. Penalty for harbouring deserters

If any person harbours or secretes any deserter liable to be apprehended under [section 2](#), knowing or having reason to believe that he has deserted, that person shall for each offence be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding three hundred shillings.

4. Act may cease to apply to certain countries

The Minister may at any time by statutory instrument declare that any instrument theretofore made with respect to the application to a foreign country of this Act shall, as and from a date specified, cease to have effect, and this Act shall, as and from the said date, cease to apply in the case of the foreign country named in that instrument.