

N.R.C.D. 212
RIGHT-HAND TRAFFIC ACT, 1973
 ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

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N.R.C.D. 212

RIGHT-HAND TRAFFIC ACT, 1973¹

AN ACT to provide for a change to right-hand traffic and to provide for related matters.

1. Change-over to right-hand traffic

- (1) As from the prescribed date,
 - (a) a motor vehicle shall in approaching and passing traffic coming from the opposite direction, be driven on the right side of the highway;
 - (b) in respect of any highway which is open to movement of traffic in both directions, a motor vehicle when overtaking traffic proceeding in the same direction, shall pass the traffic on the left side,

and the provisions of an enactment relating to road traffic shall be construed subject to this Act.

(2) In this Act the “**prescribed date**” means the 4th day of August, 1974 or any other date that the Minister may by Legislative Instrument prescribe.

2. Establishment of National Right-Hand Traffic Committee

- (1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the National Right-Hand Traffic Committee.
- (2) The National Committee consists of
 - (a) the Commander of the Ghana Armed Forces,
 - (b) the Commander of the One Infantry Brigade Group,
 - (c) the Commander of the Two Infantry Brigade Group,

1. The Act was issued as the Right-Hand Traffic Decree, 1973 (N.R.C.D. 212), made on the 12th day of September, 1973 and notified in the *Gazette* on 14th September, 1973.

- (d) one representative from the Ghana Air Force,
- (e) one representative from the Ghana Navy,
- (f) *omitted*,²
- (g) one representative of the Service Police, and
- (h) any other members of the Armed Forces detained by the Commander of the Ghana Armed Forces.

(3) The chairman of the National Committee shall be the Army Commander.

(4) The Commander, One Infantry Brigade Group for the Southern sector, and the Commander, Two Infantry Brigade Group for the Northern sector are the two vice-chairmen.

3. Co-opted members

The following may be co-opted as members of the National Committee:

- (a) the Director of the Building and Road Research Institute, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi;
- (b) *omitted*,³
- (c) one representative of the Public Works Department;
- (d) one representative of the Department of Social Welfare;
- (e) one representative of the Ministry of Finance;
- (f) one representative of the Information Services Department;
- (g) one representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- (h) one representative of the Automobile Association of Ghana;
- (i) one representative of the Ghana Private Road Transport Workers Union;
- (j) *omitted*,⁴
- (k) one representative of the Ghana Chamber of Commerce;
- (l) one representative of the Ministry of Transport and Communications;
- (m) one representative of the Ministry of Education;
- (n) one representative of the Department of Economics, University of Ghana, Legon;
- (o) the Regional Administrative Officer of each Region; and
- (p) any other members, being not more than five who in the opinion of the Minister, have the requisite knowledge and experience in motor traffic matters.

4. Functions of the National Committee

The functions of the National Committee are

- (a) to co-ordinate the administrative arrangements to ensure a smooth change-over to right-hand traffic;

2. The reference to the Border Guards is omitted as that service does not now exist.

3. As the Organisation does not now exist.

4. As the Organisation does not now exist.

- (b) to examine the highways and cause to be made on the highways the necessary structural alterations to make the highways suitable for right-hand traffic;
- (c) to erect road signs appropriate for right-hand traffic and remove, or make suitable modifications to, the existing road signs;
- (d) to advise on the conversion of motor vehicles and on any other technical and safety aspects of the change-over to right-hand traffic;
- (e) to inform and educate the public in matters concerning the change-over to right-hand traffic; and
- (f) to perform any other functions relating to the change-over as may be determined by the Minister.

5. Establishment of regional and district committees on right-hand traffic

(1) There is hereby established for each Region, a body to be known as the regional committee on right-hand traffic.

(2) The regional committee shall consist of the Regional Military Commander as the chairman and

- (a) the Regional Administrative Officer,
- (b) one representative, Public Works Department,
- (c) *omitted*,⁵
- (d) one representative of the Department of Social Welfare,
- (e) one representative of the Omnibus Services Authority,
- (f) one representative of the Ministry of Information,
- (g) one representative of the Ministry of Education, and
- (h) five other members appointed by the chairman of the Regional Committee.

(3) The functions of the regional committees will be as directed by the National Committee for the purpose of carrying out the change-over.

(4) There shall be established district committees on right-hand traffic and each district committee shall consist of a chairman appointed by the Regional Military Commander and

- (a) the District Administrative Officer;
- (b) one representative of the Social Welfare Department;
- (c) one representative of the Public Works Department;
- (d) one representative, of the Ministry of Information;
- (e) one representative of the Ministry of Education; and
- (f) five other members appointed by the chairman.

(5) The functions of the district committees shall be as directed by the regional committees for the purposes of carrying out the change-over.

6. Traffic wardens

(1) The National Committee may with the approval of the Minister, arrange for the recruitment and training of persons to be known as traffic wardens who may, subject to

5. The Organisation does not now exist.

subsection (2), be deployed to assist in the control and direction of traffic during a period of not more than six months after the prescribed date.

(2) Traffic wardens recruited under this section shall have the powers and perform the functions as may be determined by the National Committee.

7. Members not personally liable

A member of a committee shall not be personally liable for an act or an omission done or made in good faith while engaged on the business of the committee in respect of the change-over to right-hand traffic.

8. Regulations

The Minister may, by Legislative Instrument, make Regulations

- (a) prohibiting or restricting the driving of motor vehicles or any class of motor vehicles on the highway or on any other specified highway or a part of a highway at specified periods on the prescribed date;
- (b) requiring any class of motor vehicles designed for left-hand traffic to be modified structurally;
- (c) requiring motor vehicles designed for left-hand traffic to be provided with any signals, signs or any other devices as may be prescribed;
- (d) requiring the provisions of reflective safety markings on any class of motor vehicles;
- (e) regulating the speed at which motor vehicles may be driven within a period of six months after the prescribed date;
- (f) otherwise for carrying out the principles and purposes of this Act.

9. Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,

“**highway**” includes any roadway to which the public have access;

“**Minister**” means the Minister responsible for Roads and Transport;

“**motor vehicle**” means a mechanically propelled vehicle intended or adapted for use on roads;

“**National Committee**” means the Committee established under section 2 (1);

“**person**” includes natural or artificial persons;

“**prescribed date**” has the meaning assigned thereto by section 1 (2) of this Act.

10. Commencement and saving

*Spent.*⁶

6. The section reads,

(1) This Act shall be deemed to have come into force on the 30th day of December, 1971.

(2) For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby declared that anything done or purported to have been done by the National Committee (whether or not composed in accordance with section 2 of this Act) on or after the day aforesaid, shall be deemed to have been validly done.”