



International Development Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 1

An Act to make provision relating to the provision of assistance for countries outside the United Kingdom; to make provision with respect to certain international financial institutions and the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission; and for connected purposes. [26th February 2002]

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

PART 1

ASSISTANCE

Provision of assistance

1 Development assistance

- (1) The Secretary of State may provide any person or body with development assistance if he is satisfied that the provision of the assistance is likely to contribute to a reduction in poverty.
- (2) In this Act “development assistance” means assistance provided for the purpose of—
 - (a) furthering sustainable development in one or more countries outside the United Kingdom, or
 - (b) improving the welfare of the population of one or more such countries.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(a) “sustainable development” includes any development that is, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, prudent having regard to the likelihood of its generating lasting benefits for the population of the country or countries in relation to which it is provided.

Status: Point in time view as at 17/06/2002.

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2 Development assistance for British overseas territories

The Secretary of State may also provide any person or body with development assistance in a case where the requirement of section 1(1) is not met, if the assistance is provided in relation to one or more of the territories for the time being mentioned in Schedule 6 to the British Nationality Act 1981 (c. 61) (British overseas territories).

3 Humanitarian assistance

The Secretary of State may provide any person or body with assistance for the purpose of alleviating the effects of a natural or man-made disaster or other emergency on the population of one or more countries outside the United Kingdom.

4 Supplementary powers

- (1) The Secretary of State may with a view to preparing for or facilitating the exercise of his powers under section 1, 2 or 3—
 - (a) enter into arrangements with any person or body (including arrangements to provide assistance), or
 - (b) carry on any other activities.
- (2) The Secretary of State may—
 - (a) support, by way of subscription or otherwise, any organisation that exists (wholly or partly) for one or more relevant purposes,
 - (b) contribute to any fund that is intended to be used (wholly or partly) for one or more relevant purposes, or
 - (c) promote, or assist any person or body to promote, awareness of global poverty and of the means of reducing such poverty,if he is satisfied that to do so is likely to contribute to a reduction in poverty.
- (3) Subsection (2) is without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1).
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (2) “relevant purpose” means—
 - (a) a purpose mentioned in section 1(2)(a) or (b) or 3, or
 - (b) a purpose that broadly corresponds to such a purpose.

Form of assistance

5 Meaning of “assistance”

- (1) In this Act “assistance” means assistance in any form or of any nature, including—
 - (a) financial or technical assistance, and
 - (b) assistance consisting in a supply of materials.
- (2) In subsection (1) “technical assistance” includes assistance that—
 - (a) consists in know-how in the form of personnel, training or the provision of the results of research, or
 - (b) is provided in the form of a scholarship.

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6 Financial assistance

- (1) Financial assistance may be provided under this Act—
 - (a) by way of grant or loan,
 - (b) in the form of a guarantee, or
 - (c) by the Secretary of State acquiring securities of a company.
- (2) More than one form of financial assistance may be provided in any case.
- (3) In this section—

“company” includes any body corporate, wherever registered; and

“securities”, in relation to a company, means shares (including stock), debentures, bonds and other securities, whether constituting a charge on the assets of the company or not.
- (4) This section is subject to section 7(3) (Treasury approval required for certain financial assistance).

7 Terms on which assistance is provided

- (1) The Secretary of State may provide assistance under this Act on such terms and conditions (if any) as he may determine.
- (2) Assistance, other than financial assistance, may be provided—
 - (a) free of charge, or
 - (b) on such terms as to payment as the Secretary of State may determine.
- (3) Financial assistance (other than a grant) may be provided under this Act only if the Treasury have approved the terms and conditions on which it is provided.
- (4) Approval may be given either with respect to a particular case or with respect to a class of cases.

8 Arrangements with third parties

- (1) Any power conferred on the Secretary of State by sections 1 to 4 to provide assistance to any person or body, or carry on any other activities, includes a power to enter into arrangements to secure that such assistance is provided, or (as the case may be) activities are carried on, by one or more other persons.
- (2) The arrangements may provide for the Secretary of State to make payments to persons who provide facilities in pursuance of the arrangements.

Powers of statutory bodies

9 Powers of statutory bodies

- (1) Each of the statutory bodies mentioned in Schedule 1 may enter into and carry out agreements for the purpose of—
 - (a) furthering sustainable development in one or more countries outside the United Kingdom,
 - (b) improving the welfare of the population of one or more such countries, or

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- (c) alleviating the effects of a natural or man-made disaster or other emergency on the population of one or more such countries.
- (2) An agreement entered into by a statutory body under this section (“an authorised agreement”) must not make provision for the body to provide financial assistance.
- (3) Before entering into an authorised agreement, the statutory body must obtain the consent of the Secretary of State.
- (4) The Secretary of State may give his consent for that purpose—
 - (a) where the statutory body concerned is a Scottish body or is within section 10(1)(b), only with the approval of the Scottish Ministers, and
 - (b) where the statutory body concerned is a Welsh body, only with the approval of the National Assembly for Wales.
- (5) An order may be made under this subsection to amend Schedule 1 by making additions to or deletions from the statutory bodies for the time being listed there.
- (6) The power conferred by subsection (5) is exercisable—
 - (a) in the case of any order relating to a Scottish body, by the Scottish Ministers,
 - (b) in the case of any order relating to a statutory body within section 10(1)(b), by the Secretary of State acting with the consent of the Scottish Ministers,
 - (c) in the case of any order relating to a Welsh body, by the National Assembly for Wales, and
 - (d) in any other case, by the Secretary of State.

10 Meaning of “Scottish body”, “Welsh body”, etc

- (1) For the purposes of section 9—
 - (a) “Scottish body” means a statutory body all of whose functions meet the following requirements, namely—
 - (i) they are exercisable in or as regards Scotland, and
 - (ii) they do not relate to reserved matters (within the meaning of the Scotland Act 1998 (c. 46)); and
 - (b) a body falls within this paragraph if it has, in addition to other functions, functions that meet the requirements of paragraph (a)(i) and (ii).
- (2) For the purposes of that section “Welsh body” means a statutory body—
 - (a) whose functions are exercisable only or mainly in or as regards Wales, and
 - (b) which is not designated by the Secretary of State, by order, as an excluded statutory body for the purposes of this section.
- (3) Before making an order under subsection (2), the Secretary of State must consult the National Assembly for Wales.

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PART 2

MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL

International financial institutions

11 Multilateral development banks

- (1) This section applies where the Government of the United Kingdom is at the time this section comes into force, or at a later time becomes, bound to make a relevant payment to a multilateral development bank.
- (2) For the purposes of this section—
 - “multilateral development bank” means an international financial institution having as one of its objects economic development, either generally or in any region of the world; and
 - “relevant payment”, in relation to such a bank, means—
 - (a) an initial subscription, or other initial contribution to the capital stock of the bank, that the international agreement for the establishment and operation of the bank requires the members of the bank to make, or
 - (b) a further payment to the bank required to be made by the members under any arrangements.
- (3) The Secretary of State may—
 - (a) on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom, make—
 - (i) the relevant payment, or
 - (ii) where it has been paid, any payment required to maintain its value; or
 - (b) make a payment to redeem any non-interest-bearing and non-negotiable notes, or other obligations, issued or created by him, that are accepted by the bank in accordance with the agreement or arrangements under which the relevant payment is required to be made.
- (4) Subsection (3) applies to a payment only if it is approved for the purposes of this section by an order made by the Secretary of State with the approval of the Treasury.
- (5) No order shall be made under subsection (4) unless a draft of it has been laid before and approved by the House of Commons.

12 Immunities and privileges of international financial institutions

- (1) Her Majesty may by Order in Council make such provision as She considers reasonably necessary for giving effect to any relevant provision of the agreement establishing an international financial institution.
- (2) For this purpose a provision is “relevant” if it relates to the status, immunities or privileges of—
 - (a) the international financial institution,
 - (b) its governors, directors or executive-directors or alternates, or
 - (c) its officers or employees.
- (3) For the purposes of this section the following are “international financial institutions”—

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- (a) the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development;
 - (b) the International Finance Corporation;
 - (c) the International Development Association.
- (4) No recommendation may be made to Her Majesty in Council to make an Order under this section unless a draft of the Order has been laid before Parliament and approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.
- (5) The Secretary of State may by order amend subsection (3) by making additions to or deletions from the institutions that are for the time being listed there.
- (6) This section is without prejudice to the powers conferred by the International Organisations Act 1968 (c. 48) or any other Act.

Commonwealth Scholarship Commission

13 Commonwealth Scholarship Commission

- (1) There shall continue to be a Commission known as the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom (“the Commission”).
- (2) The Commission shall consist of—
- (a) a chairman, and
 - (b) not less than nine nor more than fourteen other members, appointed by the Secretary of State.
- (3) Not less than four of the members shall be persons appointed as the holders of high academic office.
- (4) Schedule 2 has effect with respect to the Commission.

14 Functions of the Commission etc

- (1) It is the duty of the Commission to—
- (a) select the recipients of awards arising out of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan to persons coming to the United Kingdom,
 - (b) make arrangements—
 - (i) for placing the recipients at institutions within the further education sector or higher education sector or at other appropriate establishments in the United Kingdom, and
 - (ii) for the supervision of their work during the period of their awards,
 - (c) select persons to be put forward as candidates from the United Kingdom for awards that—
 - (i) arise out of the Plan, and
 - (ii) are to be granted in countries outside the United Kingdom, and
 - (d) discharge any other functions under the Plan that the Secretary of State may assign to the Commission.
- (2) In discharging their functions, the Commission must comply with any direction given to them by the Secretary of State.

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- (3) The Secretary of State may not give any direction for the selection or rejection of any particular person for an award or as a candidate for an award.
- (4) The persons selected under subsection (1)(a) must be Commonwealth citizens or British protected persons (within the meaning of the British Nationality Act 1981 (c. 61)), except where the Commission for special reasons approved by the Secretary of State otherwise determine.
- (5) The Secretary of State may—
- (a) make such awards as are mentioned in subsection (1)(a), or
 - (b) supplement such awards as are mentioned in subsection (1)(c).
- (6) In this section—
- “the Commission” has the same meaning as in section 13;
 - “the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan” means the Plan of that name put forward by the Commonwealth Development Conference held at Oxford in July 1959;
 - “further education sector”—
 - (a) in relation to England and Wales, has the meaning given in section 91 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 (c. 13), and
 - (b) in relation to Scotland, includes—
 - (i) colleges of further education with a board of management within the meaning of section 36 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992 (c. 37),
 - (ii) colleges of further education maintained by an education authority in the exercise of its further education functions in providing courses of further education within the meaning of section 1(5)(b)(ii) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (c. 44), and
 - (iii) central institutions within the meaning of section 135 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980;
 - “higher education sector”—
 - (a) in relation to England and Wales, has the meaning given in section 91 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992, and
 - (b) in relation to Scotland, has the meaning given in section 56(2) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992; and
 - “United Kingdom” includes the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Miscellaneous repeals

15 Repeals in the Overseas Development and Co-operation Act 1980

The following provisions of the Overseas Development and Co-operation Act 1980 (c. 63) shall cease to have effect—

- (a) section 3 (abortive exploratory expenditure connected with overseas enterprises);
- (b) section 7 (the Asian Development Bank);
- (c) section 8 (guarantees of International Bank’s loans to colonial territories).

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General

16 Financial provision

- (1) There shall be paid out of money provided by Parliament—
 - (a) any expenses incurred by the Secretary of State by virtue of this Act;
 - (b) any sums required by him for fulfilling any guarantee given under this Act;
 - (c) any increase attributable to this Act in the sums payable out of money so provided by virtue of any other Act.
- (2) There shall be paid into the Consolidated Fund any sums received by the Secretary of State—
 - (a) by way of interest on, or repayment of, a loan made under this Act,
 - (b) as a result of the disposal of any securities acquired under this Act, or by way of a dividend or other payment in respect of such securities, or
 - (c) by way of payment under section 7 for any assistance under this Act, other than financial assistance.
- (3) In this section “securities” has the same meaning as in section 6.

17 Interpretation

- (1) In this Act—
 - “assistance” has the meaning given in section 5;
 - “country” includes any territory or region;
 - “development assistance” has the meaning given in section 1.
- (2) For the purposes of this Act references to the population of a country include references to any future population of the country and to any part of the population (present or future).

18 Orders

- (1) Any power conferred by this Act to make an order is exercisable by statutory instrument.
- (2) A statutory instrument made by the Secretary of State under any power conferred by this Act to make an order, except an order under section 11(4) or 20(2), is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.
- (3) A statutory instrument made by the Scottish Ministers under the power conferred by section 9(5) is subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of the Scottish Parliament.

19 Consequential amendments and repeals

- (1) Schedule 3 (consequential amendments) has effect.
- (2) The enactments specified in Schedule 4 are repealed to the extent specified.

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20 Short title, commencement and extent

- (1) This Act may be cited as the International Development Act 2002.
- (2) This Act shall come into force on such day as the Secretary of State may by order appoint.
- (3) Schedule 5 (which makes transitional provisions and savings in connection with the commencement of this Act) has effect.
- (4) Any amendment contained in Schedule 3 or repeal contained in Schedule 4 has the same extent as the enactment to which it relates.
- (5) Subject to that, this Act extends to Northern Ireland.

Subordinate Legislation Made

P1 [S. 20\(2\)](#) power fully exercised: 17.6.2002 appointed by [S.I. 2002/1408](#), [art. 2](#)

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SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

Section 9

STATUTORY BODIES TO WHICH SECTION 9 APPLIES

British Tourist Authority

A Health Authority

A Health Board

A National Health Service trust established under Part 1 of the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990 (c. 19) or under the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 (c. 29)

A Primary Care Trust

Public Health Laboratory Service Board

A Special Health Authority

A Special Health Board

Wales Tourist Board

SCHEDULE 2

Section 13

THE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION

Tenure of office of members

- 1 (1) A member of the Commission holds and vacates office in accordance with the terms of his appointment.
- (2) A member may resign by notice in writing to the Secretary of State.
- (3) After ceasing to hold office, a member is eligible for reappointment.

Proceedings

- 2 (1) The quorum of the Commission is six.
- (2) The validity of any proceedings of the Commission is not affected by—
 - (a) any defect in the appointment of any member, or
 - (b) any vacancy.

Committees

- 3 (1) The Commission may appoint committees to assist them in the discharge of their functions.
- (2) A committee may include persons who are not members of the Commission.

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- (3) The Commission may delegate any of their functions to a committee, with or without restrictions or conditions.

Financial provision

- 4 (1) The expenses of the Commission, up to such amount as may be approved by the Secretary of State with the consent of the Treasury, may be defrayed by the Secretary of State.
- (2) For this purpose “expenses” includes travelling and other allowances paid to—
 - (a) members of the Commission or of any committee of the Commission, or
 - (b) persons chosen by the Commission to act as advisers.

Annual reports

- 5 (1) As soon as possible after 30th September in each year, the Commission must make to the Secretary of State a report on the discharge of their functions during the period of 12 months ending with that day.
- (2) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of the report before each House of Parliament.

SCHEDULE 3

Section 19

CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS

Trustee Investment Act 1961 (c. 62)

- 1 In Part 2 of Schedule 1 to the Trustee Investment Act 1961 (narrower-range investments requiring advice), in paragraph 19, for “References” to the end substitute—

“For this purpose—

 - (a) “overseas territory” means any territory or country outside the United Kingdom, and
 - (b) the reference to the government of any overseas territory includes a reference to a government constituted for two or more overseas territories, and to any authority established for the purpose of providing or administering services which are common to, or relate to matters of common interest to, two or more such territories.”

Parliamentary Commissioners Act 1967 (c. 13)

- 2 In Schedule 3 to the Parliamentary Commissioners Act 1967 (matters not subject to investigation), in paragraph 10(2)(a), after “1980” insert “ or pursuant to the exercise of his powers under Part I of the International Development Act 2002 ”.

Police (Scotland) Act 1967 (c. 77)

- 3 (1) Amend section 38A of the Police (Scotland) Act 1967 (status of constables undertaking relevant service) as follows.

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- (2) In subsection (1) (meaning of relevant service), at the end of paragraph (e) insert “, or
 - (f) service in connection with the provision by the Secretary of State of assistance under the International Development Act 2001 on which a person is engaged with the consent of the appropriate authority.”
- (3) In subsection (6) (application of police regulations while undertaking relevant service), in paragraph (a) for “or (e)” substitute “, (e) or (f) ”.

Pensions (Increase) Act 1971 (c. 56)

- 4 In Schedule 2 to the Pensions (Increase) Act 1971 (official pensions), in paragraph 15(b), after “1980” insert “ or in connection with the provision by the Secretary of State of assistance under the International Development Act 2002 ”.

Overseas Pensions Act 1973 (c. 21)

- 5 In section 2 of the Overseas Pensions Act 1973 (superannuation schemes as respects certain overseas service etc), in subsection (2)(d), in both sub-paragraph (i) and sub-paragraph (ii), after “1980” insert “ or an appointment made in connection with the provision by the Secretary of State of assistance under the International Development Act 2002 ”.

Police Pensions Act 1976 (c. 35)

- 6 (1) In section 7 of the Police Pensions Act 1976 (payment of pensions and contributions), in subsection (2)(b), after “1980” insert “ or an appointment made in connection with the provision by the Secretary of State of assistance under the International Development Act 2002 ”.
- (2) In section 11 of that Act (interpretation), in subsection (1)(a), after “1980” insert “ or an appointment made in connection with the provision by the Secretary of State of assistance under the International Development Act 2002 ”.

Customs and Excise Duties (General Reliefs) Act 1979 (c. 3)

- 7 In section 13B of the Customs and Excise Duties (General Reliefs) Act 1979 (persons to whom provisions about relief from duties etc. apply), in subsection (1), for paragraph (b)(v) substitute—
 - “(v) the International Development Act 2002.”

Stock Transfer Act 1982 (c. 41)

- 8 In Schedule 1 to the Stock Transfer Act 1982 (meaning of “specified securities”), for paragraph 4(2) substitute—
 - “(2) For this purpose—
 - (a) “overseas territory” means any territory or country outside the United Kingdom, and
 - (b) the reference to the government of any overseas territory includes a reference to a government constituted for two or more overseas territories, and to any authority established for the purpose of providing or administering services which are common to, or

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relate to matters of common interest to, two or more such territories.”

Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (c. 1)

- 9 (1) Amend section 615 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (exemption from tax in respect of certain pensions) as follows.
- (2) In subsection (8) (interpretation), omit paragraphs (a) and (b).
- (3) After subsection (8) insert—
- “(9) For the purposes of this section, a person shall be taken to be employed in the public service of an overseas territory at any time when—
- (a) he is employed in any capacity under the government of that territory, or under any municipal or other local authority in it,
- (b) he is employed, in circumstances not falling within paragraph (a) above, by a body corporate established for any public purpose in that territory by an enactment of a legislature empowered to make laws for that territory, or
- (c) he is the holder of a public office in that territory in circumstances not falling within either paragraph (a) or (b).
- (10) For the purposes of subsection (9), references to the government of an overseas territory include references to a government constituted for two or more overseas territories, and to any authority established for the purpose of providing or administering services which are common to, or relate to matters of common interest to, two or more such territories.”
- 10 In Schedule 11 to that Act (payments etc in connection with termination of employment), in paragraph 6(2) (tax not chargeable under section 148), for “the Overseas Development and Cooperation Act 1980: see sections 10(2) and 13(1) and (2) of that Act” substitute “ section 615 ”.

Police Act 1996 (c. 16)

- 11 (1) Amend section 97 of the Police Act 1996 (status of police officers undertaking relevant service) as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1) (meaning of relevant service), at the end of paragraph (g) insert “, or
- (h) service in connection with the provision by the Secretary of State of assistance under the International Development Act 2001 on which a person is engaged with the consent of the appropriate authority.”
- (3) In subsection (6) (application of police regulations while undertaking relevant service), in paragraph (a) for “or (g)” substitute “, (g) or (h) ”.

Police (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (c. 32)

- 12 (1) Amend section 27 of the Police (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (status of police officers undertaking relevant service) as follows.
- (2) In subsection (1) (meaning of relevant service), at the end of paragraph (h) insert “, or
- (j) service in connection with the provision by the Secretary of State of assistance under the International Development Act 2001 on which

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a member of the Police Service of Northern Ireland is engaged with the consent of the Chief Constable.”

(3) In subsection (5) (application of police regulations while undertaking relevant service), in paragraph (b) for “or (h)” substitute “, (h) or (j) ”.

SCHEDULE 4

Section 19

REPEALS

<i>Short title and chapter</i>	<i>Extent of repeal</i>
Police (Scotland) Act 1967 (c. 77).	In section 38A(1)(d), the word “or”.
Overseas Development and Co-operation Act 1980 (c. 63).	The whole Act.
Fisheries Act 1981 (c. 29).	Section 3(6).
Miscellaneous Financial Provisions Act 1983(c. 29).	Section 4(4).
Coal Industry Act 1987 (c. 3).	In Schedule 1, paragraph 37.
Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (c. 1).	Section 615(8)(a) and (b).
National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990 (c. 19).	In Schedule 9, paragraph 21.
Coal Industry Act 1994 (c. 21).	In Schedule 9, paragraph 24.
Health Authorities Act 1995 (c. 17).	In Schedule 1, paragraph 105.
Police Act 1996 (c. 16).	In section 26(8), the words “and section 10 of the Overseas Development and Co-operation Act 1980”. In section 97(1)(f), the word “or”.
Police (Northern Ireland) Act 1998 (c. 32).	In section 27(1)(g), the word “or”.
Police (Northern Ireland) Act 2000 (c. 32).	Section 8(6).

SCHEDULE 5

Section 20

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS AND SAVINGS

Orders

- (1) Any order under section 6 of the Overseas Development and Co-operation Act 1980 (c. 63) (“the 1980 Act”) (international development banks and the International Development Association) which has effect immediately before the commencement of this Act shall have effect on and after that time as if it were an order made under section 11 of this Act.

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- (2) This paragraph is without prejudice to section 17(2)(b) of the Interpretation Act 1978 (c. 30) (saving of subordinate legislation on repeal and re-enactment of a provision).

Guarantees

- 2 The repeal by this Act of the 1980 Act shall not prevent any guarantee given (or treated as given) under section 8 of that Act from continuing to have effect after the coming into force of this Act; and subsections (7) and (9) of that section shall continue to have effect in relation to a guarantee given (or treated as given) under that section.

Officers

- 3 An officer who immediately before the coming into force of this Act holds an appointment under section 10 of the 1980 Act (appointment of officers available for public service overseas) shall continue to hold office in accordance with that section after the coming into force of this Act.

Agreements relating to employment in public service

- 4 The repeal by this Act of the 1980 Act shall not prevent any agreement entered into under section 12 of that Act from continuing to have effect after the coming into force of this Act.

Existing savings etc.

- 5 Nothing in this Act affects the continued operation after the commencement of this Act of any saving or transitional provision contained in an enactment repealed by this Act, insofar as it was operating immediately before the commencement of this Act.

Status:

Point in time view as at 17/06/2002.

Changes to legislation:

International Development Act 2002 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 24 April 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.