

**COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT  
(PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES) ACT**

**CHAPTER 17:02**

**Act  
30 of 1968**

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UNOFFICIAL VERSION

*L.R.O.*

UPDATED TO DECEMBER 31ST 2012



**CHAPTER 17:02**

**COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT  
(PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES) ACT**

**An Act to confer certain privileges and immunities on officers and servants of the Commonwealth Secretariat.** 30 of 1968.

[22ND OCTOBER 1968]

Commencement.

**1.** This Act may be cited as the Commonwealth Secretariat (Privileges and Immunities) Act. Short title.

**2.** In this Act— Interpretation.

“agreed memorandum on the Commonwealth Secretariat” means the memorandum of the Commonwealth Secretariat agreed to by all Commonwealth Prime Ministers at the 1965 Commonwealth Prime Ministers Meeting;

“Commonwealth Secretariat” means the Commonwealth Secretariat established in accordance with the agreed memorandum on the Commonwealth Secretariat Act 1966 of the United Kingdom; 1966 c. 10 (U.K.).

“senior officers” means the Secretary-General, a deputy Secretary-General or any other officer of the Commonwealth Secretariat designated by the Minister as being a senior officer.

**3.** Subject to this Act in accordance with paragraph 40 of the agreed memorandum on the Commonwealth Secretariat the privileges and immunities set out in the Schedule shall have the force of law in Trinidad and Tobago. Privileges and immunities to have the force of law. Schedule.

Section 3.

### SCHEDULE

1. Every senior officer of the Commonwealth Secretariat, who is not a citizen of or permanently resident in Trinidad and Tobago, and any member of his family forming part of his household, shall, while in Trinidad and Tobago on the official business of the Commonwealth Secretariat, enjoy the like privileges and immunities as are accorded by law to a diplomatic agent and the members of his family forming part of his household.

2. Every officer and servant of the Commonwealth Secretariat not falling within the foregoing section shall enjoy—

- (a) immunity from suit and legal process in respect of his acts or omissions in the course of the performance of official duties, except immunity from suit and legal process in respect of a civil action for damage alleged to have been caused by a motor vehicle belonging to or driven by him, or in respect of a motor traffic offence involving such a vehicle;
- (b) the like inviolability for all his official papers and documents as is accorded by law to the diplomatic agent of a sending State;
- (c) exemption from duties on the importation, on the occasion of his first assuming duty in Trinidad and Tobago, of personal and household effects, including one private motor vehicle, for the use of himself and any members of his family forming part of his household; provided that he is not a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago, nor ordinarily resident in Trinidad and Tobago immediately before first assuming duty in Trinidad and Tobago.

3. The privileges and immunities hereby conferred on the officers and servants of the Commonwealth Secretariat and on members of their families may be waived by the Secretary-General or any person for the time being exercising his functions.

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