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# LAW OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON THE PREVENTION OF SEAWATER POLLUTION

Adopted by Decision No. 99 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on October 22, 1997  
and amended by Decree No. 350 of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly on January 14, 1999

## Article 1 (Objective)

This Law is enacted for the purpose of providing strict guidelines for the prevention of seawater pollution, thereby protecting the quality of seawater and natural resources.

## Article 2 (Principle)

Prevention of seawater pollution is an important way of protecting marine resources.

The land and environmental protection organ and the relevant organs shall be equipped with modern material and technical means and administer the work of preventing seawater pollution on a planned basis.

## Article 3 (Water quality protection zone)

The State shall designate water quality protection zones with a view to specially protecting certain areas of the sea.

The water quality protection zones shall be designated by the Cabinet.

## Article 4 (Maintenance of water quality protection zone)

Institutions, enterprises and organizations shall not, in the water quality protection zones, conduct prospecting or install structures that may pollute the seawater therein.

## Article 5 (Document of environmental impact assessment)

Institutions, enterprises and organizations that wish to construct ports, fuel storage, atomic power plants and the like by the sea shall submit a document of environmental impact assessment to the land and environmental protection organ.

The land and environmental protection organ shall examine the document and decide on either approval or rejection.

## Article 6 (Purification of wastewater)

Institutions, enterprises and organizations shall be equipped with purifying installations for the purpose of regularly purifying wastewater.

Wastewater exceeding the permitted criteria of discharge shall not be allowed to flow into the sea.

## Article 7 (Disposal of waste material at seaside)

Institutions, enterprises and organizations that wish to dump poor ore, slag or dirt at the seaside shall obtain the approval of the land and environmental protection organ and discard them at a designated place.

#### Article 8 (Observation of pollution of waters around ports and lockgates)

Institutions, enterprises and organizations that are in charge of the management of ports and lockgates shall be equipped with the facilities for disposing of pollutants discharged from ships and regularly watch for any pollution of the waters around the ports and the lockgates.

Oil or waste discarded in the water area concerned shall be skimmed off in time.

#### Article 9 (Prevention of sea pollution by agricultural chemicals)

Institutions, enterprises and organizations that use agricultural chemicals shall prevent them from flowing into the sea.

Highly toxic agricultural chemicals shall not be applied to the water of the paddy field that may flow into the sea.

#### Article 10 (Regular maintenance and check of equipment)

Institutions, enterprises and organizations that are engaged in the prospecting or exploiting sea resources shall regularly maintain and check their equipment so that no oil leakage may occur in the course of the operation thereof.

Technically defective equipment and installations shall not be used.

#### Article 11 (Anti-pollution facilities)

The institutions, enterprises and organizations concerned shall be equipped with appropriate anti-pollution facilities corresponding to the categories and tonnage of the ships.

Ships without the designated anti-pollution facilities shall not sail.

#### Article 12 (Discarding of waste produced by ships)

Waste produced by a ship at sea shall not be discarded in the sea.

In case pollutants produced by a ship at a port are to be discarded, approval thereof shall be obtained from the port supervisory organ.

#### Article 13 (Overhaul of loading and unloading facilities and oil containers)

In case oil is to be loaded or unloaded from a ship, the institutions, enterprises and organizations concerned shall overhaul the facilities and containers to be used.

#### Article 14 (Notification of toxic substances)

The institutions, enterprises and organizations that ship toxic substances shall notify the port supervisory organ of the quantity and concentration thereof.

Toxic substances shall not be loaded or unloaded without the approval of the port supervisory organ.

#### Article 15 (Prevention of pollution in the event of accidents on ships)

The institutions, enterprises or organizations that operate ships shall prevent accidents by observing the sailing order.

In case an accident occurs on a ship, immediate notification thereof shall be made to the relevant organ and measures taken to prevent the seawater from being polluted.

#### Article 16 (Notification of acts of sea pollution)

In case any act of polluting seawater is discovered, the institutions, enterprises, organizations and citizens shall notify the matter to the nearest land and environmental protection organ or a relevant institution.

#### Article 17 (Mobilization of manpower and equipment)

The land and environmental protection organ and the relevant organ may, in case of serious pollution of a water area, mobilize the manpower and equipment of the institutions, enterprises and organizations for the purpose of removing pollutants therefrom.

The institutions, enterprises and organizations shall provide without delay the manpower and equipment required by the land and environmental protection organ and the relevant organ.

#### Article 18 (Request for information concerning seawater pollution)

The land and environmental protection organ and the relevant organ may require institutions, enterprises and organizations to provide information necessary for the prevention of seawater pollution.

Institutions, enterprises and organizations shall provide information required by the land and environmental protection organ and the relevant organ.

#### Article 19 (Scientific research)

The land and environmental protection organ and the relevant scientific research institution shall strengthen research work for the prevention of seawater pollution and actively introduce the advanced scientific and technological achievements.

#### Article 20 (Guidance)

The work of preventing seawater pollution shall be placed under the guidance of the central land and environmental protection guidance organ and the relevant organ under the unified direction of the Cabinet.

The central land and environmental protection guidance organ and the relevant organ shall regularly supervise and control the work of preventing seawater pollution.

#### Article 21 (Provision of conditions)

The State planning organ, the labor administration organ, the material supply organ and other relevant organs shall provide in time the manpower, equipment and materials needed for the prevention of seawater pollution.

#### Article 22 (Supervision and control)

Supervision and control of the work of preventing seawater pollution shall be undertaken by the land and environmental protection organ and the relevant supervisory and control organ.

The land and environmental protection organ and the relevant supervisory and control organ shall establish a proper system of monitoring the sea and strengthen supervision and control of the work of preventing seawater pollution.

#### Article 23 (Removal of equipment, suspension of operation of ships)

In case sea resources are prospected or exploited or a vessel is operated in violation of the regulations concerning the prevention of seawater pollution, the equipment in question shall be removed and the operation of the vessel suspended.

#### Article 24 (Sanction)

Whoever has engaged in the act of polluting seawater shall be ordered to restore it to the original state, fined or made to compensate for the damages.

#### Article 25 (Administrative or penal liability)

Officials of the institutions, enterprises and organizations and individual citizens who are responsible for the grave consequences caused through their violation of this Law shall, depending on the gravity of the offence, be liable to administrative or penal responsibility.