

## CHAPTER 173

## THE FERRIES ACT

An Act to provide for the control of public ferries.

[15th November, 1929]

Ords. Nos.  
32 of 1928  
11 of 1929  
46 of 1951  
G.N. No. 478 of 1962

1.—(1) This Act may be cited as the Ferries Act.

(2) In this Act —

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for works;

“public ferry” means of passage over an area of water declared to be a public ferry under section 2.

Short title  
and  
interpre-  
tation  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

2.—(1) The Minister may by notice in the *Gazette* declare that the passage over any river, arm of the sea, lake or part of a lake from any place to which the public have access to any other such place is a public ferry.

Public ferries  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

(2) Where any such passage as aforesaid exists over any water forming a boundary of Tanzania the Minister may declare that such part of such passage as lies within Tanzania shall be a public ferry within the meaning of this Act.

3. Upon the declaration of any ferry as a public ferry under this Act all rights in respect thereto and over the soil thereunder shall vest in the Minister.

Public ferries vested  
in the Minister  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

4. No person shall for hire or reward convey passengers or cargo of any description over a public ferry unless he is authorised to do so by a licence issued under this Act.

Licence to  
ply for hire  
on a public  
ferry

5. The Minister may appoint any person to be a licensing officer in respect of public ferries in any specified area and in default of any such appointment, the District Officer of every district shall be the licensing officer in respect of public ferries in such district.

Licensing  
officers  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

Exclusive  
and non-  
exclusive  
licences and  
form  
thereof

6.—(1) A licence shall relate to not more than one public ferry and may be either exclusive or non-exclusive.

(2) A licence shall be in the form in the Schedule hereto or to the like effect and shall specify the period for which the licence shall remain in force and the fee paid or payable in respect of that licence.

Period of  
licence  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

7. Except with the approval of the Minister no licence granted under this Act shall remain in force for longer than one year from the date of issue, provided that the licensing officer may at his discretion issue a licence for such shorter period than one year as the applicant for a licence may require.

Fee for  
licence  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

8.—(1) The fee for a licence shall be of such amount and payable in such manner as the Minister may prescribe, either generally or in respect of any specified public ferry:

Provided that the Minister may require that the right to the issue of a licence to remain in force for any specified time in respect of any specified public ferry shall be sold by public auction subject to such conditions as he may direct.

(2) Unless determined in the manner described in subsection (1) the fee for a licence shall be of such amount and payable in such manner as may be agreed between the licensing officer and the person to whom the licence is issued.

A licence  
may be  
refused or  
issued sub-  
ject to spe-  
cial condi-  
tions  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

9. Subject to appeal to the Minister, a licensing officer may refuse to issue a licence or may issue a licence subject to such special conditions, not inconsistent with this Act or with any regulations made hereunder, as he may consider that the circumstances require in order to ensure the efficiency and safety of the service to be rendered to the public by the licensee and any special conditions so imposed shall be endorsed by the licensing officer upon the licence.

Recovery  
of fee and  
cancellation  
of licence if  
fee unpaid

10. Any part of the fee for a licence which remains unpaid after the licence shall have become due may be recovered as a debt due to the public revenue of the Government:

Provided that if any part of such fee shall remain unpaid for twenty-one days or more after the licence shall have become due, the Minister may, without prior notice to the licensee, cancel the licence, without prejudice to recovery of such part of the fee which shall then be due and unpaid.

Regulations  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

11. The Minister may make regulations for any of the following purposes:

(a) maintaining the safety and efficiency of the service to be



provided at public ferries by the holders of licences under this Act;

- (b) prescribing the fees which may be charged for the conveyance of passengers or cargo of any description over any public ferry;
- (c) prescribing the size or description of boats or other vessels which may be used at public ferries by the holders of licences;
- (d) providing for the inspection and maintenance in proper condition and for the identification and registration of such boats or other vessels used at public ferries;
- (e) prescribing the crew and the maximum load to be carried over a public ferry by boats or vessels of any description;
- (f) prescribing the type of boat or vessel which shall be used and the nature of the accommodation which shall be provided for the carriage over a public ferry of passengers or of cargo of any description;
- (g) prescribing the number of boats or other vessels to be maintained at any public ferry by the holder of a licence and the hours during which the public ferry shall be available for the use of the public;
- (h) regulating the traffic at public ferries;
- (i) generally for giving effect to the objects of this Act.

12.—(1) Subject as provided in subsection (2) of this section, no person shall establish or maintain a ferry within two miles upon either side of a public ferry or within such other distance as the Minister may direct.

Prohibition of maintenance of ferry within a prescribed distance of a public ferry  
G.N. No. 478 of 1962

(2) Nothing in subsection (1) of this section shall be construed as preventing the operation of a ferry by any person authorised in writing by the Minister so to do.

(3) A written authority under subsection (2) of this section shall be subject to such conditions, if any, as the Minister may think fit to impose, and may be cancelled by the Minister if any such condition has been broken.

13. Any person who commits an offence under this Act or of any regulation made hereunder, or of any special conditions endorsed upon a licence granted to him under this Act, is liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand shillings or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and imprisonment, and the Court may order that any licence held by any such person under this Act shall be cancelled.

Penalty

Saving of  
permits  
lawfully  
granted by  
or on  
behalf of  
the Gov-  
ernment  
before  
commence-  
ment of this  
Act

Exemption  
of ferries  
maintained  
by the  
Govern-  
ment or by  
local  
authorities  
G.N. No.  
478 of 1962

Omitted

14. No permit or other authority lawfully granted before the commencement of this Act by or on behalf of the Government to any person for the carriage of passengers or cargo of any description over any public ferry for hire or reward shall be deemed to be abridged by anything contained in this Act, provided that the exercise of any right under any such permit or authority shall be subject to any regulations made under this Act in the same manner as the exercise of any right granted by a licence under this Act.

15. Nothing in this Act shall apply to the conveyance of passengers or cargo of any description over any public ferry by a service maintained by the Government or, with the approval of the Minister, by a local authority:

Provided that the Minister may order that any regulations made under section 11 shall apply to the conveyance of passengers or cargo of any description over any public ferry by any such service.

16. [Omitted.]

#### SCHEDULE

#### FORM OF LICENCE

(Section 6)

The Ferries Act (Cap. 173)

(Name of public ferry to which the licence relates)

EXCLUSIVE LICENCE

OR

NON-EXCLUSIVE LICENCE

Licence is hereby granted to .....  
of .....  
to ply for hire upon the public ferry between ..... and ..... from  
the ..... day of ..... 20... until the ..... day of  
..... 20.... subject to the terms of the Ferries Act, and of any regulations  
in force thereunder at any time during the currency of this licence and to the  
special conditions endorsed hereon (delete if no special conditions).

Fee Shs. .... paid in advance, or payable as follows —  
Shs. .... paid in advance and Shs. .... to be paid on the first  
day of each month during the currency of the licence, or as the case may be.

#### SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Station .....

Date .....

.....  
Licensing Officer