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<i>S.I. No.</i>	<i>Short Title</i>	<i>Page</i>
88	Admiralty Jurisdiction Procedure Rules, 2023	B4109-4160

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ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION PROCEDURE RULES, 2023



ARRANGEMENT OF RULES

PART A — APPLICATION AND REFERENCE TO ENACTMENTS

ORDER 1—APPLICATION AND REFERENCE TO ENACTMENTS

1. Application of these Rules
2. Application of these Rules to part-heard matters
3. Reference to enactments

PART B — ADMIRALTY

ORDER 2 — ADMIRALTY DIVISION, ADMIRALTY REGISTRY AND PLACE OF
INSTITUTION AND TRIAL OF SUITS

- A. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADMIRALTY DIVISION
 1. Establishment of admiralty division
 2. Designation of admiralty Judges
- B. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADMIRALTY REGISTRY AND DUTIES OF ADMIRALTY
MARSHAL
 3. Establishment of the Admiralty Registry
 4. Head of Admiralty Registry
 5. Duties of the Admiralty Marshal
 6. Rules for the operation of the Admiralty Registry
- C. PLACE OF INSTITUTING AND TRIAL OF SUITS
 7. Action *in rem*
 8. Other actions
 9. Suit commenced in wrong judicial division
10. Warrant of arrest to remain in force

ORDER 3 — FORM AND COMMENCEMENT OF ACTIONS

1. Commencement of actions
2. Admiralty Marshal to issue writ of summons
3. Commencement of action *in rem*
4. Commencement of action *in personam*
5. Enforcement of arbitral agreement or award
6. Additional witness
7. Form of writ for service out of jurisdiction
8. Form of originating summons
9. Heading of a process

10. Confirmation of originating process by its date
11. Lost of originating process
12. Concurrent originating process
13. Concurrent originating process for service

ORDER 4 — PRELIMINARY ACT

1. Filing of preliminary act
2. Content of preliminary act
3. Form of preliminary act
4. Time for filing
5. Sealing of preliminary act
6. Default in filing
7. Evidence to be given by affidavit
8. Opening of preliminary act
9. Endorsement of preliminary act
10. Preliminary act to be part of statement of claim or statement of defence

ORDER 5 — PARTIES IN ACTION IN REM

1. Nature and specification of ship and other property in maritime claim
2. Action against ship or other property
3. Sister ship
4. Amendment of process and joinder of parties

ORDER 6 — SERVICE OF PROCESS

A. ACTIONS *IN REM*

1. Service on ship or other property
2. Service on property not on ship
3. Physical service of court order or warrant of arrest
4. Service where access is impossible
5. Harbour master to be notified
6. Service of writ on proceeds of sale
7. Service of writ on freight
8. Service of writ of funds on Admiralty Marshal
9. Service upon caveator
10. Service by Admiralty Marshal
11. No substituted service
12. Service on any day
13. Service of amended process
14. Acceptance of service by legal practitioner
15. Service in certain circumstances
16. Service where violence is threatened

B. SERVICE OUT OF JURISDICTION

17. Service by courier
18. Mode of service of action *in personam*
19. Expenses of service
20. Record of service and incidental thereto

ORDER 7 — ARREST OF SHIP AND OTHER PROPERTY

1. Application for warrant of arrest
2. Issuance of warrant of arrest
3. Period of validity
4. Execution of warrant of arrest
5. Duration of warrant of arrest
6. Verification of warrant of arrest
7. Execution on any day
8. Claim commenced in a court outside Nigeria or arbitration proceeding within or outside Nigeria

ORDER 8 — CAVEATS

1. Caveat against arrest
2. Admiralty marshal to be satisfied
3. Undertaking by caveator
4. Caveator to give bail
5. Cancellation of caveat
6. Caveats may be set aside
7. Caveats against release
8. Payment of damages for lost suffered
9. Expiration of caveat
10. Withdrawal of caveat
11. Register of caveat

ORDER 9 — CUSTODY AND SALE OF SHIP AND OTHER PROPERTY UNDER ARREST

1. Liability for Admiralty Marshal's expenses
2. Funds to be deposited with Admiralty Marshal
3. Custody of arrested ship or other property
4. Application concerning arrested ship or other property
5. Discharge of ship or cargo not under arrest
6. Preservation management and power of sale
7. Priority of proceeds of sale of ship

ORDER 10 — RELEASE FROM ARREST

1. Release generally
2. Release by consent
3. Release where proceedings ended
4. Release at the request of interested person

5. Release where security guarantee or bond is provided
6. Where caveat against release is in force

ORDER 11 — REPARATION FOR NEEDLESS ARREST

1. Condition to be imposed by the Court
2. Cases in which compensation may be awarded
3. No action for damages if compensation is awarded
4. Application for damages for wrongful arrest may be taken summarily

ORDER 12 — PAYMENT OF BAIL

1. Payment in the Court and obligation of the Admiralty Marshal
2. Admiralty Marshall to file evidence of deposit
3. Court may vary bail

ORDER 13 — SECURITY FOR COSTS

A. ACTION *IN REM*

1. Court may order security of cost
2. Form of security
3. Quantum of security
4. Time within which security is to be furnished
5. Withdrawal of security upon conclusion of case
6. No security for cost in collision proceedings
7. Stay pending security in collision proceedings

B. ACTIONS *IN PERSONAM*

8. Security for costs by plaintiff or defendant
9. Guidelines for fixing costs
10. Security for costs
11. Security for costs by plaintiff temporarily within jurisdiction
12. Actions founded on judgement or bill of exchange
13. Bond as security for cost

C. COSTS GENERALLY

14. Costs at the discretion of the Court
15. Costs out of fund or property
16. Stay of proceedings until costs is paid
17. Stage where costs will be dealt with
18. Costs to follow event
19. Matters to be taken into account in exercising discretion
20. Costs arising from misconduct or negligence
21. Personal liability of legal practitioner for costs

ORDER 14 — PLEADINGS

ORDER 15 — LIMITATION PROCEEDINGS

1. Limitation proceedings
2. Service on at least one respondent
3. Advertisement of determination
4. Effect of determination
5. Proceedings to set aside determination
6. Court to give directions

ORDER 16 — VALUATION AND SALE

1. Orders for valuation and sale
2. Admiralty Marshal to conduct sale
3. Duration for return of sale
4. Admiralty Marshal's expenses

ORDER 17 — PRIORITIES

1. Application to determine priorities
2. Admiralty Marshal's expenses in connection with an order

ORDER 18
INTERVENERS

1. Interveners in an action *in rem*

PART C — GENERAL

ORDER 19
GENERAL POWERS OF THE COURT

1. Court may give directions, abridge or extend time
2. Review of Admiralty Marshal's action

ORDER 20 — POWERS OF THE CHIEF JUDGE TO AMEND THESE RULES
AND ISSUE PRACTICE DIRECTIONS

1. Power of the Chief Judge to amend these Rules
2. Publication of supplemental provisions
3. Power of the Chief Judge to issue practice direction, etc

ORDER 21 — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

1. Orders to be made
2. Recovery of penalties and costs
3. Notice ordered by Court
4. Filing
5. Fees : Appendix 2 to the Federal High Court (Civil Procedure) Rules
6. Committal of solicitor
7. Effect of non-compliance
8. Application to set aside for irregularities
9. Where no Rules or provisions exists

B 4114

ORDER 22 — REVOCATION, INTERPRETATION AND CITATION

1. **Revocation**
2. **Interpretation**
3. **Citation**

SCHEDULE

S. I. No. 88 of 2023

ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION PROCEDURE RULES, 2023

[18th Day of May, 2023]

Commence-
ment.

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 254 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (As Amended), Section 21 of the Admiralty Jurisdiction Act and of all other powers enabling me in that behalf I, JOHN TERHEMBA TSOHO, FICMC, OFR, The Honourable, The Chief Judge, Federal High Court, make the following Rules —

PART A — APPLICATION AND REFERENCE TO ENACTMENTS

ORDER 1—APPLICATION AND REFERENCE TO ENACTMENTS

1.—(1) These Rules shall apply to every admiralty cause or matter brought in the Court pursuant to the Act.

Application
of these
Rules

(2) The Federal High Court (Civil Procedure) Rules shall apply subject to the provisions of these Rules.

2.—(1) These Rules shall not apply to any cause or matter part-heard before the commencement of these Rules.

Application
of these
Rules to
part-heard
matters

(2) Where an action is filed before the commencement of these Rules and no further step is taken other than the filing, these Rules shall apply to any other subsequent procedure in relation to the action.

(3) In all other cases where causes or matters are pending, the Court shall give such directions as may be necessary or expedient to ensure conformity with the requirements of these Rules.

3. Except where the context otherwise requires, any reference in these Rules to any enactment shall be construed as a reference to that enactment as amended, extended or applied by or under any other enactment.

Reference to
enactments

PART B – ADMIRALTY

ORDER 2 — ADMIRALTY DIVISION, ADMIRALTY REGISTRY AND PLACE
OF INSTITUTION AND TRIAL OF SUITS

A. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADMIRALTY DIVISION

1. The Chief Judge shall establish Admiralty Divisions for the Court.

Establishment
of Admiralty
Divisions

2. The Chief Judge shall designate Judges as Admiralty Judges.

Designation
of Admiralty
Judges

B. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADMIRALTY REGISTRY AND DUTIES OF ADMIRALTY MARSHAL

Establishment of the Admiralty Registry

3. The Chief Judge shall issue directions to establish the Admiralty Registry of the Admiralty Division of the Court.

Head of Admiralty Registry

4. The Admiralty Marshal or his substitute shall be the head of the Admiralty Registry of each Admiralty Division.

Duties of the Admiralty Marshal

5. The Duties of the Admiralty Marshal shall, unless the Court otherwise directs, include —

- (a) serving initiating process ;
- (b) executing arrest warrants ;
- (c) taking appropriate steps to retain safe custody of, and to preserve, a ship or property under arrest, including —
 - (i) removing from the ship, or storing, cargo that is under arrest,
 - (ii) removing cargo from a ship that is under arrest and storing it,
 - (iii) removing, storing or disposing of perishable goods that are under arrest or are in a ship that is under arrest, and
 - (iv) moving the ship that is under arrest ;
- (d) arranging for the release of a ship or property pursuant to an order of court ;
- (e) arranging for the valuation and sale of a ship or property pursuant to an order of court ;
- (f) filing a return of sale, and an account of sale and documents in support of the account for taxation ;
- (g) paying the proceeds of the sale of a ship or property into the Court ;
- (h) filing copies of notices concerning an application for a determination of the order of priority of claims against the ship or property, or the proceeds of the sale of such ship or property ; and
- (i) filing a return of expenditure for deposit made for arrest of ships or vessels before further deposits are made.

Rules for the operation of the Admiralty Registry

6. The Chief Judge shall make such further Rules to guide the operation of the Admiralty Registry.

C. PLACE OF INSTITUTING AND TRIAL OF SUITS

Action in rem

7. An action in rem may be commenced in the Judicial Division of the Court in which the res may be found or is expected to arrive.

Other actions

8. Any other action shall be commenced and determined in the Judicial Division in which the defendant resides or carries on substantial part of his business or in which the cause of action arose.

9. Where a suit is commenced in any other Judicial Division of the Court other than that in which it ought to have been commenced, it may, notwithstanding, be heard in the Judicial Division in which it has been commenced, unless the Court otherwise directs.

Suit commenced in wrong judicial division

10. Where an admiralty action in rem is not commenced in the Judicial Division of the Court in which the res may be found or is expected to arrive, and the action is subsequently transferred to the appropriate Judicial Division, any warrant of arrest issued by the Court in the previous Judicial Division shall remain in force and be enforceable against the res in any Judicial Division in which it is located.

Warrant of arrest to remain in force

ORDER 3 — FORM AND COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION

1. An admiralty action filed in the Court shall be commenced by —
 (a) writ of summons ; or
 (b) originating summons.

Commencement of action

2. Where an action is commenced by writ of summons, the writ shall be issued by the Admiralty Marshal.

Admiralty Marshal to issue writ of summons

3.—(1) An action in rem shall be commenced by a writ of summons as in Form 1, which shall be accompanied by —

Commencement of action in rem

- (a) statement of claim ;
- (b) list and copies of documents to be relied on at trial ;
- (c) a list of non-documentary exhibits ; and
- (d) list of witnesses to be called at the trial.

(2) The Plaintiff shall within 7 days of filing the writ of summons file written statements of his witnesses which shall be adopted on oath at the trial, Provided that the —

(a) statement on oath of witnesses outside the jurisdiction of the Court may be notarized by a notary public in the foreign jurisdiction or signed before any person authorized to administer oaths in the foreign jurisdiction ;

(b) statements on oath of witnesses requiring subpoena from the Court need not be filed at the commencement of the action ; and

(c) witnesses who require a subpoena or summons shall at the instance of the party calling them be served with Form 3 before the filing of the statements of such witnesses.

4.—(1) An action in personam shall be commenced by writ of summons as in Form 2 which shall be accompanied by —

Commencement of action in personam

- (a) a statement of claim,
- (b) list and copies of document(s) to be relied on at the trial ;

- (c) list of non-documentary exhibits;
 - (d) list of witnesses to be called at the trial; and
 - (e) written statements on oath of the witnesses,
- provided that the —

(i) statement on oath of witnesses outside the jurisdiction of the Court may be notarized by a notary public in the foreign jurisdiction or signed before any person authorized to administer oaths in the foreign jurisdiction,

(ii) statements on oath of witnesses requiring subpoena from the Court need not be filed at the commencement of the action, and

(iii) witnesses who require subpoena or summons shall at the instance of the party calling them be served with Form 3 before the filing of the statements of such witnesses.

Enforcement of arbitral agreement or award

5. An application for the recognition or enforcement of an arbitration agreement or arbitral award made in relation to any maritime claim in any domestic or foreign arbitration proceedings shall be by an Originating Motion.

Additional witness

6. A party who desires to call any witness not being a witness whose written statement or statement on oath accompanied his pleading shall apply to the Judge for leave to call such witness and such application shall be accompanied by the witness statement on oath.

Form of writ for service out of jurisdiction

7. A writ of summons to be served out of jurisdiction in an action in personam shall be as in Form 4 with such modifications or variations as circumstances may require.

Form of originating summons

8.—(1) Any action not required by these Rules to be commenced by writ of summons shall be commenced by originating summons and shall be as in Form 5, with such modifications or variations as circumstance may require.

(2) An originating summons shall be accompanied by —

- (a) an affidavit setting out the facts relied upon ;
- (b) copies of all the exhibits to be relied upon ; and
- (c) a written address.

Heading of a process

9.—(1) A process filed in or issued out of the Court in an admiralty proceeding shall include as part of the heading, the words "IN ADMIRALTY".

(2) Where the action is an action in rem, the process filed shall contain the heading "ADMIRALTY ACTION *IN REM*".

Confirmation of originating process by its date

10.—(1) The Admiralty Marshal shall —

- (a) indicate the date and time of presentation for filing on every originating process and any other process presented for filing ; and
- (b) arrange for service to be effected.

(2) The Admiralty Marshal shall seal every originating process whereupon it shall be deemed to be issued.

(3) An originating process shall not be altered after it is sealed except upon application to a Judge in Chambers.

11. Where an originating process is lost after issue, a Judge upon being satisfied of the loss and of the correctness of the process may order a copy to be filed and sealed in place of the lost originating process.

Lost of
originating
process

12. A Plaintiff may at the issuance of an originating process or at any time during its life span, cause to be issued one or more concurrent originating processes each to bear the same date as the initial process marked "CONCURRENT" and have stated on it the date of issue.

Concurrent
originating
process

13. An originating process for service within jurisdiction may be issued and marked as a concurrent originating process with one for service out of jurisdiction and an originating process for service out of jurisdiction may be issued and marked as a concurrent originating process with one for service within jurisdiction.

Concurrent
originating
process for
service

ORDER 4 — PRELIMINARY ACT

1. In an action to enforce a claim for damages arising from the loss of a ship or for damage done to or by a ship following a collision between two or more ships, each party shall file a preliminary act, unless the Court otherwise orders.

Filing of
preliminary
act

2. A preliminary act shall contain the following particulars —

Content of
preliminary
act

(a) the names of the ships which came into collision and their ports of registry ;

(b) the length, breadth, gross tonnage, beam, horse power and draught at the material time of the collision and the nature and tonnage of any cargo carried by the ship ;

(c) the date and time (including the time zone of the collision) ;

(d) the place of the collision ;

(e) the direction and force of the wind ;

(f) the state of the weather ;

(g) the state, direction and force of the tidal or other current ;

(h) the position, the course steered and speed through the water, of the ship when the other ship was first seen or immediately before any measures were taken with reference to her presence, whichever was the earlier ;

(i) the lights or shapes (if any) carried by the ship ;

(j) the distance and bearing of the other ship if and when her echo was first observed by radar ;

(k) the distance, bearing and approximate heading of the other ship when first seen ;

(l) the light or shape or combination of lights or shapes (*if any*) of the other ship when seen ;

(m) other lights or shapes or combination of lights or shapes (*if any*) of the other ship subsequently seen before the collision, and when;

(n) the alterations (*if any*) made to the course and speed of the ship after the earlier of the two times referred to in rule 2 (h) of this Order up to the time of the collision and when, and what measures (*if any*) other than alterations of course or speed, were taken to avoid the collision and when ;

(o) the heading of the ship, parts of each ship which first came into contact and the approximate angle between the two ships at the moment of contact ;

(p) the sound signals (*if any*) given and when ; and

(q) the sound signals (*if any*) heard from the other ship, and when.

Form of preliminary act

3. The contents of a preliminary act shall be set out in parallel columns and where ever possible, it shall be in numerical values as specified in Form 6.

Time for filing

4. The Plaintiff shall file his preliminary act within 7 days after the commencement of the proceedings and the other party shall file a preliminary act before filing any pleading.

Sealing of preliminary act

5. A preliminary act shall be filed in a closed envelope that has been sealed with the seal of the Court and shall bear the date of filing.

Default in filing

6.—(1) Where the plaintiff fails to file a preliminary act, the Court may, on application, dismiss the proceedings or make such order on terms as it thinks just.

(2) Where a defendant fails to file a preliminary act, the plaintiff may take the same steps in the proceeding as may be taken in relation to a defendant who has failed to file a defence under the Federal High Court (Civil Procedure) Rules.

Evidence to be given by affidavit

7. In proving his case in pursuance rule 6 (2) of this Order, the plaintiff's evidence may, unless the Court otherwise orders, be given on affidavit.

Opening of preliminary act

8. The Court may at any stage of the proceeding after pleadings have been closed, on application or of its own motion order that the Registrar opens the envelope containing the preliminary act and may make such further order or orders as are appropriate.

Endorsement of pre-liminary act

9. On the opening of an envelope containing a preliminary act, the Registrar shall endorse the preliminary act with the date on which it was filed, the date on which the envelope was opened and the date on which any order was made, or consent filed, pursuant to which the envelope was opened.

10. A preliminary act shall be read with and form a part of the statement of claim or statement of defence, as the case may be, as though it were a schedule to it.

Preliminary act to be part of statement of claim or statement of defence

ORDER 5 — PARTIES IN ACTION IN REM

1. The writ of summons in a proceeding commenced as an action in rem in relation to a proprietary maritime claim shall specify the ship or other property as the defendant and the plaintiff shall not be required to specify a relevant person as a defendant in the action and shall be as specified in Form 1 of the Schedule to these Rules.

Nature and specification of ship and other property in maritime claim

2.—(1) The writ of summons in a proceeding commenced as an action in rem in relation to a general maritime claim shall, in addition to specifying the ship or other property, specify a relevant person in relation to the general maritime claim as a defendant, and shall be as specified in Form 1 of the Schedule to these Rules.

Action against ship or other property

(2) The specification referred to in subrule (1) of this rule may be by reference to ownership of, or other relevant relationship with the ship or other property concerned.

3.—(1) Where the action is commenced against a sister ship within the meaning of Section 5(4)(b) of the Act, the ship in relation to which it is a sister ship shall also be identified in the initiating process.

Sister ship

(2) A writ of summons may identify more than one ship as a sister ship.

4. The powers of the Court in relation to amendment of process and joinder of parties shall extend to —

Amendment of process and joinder of parties

- (a) making an order, on such terms as are just ;
- (b) substituting for a defendant identified in rule 3 of this Order with some other person ;
- (c) substituting for a ship some other ship ; and
- (d) adding a co-plaintiff or a co-defendant.

ORDER 6 — SERVICE OF PROCESS

A — ACTION *IN REM*

1.—(1) The writ of summons in a proceeding commenced as an action in rem against a ship or other property that is at the time of service on board a ship, shall be served by securely affixing a sealed copy of the process to a mast or some other conspicuous part of the ship, or delivering same to the master of the ship.

Service on ship or other property

(2) The service described in sub-rule (1) of this rule shall be sufficient service of the writ of summons on the owners of the ship or other property.

B 4122

Service on
property
not on ship

2.—(1) The writ of summons in a proceeding commenced as an action in rem against any property that is not, at the time of service, on board a ship shall be served by securely affixing a sealed copy of the process to the property or to a package or container or on the storage facility containing the property.

(2) The service described in sub-rule (1) of this rule shall be sufficient service of the writ of summons on the owners of the property.

Physical
service of
court order
or warrant of
arrest

3.—(1) The service of a Writ of summons, a court order of arrest and a warrant of arrest in an action in rem, shall be by physical service.

(2) Other processes in the action may be served on the defendant through the known email address of the defendant or through his counsel, where the defendant is represented by counsel in the action.

Service
where access
is impossible

4. Where access to a ship or property cannot reasonably be obtained, the process may be served on the ship or other property —

(a) by handing a sealed copy of the process to or leaving it with a person apparently in charge of the ship or other property ; or

(b) if that person refuses to accept service, by placing a sealed copy of the process down in the person's presence and telling the person what the document is.

Harbour
master to be
notified

5. In the case of every arrest of a ship or other property, the Harbour Master of the Nigerian Ports Authority shall also be served with a copy of the Court order.

Service of
writ on
proceeds of
sale

6. The writ of summons in a proceeding commenced as an action in rem against the proceeds of sale of a ship or other property that has been paid into Court shall be served by filing a sealed copy of the process in the Court in which the proceeds are held.

Service of
writ on
freight

7. The writ in a proceeding commenced as an action in rem against freight shall be served in the following manner —

(a) if the cargo in respect of which the freight is owing is on board a ship, by attaching a sealed copy of the writ of summons and statement of claim in the suit to a conspicuous part of the ship ;

(b) if the cargo in respect of which the freight is owing is not on board a ship, by attaching a sealed copy of the writ of summons and statement of claim to the cargo ; or

(c) if monies payable for the freight are in the possession of a person, by personal service of writ of summons and statement of claim on that person.

Service of
writ of
funds on
Admiralty
Marshal

8. The writ in a proceeding commenced as an action in rem against a fund shall be served by handing a copy of the writ to the Admiralty Marshal.

9. A sealed copy of the writ of summons shall be served on the caveator as soon as practicable after the Plaintiff becomes aware of the existence of the caveat, where the —
- (a) proceeding is commenced as an action *in rem* against a ship or other property ; and
 - (b) caveat against the arrest of the ship or other property is in force or is filed, after the proceeding is commenced,
10. The Admiralty Marshal shall effect the service of a writ in a proceeding commenced as an action *in rem* against a ship or other property.
11. In a proceeding commenced as an action *in rem* against a ship or other property, the Court shall not order substituted service of the writ of summons that is to be served on ship or other property.
12. An originating process in a proceeding commenced as an action *in rem* may be served on any day.
- 13.—(1) Where a writ of summons in a proceeding commenced as an action *in rem* has been amended, the amended writ of summons shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, be served on each person on whom, and on each ship, or on the other property, on which the writ of summons was served.
- (2) Where a writ of summons in an action *in rem* has been amended by joining or adding a person or ship or other property as a party to the suit, the amended court processes in the suit shall be served on the joined or added person, and the owner or master or any person apparently in charge of the ship or other property.
14. Where in a proceeding commenced as an action *in rem* against a ship or other property, or in an action *in personam*, a legal practitioner acting for a defendant in the proceeding undertakes in writing to accept service of the writ of summons, or any other process, in relation to the proceeding, the process may be served on the legal practitioner and such service shall be sufficient service.
- 15.—(1) The Court may order service on a defendant or an owner of a ship or other property where an action —
- (a) *in rem* is commenced against the ship or other property which has been abandoned in Nigeria ; or
 - (b) *in personam* is filed against the defendant who does not reside in or carry on business in Nigeria through an agent.
- (2) The service on a defendant or owner of a ship or other property shall be —
- (a) at the address of his last known place of business by a reputable courier company operating a courier service between Nigeria and the country of the place of business ; or

Service upon caveator

Service by Admiralty Marshal

No substituted service

Service on any day

Service of amended process

Acceptance of service by legal practitioner

Service in certain circumstances

(b) through any other mode of service acceptable to the court.

Service where violence is threatened

16. Where an officer of the Court or person charged with the service of any writ of summons or document on any person is prevented by the violence or threats to such person, or any other person in concert with him, from personally serving the writ of summons or documents, it shall be sufficient to inform the person to be served of the nature of the writ of summons or documents and drop the same as near that person as practicable.

B. SERVICE OUT OF JURISDICTION

Service by courier

17. The Court or Judge, in giving leave to serve a court process or document out of jurisdiction under these Rules in an action in personam, may in an appropriate case direct that a courier service shall be used by the party effecting service.

Mode of service of action in personam

18. Any order giving leave to effect service out of jurisdiction in an action in personam, shall prescribe the mode of service, and shall limit a time after service within which the defendant is to enter an appearance, such time to depend on the place or country where or within which the writ of summons is to be served; and the Court may receive an affidavit or statutory declaration of such service having been effected, as prima facie evidence thereof;

Expenses of service

19. The costs of and incidental to the execution of any process in a suit shall be paid in the first place by the party requiring the execution, and the Sheriff shall not (except by order of the Court) be bound to serve or execute any previously paid or tendered to him.

Record of service and incidental thereto

20.—(1) A book shall be kept at the Admiralty Registry of every Admiralty Division of the Court for recording service of process in an admiralty action, in such form as the Chief Judge may direct, in which shall be entered by the officer serving the process, or by the Admiralty Marshal, the name of the plaintiff or complainant and the defendant, the particular Court issuing the process, the method, whether personal or otherwise, of the service, and manner in which the person serving ascertained that he served the process on the right person.

(2) Where any process is not duly served, the cause of failure shall be stated and every entry in the book or an office copy of any entry, shall be prima facie evidence of the several matters therein stated.

ORDER 7 — ARREST OF SHIP AND OTHER PROPERTY

Application for warrant of arrest

1.—(1) A party to a proceeding commenced as an action in rem may by a motion ex parte apply for a warrant of arrest in respect of the ship or other property against which the proceeding was commenced, provided that at the time of the application, the ship or other property is within Nigerian territorial waters, or is expected to arrive there within three days.

(2) An ex parte application for a warrant of arrest of a ship or other property may be filed physically at the Admiralty Registry or by e-filing at the Admiralty E-filing Unit.

(3) The e-filed arrest processes shall be in Portable Document Format (PDF) and the Admiralty Registry of each Admiralty Division shall provide email address(es) which the PDF of the processes shall be sent to.

(4) Fees shall be assessed and paid through the designated electronic payment platform and evidence of payment shall be forwarded to the designated email address(es).

(5) An application for a warrant of arrest of a ship or other property shall be heard and determined within 24 hours of its being filed in Court where practicable.

(6) The hearing of an application for a warrant of arrest of a ship or other property may be conducted physically or virtually on any day, inclusive of Sundays and public holidays.

(7) Before a warrant to arrest any ship and other property is issued, the party applying shall procure a search to be made in the caveat book for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is a caveat against arrest in force with respect to that ship and other property.

(8) The Admiralty Registry shall issue a report of the outcome of any search of the caveat against arrest register procured by a party as in Form 8A.

(9) A warrant of arrest shall not be issued until the party applying has filed an affidavit sworn to by him or his agent containing the particulars required by subrule (11) of this rule.

(10) Except in an action in rem based on a maritime lien commenced in relation to a general maritime claim, a warrant of arrest shall not be issued by any Court exercising admiralty jurisdiction in the case of a ship or other property whose beneficial ownership has since the issuance of the writ of summons, changed as a result of a sale or disposal.

(11) A warrant of arrest shall be signed by the Admiralty Judge and shall be as in Form 7 of the Schedule to these Rules.

(12) An affidavit required under sub-rule (9) of this rule shall state —

(a) in every action in rem —

(i) the nature of the claim or counter-claim and that it has not been satisfied and, if it arises in connection with a ship, the name of that ship, and

(ii) the nature of the property to be arrested and, if the property is a ship, the name of the ship and her port of registry, if known ;

(b) in the case of a general maritime claim against a ship by virtue of section 5(4) of the Act —

(i) the name of the person who would be liable on the claim in an action *in personam* (the relevant person),

(ii) that the relevant person was, when the cause of action arose, the owner or charterer of, or in possession or in control of the ship in connection with which the claim arose, and

(iii) that at the time of the issuance of the writ the relevant person was either the beneficial owner of all the shares in the ship in respect of which the warrant is required or (where appropriate) the charterer of it under a charter by demise ;

(c) where, pursuant to Section 5(4)(b) of the Act, the warrant is sought against a ship that is not the subject of the action, that the deponent has reasonable grounds to believe that the ship against which the warrant is sought is beneficially owned by the person who is the owner of the ship that is the subject of the action ;

(d) in the case of a claim for possession of a ship or for wages, the nationality of the ship in respect of which the warrant is required ; and

(e) in the case of a claim in respect of a liability incurred under the Merchant Shipping Act, the facts relied upon as establishing that the Court is not prevented from entertaining the action.

Issuance of warrant of arrest

2. A warrant of arrest shall be issued by the Judge and shall be as in Form 7.

Period of validity

3. A warrant of arrest shall be valid for a period of 6 months from the date of its issue and may be renewed for another period of 6 months.

Execution of warrant of arrest

4.—(1) A warrant of arrest shall be executed by the Admiralty Marshal or his substitute.

(2) A warrant of arrest shall not be executed on a ship or other property unless the writ of summons in the proceeding concerned has previously been served or is to be served concurrently with the execution of the warrant.

(3) A ship or other property may be arrested in a proceeding after judgement has been given in the proceeding.

(4) The Admiralty Marshal shall not execute a warrant of arrest if the applicant so requests in writing or the Court so orders.

(5) Where a warrant of arrest that specifies a ship and other property has been issued, the Court may on the application of —

(a) the caveator, if a caveat against the arrest of the ship or other property is, at the time of the application, in force ; or

(b) in any other case, an interested person in relation to the ship or other property, and on such terms as are just; order that the warrant of arrest —

- (i) be discharged,
- (ii) be not executed, or
- (iii) be not executed within a specified period.

5. A ship or other property specified in a warrant of arrest as in Form 7 of the Schedule to these Rules shall be under arrest from the time when the warrant is executed until it is lawfully released from arrest or sold by order of Court.

Duration of
warrant of
arrest

6. Execution of a warrant of arrest shall be verified by affidavit.

Verification
of warrant
of arrest

7. A warrant of arrest may be executed on any day.

Execution on
any day

8.—(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Order 3 and Order 7 (1) of these Rules, where an application is for a warrant of arrest of a ship or other property in respect of a claim commenced in a court outside Nigeria or commenced by way of arbitration proceedings within or outside Nigeria, such an application can be made without commencing an action before the Court for the substantive claim.

Claim
commenced
in a court
outside
Nigeria or
Arbitration
proceeding
within or
outside
Nigeria

(2) The application for warrant of arrest referred to in sub-rule (1) of this rule shall be supported with the original or certified true copy of the court or arbitration processes in relation to the court or arbitration proceedings commenced within or outside Nigeria.

(3) The Applicant shall, at the time of making the application for warrant of arrest under this rule, submit to the Court, in as many originals as may be required for service, a duly notarized undertaking by the applicant to indemnify the ship or other property, its owners and any other interests in the ship or other property for all losses suffered as a result of the arrest if it is later found that the order for arrest ought not to have been made.

(4) The order for arrest shall not be made until the undertaking referred to in sub-rule (3) is submitted to the Court.

(5) Where the order for arrest is granted, an original of the undertaking to indemnify provided for in sub-rule (3) shall be delivered to the ship at the time of executing the warrant of arrest.

(6) An order for arrest of the ship under this rule may be made subject to such other conditions as the Court deems just in the circumstance.

ORDER 8 — CAVEATS

- Caveat against arrest
1. A caveat against the arrest of a ship or other property may be filed in the Registry as in Form 8 of the Schedule to these Rules.
- Admiralty Marshal to be satisfied
- 2.—(1) The caveat shall not be filed unless the Admiralty Marshal is satisfied (whether because of an undertaking in writing to be given by the caveator or by a legal practitioner in addition to the undertaking specified in rule 3 of this Order, or for other sufficient reason), that the caveator will, in any proceeding of the kind specified in the caveat, commenced as an action *in rem* against the ship or other property —
- (a) appear to the suit within 3 days of being served ;
 - (b) provide security in a manner provided for in any of the forms stated in sub-rule (2) of this rule or pay the amount claimed into Court in the name of the Admiralty Marshal.
- (2) The Admiralty Marshal shall demand that the undertaking, guarantee or bond to be produced to secure the amount claimed or to satisfy any judgement in the amount claimed shall be by —
- (a) a protection and indemnity club that is a member of the International Group of Protection and Indemnity Clubs ;
 - (b) a bank within the meaning of same in the Banks and other Financial Institutions Act carrying on banking business in Nigeria ; or
 - (c) an insurance company of repute registered under the Insurance Act carrying on business in Nigeria.
- Undertaking by caveator
- 3.—(1) The filing of a caveat constitutes an undertaking by the caveator to —
- (a) appear in any proceeding of a kind specified in the caveat that is commenced as an action *in rem* against the ship or other property specified in the caveat ; and
 - (b) provide security for the amount claimed or pay the amount claimed into the Court in the name of the Admiralty Marshal.
- (2) The undertaking shall be enforceable by the Court in which the proceeding is commenced.
- Caveator to give bail
- 4.—(1) This rule applies where —
- (a) a caveat against the arrest of a ship or other property is in force ;
 - (b) a writ of summons has been served on the caveator under these rules ;
 - (c) the proceeding is a proceeding of a kind specified in the caveat ; and
 - (d) the caveat specifies an amount not less than the amount claimed.
- (2) Within three working days after having been so served, the caveator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing between the caveator and the plaintiff —
- (a) pay into Court an amount equal to —

- (i) the amount claimed,
- (ii) the amount specified in the caveat ; or

(b) cause an undertaking, guarantee or bond to be executed by a bank or an insurance company or a protection and indemnity club that is a member of the International Group of Protection and Indemnity Clubs as in Form 9 of the Schedule to these Rules.

5. A caveator who fails to comply with his undertaking under this Order shall be taken to have failed to appear in the proceedings within the time limited for appearing and his caveat shall be deemed cancelled. Cancellation of caveat

6. The Court may set aside a caveat against the arrest of a ship or other property. Caveats may be set aside

7. Where a ship or other property is under arrest in a proceeding, a person having a claim against such a ship or other property may, on providing an undertaking in damages, file in the Court, a caveat as in Form 10, against the release from arrest of the ship or other property in *lieu* of obtaining a further arrest of that ship or other property, provided that — Caveats against release

(a) the person has not commenced an admiralty action *in rem* before filing a caveat against the release from arrest of the ship or other property ; or

(b) where security is furnished in relation to a caveat against release from arrest ; the caveator shall file an action in respect of the claim for which the caveat against release was filed within 14 days of the issuance of the security, otherwise the security shall forthwith be cancelled and released by the Admiralty Marshal to the party that furnished it.

8.—(1) Where any ship or other property with respect to which a caveat against arrest in force is arrested pursuant to a warrant of arrest, the party at whose instance the caveat was entered may apply to the Court by motion for an order under this rule. Payment of damages for loss suffered

(2) On the hearing of the application refer to in sub-rule (1) of this rule, the Court, unless it is satisfied that the party procuring the arrest of the ship or other property had a good and sufficient reason for so doing, may by order—

(a) discharge the warrant ; or

(b) direct the party at whose instance the ship or other property was arrested to pay damages to the applicant in respect of the loss suffered by the applicant as a result of the arrest.

9.—(1) A caveat expires one year after the day on which it was filed except it is withdrawn or set aside. Expiration of Caveat

(2) A new caveat may be filed before or after the expiration of an existing caveat.

B 4130

Withdrawal
of caveat

10. A caveator may withdraw a caveat by filing an instrument of withdrawal of the caveat as in Form 11.

Register of
Caveat

11.—(1) The Admiralty Marshal shall establish and maintain two Registers, to be known as —

- (a) Register of caveats against arrest ; and
- (b) Register of caveats against release.

(2) Any Register established under sub-rule (1) of this rule may be inspected by any person, without payment of any fee.

ORDER 9 — CUSTODY AND SALE OF SHIP AND OTHER PROPERTY UNDER ARREST

Liability for
Admiralty
Marshal's
expenses

1. An application for a warrant of arrest shall constitute an undertaking to the Court to pay to the Admiralty Marshal, on demand, an amount equal to the expenses of the Admiralty Marshal in relation to the arrest.

Funds to be
deposited
with
Admiralty
Marshal

2.—(1) The documented expenses of the Admiralty Marshal including bank charges shall be paid by the arresting party.

(2) Where a person is liable to pay for expenses, the Admiralty Marshal may—

- (a) accept an amount of money not less than N100,000 and not more than N500,000 as deposit towards discharging the liability ; and
- (b) make more demands fortnightly for payment on account of those expenses.

(3) Where another party arrests the arrested vessel or files a caveat against release, he shall be jointly and severally liable with the first arrestor to pay the Admiralty Marshal's expenses.

(4) Within 7 working days of the release of the ship or other property, the Admiralty Marshal shall file a return of —

- (a) receipts and expenditures in the Admiralty Registry ; and
- (b) expenditure for deposit made for arrest of ships or vessels before further deposits are made.

Custody of
arrested ship
or other
property

3.—(1) The Admiralty Marshal shall, after executing the order of arrest of a ship or other property, have the custody of the ship or other property.

(2) The Admiralty Marshal or his substitute shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, take all appropriate steps to retain custody of, and preserve the ship or other property, including —

- (a) removing from the ship, or storing place, cargo that is under arrest ;
- (b) removing cargo from a ship that is under arrest and storing it;
- (c) removing, storing or disposing of perishable goods that are under arrest or are in a ship that is under arrest ; and

(d) for a good cause, moving the ship that is under arrest to a safe berth or location within jurisdiction upon application to the Court, by the arrestor, caveator against release, port authorities, relevant government or law enforcement agencies, and any other interested party.

(3) Where a ship or other property is under arrest, the Admiralty Marshal shall prepare and file in the Court or with the Judge that issued the warrant of arrest, a monthly report stating the location, security status and condition of the arrested ship or other property, and immediately deliver a copy of the monthly report to the parties to the suit or as the court may order.

4.—(1) Where the Admiralty Marshal has the custody of a ship or other property, he or a party interested may at any time apply to the Court or a Judge in Chambers for directions with respect to other property, and such directions may include steps to be taken where an arrestor defaults in payment of the expenses of the Admiralty Marshal after a demand has been made for same.

Application concerning arrested ship or other property

(2) Notice of an application (not being an application for the release from arrest of a ship or other property) made by a person other than the Admiralty Marshal shall be served on the Admiralty Marshal.

(3) The Court may order the applicant to give notice of the application and directions to the person specified in the order.

(4) The Court may make such orders as seems to it just including an order for the immediate and unconditional release of any ship or other property under arrest in the proceedings.

5.—(1) A person who is entitled to immediate possession of a ship or a cargo, may apply to the Court to discharge the cargo from the ship, where —

Discharge of ship or cargo not under arrest

- (a) cargo on board a ship is under arrest but the ship is not ; or
- (b) a ship is under arrest but its cargo is not.

(2) The Court may order discharge where —

(a) the Court is satisfied that the applicant is entitled to immediate possession of the ship or the cargo, as the case may be ;

(b) the applicant gives an undertaking in writing satisfactory to the Admiralty Marshal, to pay on demand to the Admiralty Marshal any fee and expenses of the Admiralty Marshal in connection with the discharge ; and

(c) the Court so requires that the applicant indemnifies the Admiralty Marshal in the form satisfactory to the Admiralty Marshal in respect of any claim against the Admiralty Marshal arising from the discharge.

(3) Where —

- (a) cargo on board a ship is under arrest but the ship is not ; or
- (b) a ship is under arrest but its cargo is not,

the Court may, on application of the plaintiff and subject to such terms and conditions as are just, order the discharge of the cargo from the ship.

B 4132

Preservation
management
and power
of sale

6.—(1) The Court may, at any stage of a proceeding, make appropriate orders with respect to the preservation, management or control of a ship or other property that is under arrest in the proceeding.

(2) Where the arrestor fails to continue to meet the expenses of the Admiralty Marshal in relation to the continued arrest of the vessel, the Admiralty Marshal may seek the directives of the court.

(3) Where a ship or other property has been arrested and the owners have failed to provide security for the release of same for a period of not less than 60 days from the date of the arrest, the Court may, on the application of the arrestor or other interested party, order that the ship or other property be sold by the Admiralty Marshal, and the proceeds of sale paid into an interest-yielding fixed deposit account in the name of the Admiralty Marshal, pending further orders of the Court.

Priority of
proceeds of
sale of ship

7. Where a ship is sold following an order of Court, the proceeds of sale shall after final Judgement, be distributed in accordance with the provisions of Order 17 of these Rules.

ORDER 10 — RELEASE FROM ARREST

Release
generally

1.—(1) A party to a proceeding may apply to the Court for the release of a ship or other property that is under arrest in the proceeding.

(2) On an application under sub-rule (1) of this rule, the Court may order the release from arrest of the ship or other property as in Form 12 on such terms as are just.

Release by
consent

2. Where, in a proceeding, the party on whose application a ship or other property was arrested consents in writing to the release from arrest, the ship or other property shall be released from arrest upon oral application to a Judge in Chambers.

Release
where
proceedings
ended.

3. the Court may release the ship or other property arrested where —
(a) a ship or other property has been arrested in a proceeding ; and
(b) the proceeding has been discontinued or dismissed.

Release at
the request
of interested
person

4.—(1) Where the writ of summons is served simultaneously with an order for the arrest of any ship or other property, an interested person may apply for the release of the arrested ship or other property and the Court shall, within 3 days of filing and service of the application for release of the said ship or other property entertain the said application.

(2) An application for the release of the arrested ship or other property shall be heard by the Judge who ordered the arrest or, in his absence by any available Judge.

5.—(1) Where a ship or other property is under arrest in a proceeding, the Court may upon application by an interested person, release the ship or other property from arrest where it is satisfied that —

Release where security guarantee or bond is provided

(a) an amount equal to the amount claimed, or the value of the ship or other property, whichever is less, has been paid into the Court ;

(b) an undertaking, guarantee or bond by —

(i) a protection and indemnity club that is a member of the International Group of Protection and Indemnity Clubs,

(ii) a bank within the meaning of a bank in the Banks and other Financial Institutions Act carrying on banking business in Nigeria, or

(iii) an insurance company of repute registered under the Insurance Act carrying on business in Nigeria ; or

(c) an amount equal to the amount claimed, or the value of the ship or other property, whichever is less, has been filed in the proceedings.

(2) Release shall not be made under sub-rule (1) of this rule in relation to a ship or other property that has been arrested in a proceeding concerning a claim for salvage, unless the value of the ship or other property that is under arrest has been —

(a) agreed between the parties ; or

(b) determined by the Court.

6. Where a caveat against release of the ship or other property is in force, a copy of the application for release shall be served on the caveator.

Where caveat against release is in force

ORDER 11 — REPARATION FOR NEEDLESS ARREST

1. The Court, upon making any order to hold to bail, or of sale, injunction, or attachment, or any warrant to stop the clearance or to arrest any ship, may impose such terms and conditions and require such undertakings as the Court may deem just.

Condition to be imposed by the Court

2. In any case in which an arrest order has been made —

Cases in which compensation may be awarded

(a) if it afterwards comes to the knowledge of the Court that the arrest of any defendant, or any order of attachment, sale, or injunction, or any warrant to stop the clearance of, or to arrest any ship, was applied for in bad faith or in gross negligence, or unlawfully ; or

(b) if the suit in which any such application was made is dismissed, or judgement is given against the plaintiff by default or otherwise, and it appears to the Court that there was no probable ground for instituting such suit, the Court may (on the application of the defendant made at any time before the expiration of three months from the termination of the suit) award against the plaintiff such amount, as it may deem a reasonable compensation to the defendant for any loss, injury, or expenses which he may have sustained by reason of such arrest, attachment, order of sale or injunction.

B 4134

No action for damages if compensation is awarded

3.—(1) The provisions of rules 1 and 2 of this order shall not take away any right of action or other right which would otherwise have existed, but no action shall be commenced or continued in respect of the same grounds on which the Court may have made an award of compensation.

(2) Further to sub-rule (1) of this rule, the defendant shall be at liberty to institute an action for wrongful arrest against a plaintiff and the Court shall award costs, damages, demurrage and expenses against the plaintiff where it is satisfied that the arrest was occasioned upon an application made in bad faith or in gross negligence, or unlawfully.

Application for damages for wrongful arrest may be taken summarily

4. Where an oral application is made immediately after the judgement of the Court is read, the Court shall where possible proceed to hear arguments on the issue of wrongful arrest and shall make an order granting or refusing damages.

ORDER 12 — PAYMENT OF BAIL

Payment in the Court and obligation of the Admiralty Marshal

1.—(1) Where a sum is paid into Court by way of bail or other security, the said sum shall be paid by the Admiralty Marshal into a fixed deposit account with a bank at the best available rate of interest.

(2) The Admiralty Marshal shall place the moneys on a 30 days roll-over fixed deposit with the said bank.

(3) Payment out of the said deposit account together with any accrued interest shall be made forthwith by the Admiralty Marshal not later than seven days after a proper request for same have been made, provided that in the event of the termination of a deposit before the due date, some accrued interest may be forfeited.

Admiralty Marshall to file evidence of deposit

2. Evidence of every payment into a fixed deposit account as provided for in rule 1 of this Order shall be filed in Court by the Admiralty Marshal within 7 days of such payment.

Court may vary bail

3. The Court may by order reduce or increase the amount in respect of which bail or other security has been provided.

ORDER 13 — SECURITY FOR COSTS

A. — ACTION *IN REM*

Court may order security of cost

1.—(1) In every action in rem, the Court may on the application of an interested person, if it deems fit, require any plaintiff at whose instance a ship or other property has been arrested either at the commencement of the suit or at any time in the course of the proceedings, to give security for costs.

(2) Where the plaintiff's claim is in excess of 10 million naira or its foreign currency equivalent or where the plaintiff has no assets in Nigeria, and the Court is so satisfied, security for costs shall be ordered by the Court.

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| <p>2. The security shall take the form of —</p> <p>(a) a deposit of the sum specified by the Court ; or</p> <p>(b) a guarantee or undertaking supplied by a Protection and Indemnity Club, an insurance company of repute or a bank as acceptable under these Rules.</p> | <p>Form of Security</p> |
| <p>3. In determining the quantum of security to be provided, the Court shall have regard to all the circumstances of the case, including the interest rate, if any, payable by the defendant to a bank or other financial institution.</p> | <p>Quantum of security</p> |
| <p>4. The Court shall specify the time within which the plaintiff shall furnish security and upon the expiration of the time specified, if no security is provided, the arrested ship or other property shall be released from arrest.</p> | <p>Time within which security is to be furnished</p> |
| <p>5.—(1) A plaintiff shall be at liberty to withdraw any security provided to the Admiralty Marshal upon obtaining judgement against the defendant in the action or upon discontinuance of the suit.</p> <p>(2) In the event of the plaintiff failing in the action, the defendant or defendants shall be entitled to the costs of the proceedings out of the security provided by the plaintiff and the balance of the security shall be returned to the plaintiff.</p> | <p>Withdrawal of security upon conclusion of case</p> |
| <p>6. The master or a member of the crew of a ship who is a plaintiff in a proceeding for his wages or loss of goods or clothes in a collision between two or more ships, shall not be required to give security for costs.</p> | <p>No security for cost in collision proceedings</p> |
| <p>7. Where in relation to maritime claims arising out of a collision between two or more ships —</p> <p>(a) a proceeding has been commenced as action in rem and —</p> <p>(i) a counter-claim has been made, or</p> <p>(ii) a cross-action has been commenced, whether as an action in personam or an action in rem ;</p> <p>(b) a ship has been arrested, or security has been given to avoid arrest, by one of the parties ; and</p> <p>(c) the other party has not arrested a ship or given such security,</p> <p>the Court may, on application, order that the proceeding be stayed until appropriate security has been given to satisfy a judgement given in favour of the other party on the cross-action or counter-claim.</p> | <p>Stay pending security in collision proceedings</p> |

B – ACTIONS IN PERSONAM

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| <p>8.—(1) Where on the application of the plaintiff or defendant, it appears to the Court at commencement or any stage of the proceedings that —</p> <p>(a) the plaintiff or defendant is ordinarily resident out of jurisdiction ;</p> | <p>Security for costs by plaintiff or defendant</p> |
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(b) the plaintiff (not being a plaintiff who is suing in a representative capacity) is a nominal plaintiff who is suing for the benefit of some other person and that there is reason to believe that he will be unable to pay the costs of the defendant if ordered to do so ;

(c) subject to sub-rule (2) of this rule, the plaintiff's address is not stated in the writ or other originating process or it is incorrectly stated therein ; or

(d) the plaintiff or the defendant has changed his address during the course of the proceedings with a view to evading the consequences of the litigation,

then if having regard to all the circumstances of the case, the Court thinks it just to do so it may order the plaintiff or the defendant to give such security for the plaintiff's costs or defendant's costs of the action or other proceedings as it thinks just.

(2) The court shall not require a plaintiff to give security by reason only of sub-rule (1) (c) of this rule if he satisfies the Court that the failure to state his address or the misstatement was made innocently and without intention to deceive.

Guidelines for fixing costs

9.—(1) In fixing the amount of costs, the principle to be observed is that the party who is in the right is to be indemnified for the expenses to which he has been unnecessarily put in the proceedings, as well as compensated for his time and effort in coming to Court and the Judge may take into account all the circumstances of the case.

(2) Where costs are ordered to be paid, the amount of such costs shall, if practicable, be summarily determined by the Judge at the time of delivering the judgement or making the order.

(3) Where the Judge has adjudged costs to be paid but he is unable to determine the quantum thereof, all questions relating thereto shall be referred to a taxing officer for taxation. .

Security for costs

10. In any cause or matter in which security for costs is required, the security shall be of such amount and be given at such time and in such manner and form as the Judge shall direct.

Security for costs by plaintiff temporarily within jurisdiction

11. A plaintiff ordinarily resident out of jurisdiction may be ordered to give security for costs though he may be temporarily resident within the jurisdiction.

Actions founded on judgement or bill of exchange

12. In actions brought by persons resident outside jurisdiction, when the plaintiff's claim is founded on a judgement or order or on a bill of exchange or other negotiable instrument, the power to require the plaintiff to give security for costs shall be exercised at the Judge's discretion.

13. Where a bond, undertaking or guarantee is to be given as security for costs, it shall unless the Judge otherwise directs, be issued in favour of the party or person requiring the security and filed in the Court.

Bond as security for cost

C – COSTS GENERALLY

14. Subject to the provisions of any application law and these Rules, the costs of and incidental to all proceedings in the Court, shall be at the discretion of the Judge, and the Judge shall have full power to determine by whom and to what extent the costs are to be paid.

Costs at the discretion of the Court

15. The Judge may order any costs to be paid out of any fund or property to which a suit or proceedings relate.

Costs out of fund or property

16. Where the Judge orders costs to be paid or security to be given for costs by any party, the Judge may order all proceedings by or on behalf of that party in the same suit or proceedings or connected with it to be stayed until the costs are paid or security given accordingly but such order shall not supersede the use of any other lawful method of enforcing payment.

Stay of proceedings until cost is paid

17.—(1) Costs may be dealt with by the Judge at any stage of the proceedings.

Stage where costs will be dealt with

(2) Costs when ordered become payable forthwith and shall be paid within seven days of the order, otherwise the defaulting party or his legal practitioner may be denied further audience in the proceedings.

18. In addition to any penalty payable for default under these Rules the costs of and occasioned by any application to extend the time fixed by the Rules or any direction or order for delivering or filing any document or doing other act, including the costs of any order made on the application shall be borne by the party making the application unless the Judge otherwise orders.

Costs to follow event

19. The Judge in exercising his discretion as to costs shall take into account any offer or contribution made by any of the parties and any payment into Court and the amount of such payment.

Matters to be taken into account in exercising discretion

20.—(1) Where in any cause or matter anything is done or omission is made improperly or unnecessarily by or on behalf of a party, the Judge may direct that any costs to that party in respect of it shall not be allowed and any cost occasioned by other party shall be paid by him to them.

Costs arising from misconduct or negligence

(2) Without prejudice to the generality to sub-rule (1) of this rule, the Judge shall, for the purpose of that sub-rule, have regard to —

(a) the omission to do anything the doing of which would have been calculated to save costs ;

(b) the doing of anything in a manner or at any time calculated to occasion unnecessary costs ; or

(c) any unnecessary delay in the proceedings.

(3) The Judge may, instead of giving direction under sub-rule (1) of this rule in relation to anything done or any omission made, direct the taxing officer to inquire into it and if it appears to him that such direction should have been given in relation to it to act as if the appropriate direction had been given.

Personal liability of legal practitioner for costs

21.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this rule, where in any proceeding costs are incurred improperly or without reasonable cause or are wasted by undue delay or by any other misconduct or default, the Judge may make an order against any legal practitioner whom the Judge considers to be responsible, whether personally or through a servant or agent —

(a) disallowing costs as between the legal practitioner and the legal practitioner's client ;

(b) directing the legal practitioner to pay the client's costs which the clients has been ordered to pay to other parties to the proceedings ; or

(c) directing the legal practitioner to personally indemnify such other parties against cost payable by them.

(2) The provisions of subrule (1) of this rule shall apply where proceedings in Court cannot conveniently proceed or fail or are adjourned without useful progress being made —

(a) because of the failure of the legal practitioner to attend in person or by a proper representative ; or

(b) because of the failure of the legal practitioner to deliver any document for the use of the Court which ought to have been delivered or to be prepared with any proper evidence or account or otherwise to proceed.

(3) No order under this rule shall be made against a legal practitioner unless the legal practitioner has been given a reasonable opportunity to appear before the Judge to show cause why the order should not be made.

(4) If, on the taxation of costs to be paid out of a fund, one-sixth or more of the amount of the bill for those costs is taxed off, the legal practitioner whose bill it is, shall not be allowed the fees to which he would otherwise be entitled for drawing the bill and for attending the taxation.

(5) The Judge may direct that notice of any proceeding or order against a legal practitioner under this rule shall be given to the legal practitioner's client in such manner as may be specified in the direction.

ORDER 14 — PLEADINGS

Application of the Federal High Court (Civil Procedure) Rules

Subject to the provisions of these Rules, the provision of the Federal High Court (Civil Procedure) Rules shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to any proceedings relating to pleadings under these Rules.

ORDER 15 — LIMITATION PROCEEDINGS

1.—(1) A limitation proceeding shall be commenced as an action in personam. Limitation proceedings

(2) At least one of the respondents shall be named respondent to the originating summons.

(3) Other respondents need not be so named but may be identified as respondents to the originating summons by reference to their being members of a specified class of persons.

(4) The originating summons need not be served on respondents so identified.

2.—(1) Unless at least one of the persons named as respondents to an originating summons has been served, the applicant in a limitation proceeding shall not apply — Service on at least one respondent

(a) to have the proceeding set down for hearing ; or

(b) for judgement in default of appearance.

(2) The application shall be supported by an affidavit setting out the name and, if known to the applicant, the address of each other person who, to the knowledge of the applicant, has or may have a maritime claim against the applicant arising out of or connected with the matter in respect of which liability is to be limited.

3.—(1) In a limitation proceeding, where persons are identified as respondent in the originating summons by reference to their being members of a specified class of persons, the Court shall, after determining whether the liability of the applicant may be limited and the extent of that liability, make orders — Advertisement of determination

(a) specifying how the determination is to be advertised ; and

(b) fixing a period, not less than one month after the last day allowed for the advertisement of the determination, as the period within which a person who claims to have a maritime claim against the applicant in respect of which the applicant's liability is determined may —

(i) prosecute that claim, or

(ii) apply under rule 5 of this Order.

(2) The Court may not make an order under sub-rule (1) of this rule if it is satisfied that all the persons included within the class of persons concerned have been served.

4. Where a determination in a limitation proceeding has not been advertised under rule 3 of this Order, the determination shall bind only persons identified as respondents in the originating process who have been served. Effect of determination

B 4140

Proceedings
to set aside
determination

5.—(1) Where in a limitation proceeding, the determination of the limit of the applicant's liability has been advertised as required under rule 3 of this Order, the Court may on application by a person who has not been served with the writ, and on such terms and conditions as are just, vary or set aside the determination.

(2) The application may not be made after the end of the period fixed under rule 3 (1) (b) of this Order.

(3) The application and the affidavits in support shall be served on —

(a) the applicant in the limitation proceeding ; and

(b) each respondent to that proceeding who has appeared in the proceeding, not less than 7 days before the application is to be determined.

Court to give
directions

6. Where any person claims to be entitled to a limitation of liability referred to in Section 9 (1) of the Act, the Court may give such directions as it deems fit with regard to the procedure in any such claim, the staying of any other proceedings and the conditions for the consideration of any such claim, which may include a condition that —

(a) such amount as the Court may order be paid into Court to abide the result of the consideration of the said claim ;

(b) the claimant be required to admit liability for all or any claims made against him or her ; or

(c) any other condition which the Court deems fit.

ORDER 16 — VALUATION AND SALE

Orders for
valuation
and sale

1.—(1) The Court may, on application by a party either before or after final judgement in a proceeding, order that a ship or other property that is under arrest in the proceeding —

(a) be valued ; or

(b) be valued and sold.

(2) An application under sub-rule (1) of this rule constitutes an undertaking by the party who made it to pay on demand to the Admiralty Marshal an amount equal to the expenses in complying with the order.

(3) If the ship or other property is deteriorating in value, the Court may at any stage of the proceeding, on notice to the parties order it to be sold subject to valuation.

Admiralty
Marshal to
conduct sale

2.—(1) The sale of a ship or other property ordered to be sold under rule 1 of this Order, shall be conducted by the Admiralty Marshal.

(2) Unless the Court otherwise orders, the sale shall be by auction not less than 21 days after an advertisement shall have been placed in two national daily newspapers by the Admiralty Marshal.

3. The Admiralty Marshal shall within 21 days after the sale of the ship or other property —

Duration for
return of
sale

- (a) file a return of sale ;
- (b) pay into Court the proceeds of sale ; and
- (c) file an account of sale and the vouchers of the account.

4.—(1) The expenses of the Admiralty Marshal in connection with the valuation and sale of a ship or other property ordered to be sold shall be computed and filed.

Admiralty
Marshal's
expenses

(2) The Admiralty Marshal shall deduct two percent (2%) from the proceeds of sale of a ship or other property to cover his expenses including bank charges.

(3) A person who is interested in relation to the proceeds of the sale may apply to the Court for taxation of the expenses of the Admiralty Marshal.

ORDER 17 — PRIORITIES

1.—(1) Where a ship or other property has been arrested in a proceeding, a person who has obtained a judgement in any Court (including a judgement in a court of a foreign country) against the ship or other property, being a judgement that is enforceable in the Court, may apply to the Court for the determination of the order of priority of claims against the ship or property.

Application
to determine
priorities

(2) The order of priority of claims against an arrested ship or other property is as follows —

- (a) statutory or court charges and expenses like the Admiralty Marshal's expenses in connection with the ship or property ;
- (b) salvage, wreck removal and contribution in general average ;
- (c) wages and other sums due to the master, officers and other members of the ship's complement in respect of their employment on the ship ;
- (d) disbursements of the master on account of the ship ;
- (e) loss of life or personal injury occurring whether on land or on water in direct connection with the operation of the ship ;
- (f) ports, canal and other waterways, dues, and pilotage dues ;
- (g) possessory liens (repairer's lien – where ship is still in possession) ;
- (h) mortgages - priority of mortgages is determined by the date on which each mortgage is recorded in the register and registered mortgages have priority over unregistered mortgages ;
- (i) in rem action for possession or ownership of a ship ;
- (j) in rem action in relation to a dispute between co-owners, possession or use of a ship ;
- (k) in rem action in relation to loss or damage to cargo carried on a ship ;
- (l) lien in rem action in relation to damage received by a ship ;

- (m) in rem action in relation to a dispute arising out of contracts for carriage of goods or use of a ship ; and
- (n) in personam action.

(3) The Court may on application, under this rule, order that notice of the application specifying the period within which claims may be notified, be given or published as the Court directs.

(4) The determination shall not be made until after the end of the period specified in the notice.

(5) The Admiralty Marshal shall file a copy of the relevant part of each publication in which the notice appeared.

2. The expenses of the Admiralty Marshal in complying with an order of the Court under this Order shall be part of the expenditure of the sale of the ship or other property.

Admiralty
Marshal's
expenses in
connection
with an
order

Interveners
in an action
in rem

ORDER 18 — INTERVENERS

1.—(1) Where property against which an action in rem is brought is under arrest or money representing the proceeds of sale of that property is in Court, a person who has an interest in that property or money but he is not a defendant to the action may, with the leave of the Court, intervene in the action.

(2) An application for the grant of leave under this rule may be made ex parte supported by an affidavit showing the interest of the applicant in the property against which the action is brought or in the money in Court.

(3) A person to whom leave is granted under this rule shall thereupon become a party to the action.

(4) The Court may order that a person to whom it grants leave to intervene in an action shall, within such period as may be specified in the order, serve on any other party to the action such notice of his intervention and such pleading as may be so specified.

PART C — GENERAL

ORDER 19 — GENERAL POWERS OF THE COURT

1. The Court may, on application or of its own motion and on such terms as are just —

(a) give any appropriate direction with respect to a proceeding ; and

(b) extend or abridge any time prescribed by these Rules or by Rules of Court applicable to a proceeding, whether or not the time has ended.

Court may
give
directions,
abridge or
extend time

Review of
Admiralty
Marshal's
action

2. A party to a proceeding may apply to the Court for the review of a decision or other act of Admiralty Marshal in the proceeding.

ORDER 20 — POWERS OF THE CHIEF JUDGE TO AMEND THESE RULES
AND ISSUE PRACTICE DIRECTIONS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1.—(1) The Chief Judge may add, vary, amend, modify or revoke these Rules as he deems fit.</p> | <p>Power of the Chief Judge to amend these Rules</p> |
| <p>(2) Where additional provisions are made to these Rules or any part thereof is amended or modified, the Chief Judge may issue directives for addition, publication or reprint of supplements to these Rules.</p> | |
| <p>2. Where the Chief Judge amend or modify these Rules, it shall be sufficient to publish same as supplemental provisions.</p> | <p>Publication of supplemental provisions</p> |
| <p>3. The Chief Judge may issue practice directions, protocols, directives and guidance towards the realization of speedy, just and effective administration of justice in any proceedings under these Rules.</p> | <p>Power of the Chief Judge to issue practice direction, etc</p> |

ORDER 21 — MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Subject to the provisions of these Rules, the Court may in all causes and matters make any order which it considers necessary for doing justice, whether the order has been expressly asked for by the person entitled to the benefit of the order or not.</p> | <p>Orders to be made</p> |
| <p>2. All fines, forfeitures, pecuniary penalties and costs ordered to be paid may be levied by distress, seizure and sale of both movable and immovable property of the defaulting party.</p> | <p>Recovery of penalties and costs</p> |
| <p>3. In all cases in which the publication of any notice is required, the same may be made by advertisement in the Federal Gazette, unless otherwise provided in any particular case by any rule of Court or otherwise ordered by the Court.</p> | <p>Notice ordered by Court</p> |
| <p>4. A document shall not be filed unless it has endorsed on it, the name and number of the case, the date and time of filing and whether filed by plaintiff or defendant, and on being filed the endorsements shall be initialed by the Registrar.</p> | <p>Filing</p> |
| <p>5. The fees set out in Appendix 2 to the Federal High Court (Civil Procedure) Rules and any subsequent amendment may be charged in respect of the duties of a notary public or of a notarial act and other duties therein mentioned.</p> | <p>Fees: Appendix 2 to the Federal High Court (Civil Procedure) Rules</p> |
| <p>6. Where the solicitor of a party to an action in rem fails to comply with a written undertaking given by him to any other party or his solicitor to acknowledge issue of or service of the written undertaking in the action, give bail or pay money into Court in lieu of bail, he shall be liable to committal.</p> | <p>Committal of solicitor</p> |

Effect of non-compliance

7.—(1) Where in beginning or purporting to begin any proceeding or at any stage in the course of or in connection with any proceeding, there has by reason of anything done or left undone, been failure to comply with the requirements of these Rules, whether in respect of time, place, manner, form or content or in any other respect, the failure may be treated as an irregularity and if so treated, will not nullify the proceedings, or any document, judgement or order therein.

(2) The Court may on the ground that there has been such a failure as mentioned in subrule (1) of this rule and on such terms as to costs or otherwise as it thinks just, set aside either wholly or in part the proceedings in which the failure occurred, any step taken in those proceedings or any document, judgement or order therein, or it may exercise its powers under these Rules to allow such amendments (if any) to be made and to make such order (if any) dealing with the proceedings generally as it thinks fit.

Application to set aside for irregularities

8.—(1) An application to set aside for irregularity any proceeding, any document, Judgement or order, shall not be allowed unless it is made within a reasonable time and before the party applying has taken any fresh step in the proceedings.

(2) Any application under sub-rule (1) of this rule may be made by summons or motion on notice, and the grounds of objection shall be stated in the summons or motion on notice.

Where no Rules or provisions exists

9. Where a matter arises in respect of which no provision or no adequate provisions are made in these Rules or the Federal High Court (Civil Procedure) Rules, the Court shall adopt such similar procedure in other Rules as will in its view do substantial justice between the parties concerned.

ORDER 22 — REVOCATION, INTERPRETATION AND CITATION

Revocation

1.—(1) The Admiralty Jurisdiction Procedure Rules, No. 5, 2011 is revoked.

Interpretation

(2) Anything done under the revoked Rules shall remain applicable as provided under Order 1 of these Rules.

2.—(1) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

“*Act*” means the Admiralty Jurisdiction Act ;

“*Admiralty*” shall bear the same meaning as in the Act ;

“*Admiralty Division*” means the admiralty division of the Court ;

“*Admiralty Marshal*” means the Chief Registrar of the Court ;

“*Admiralty Marshal’s substitute*” means any officer authorized by the Admiralty Marshal to perform his functions ;

“*Admiralty Registry*” means the Registry established by the Chief Judge for Admiralty matters ;

“*Aircraft*” means any waterborne aircraft ;

“*Amount claimed*” includes an amount in respect of interest and/or costs ;

“*Arrest*” means the detention of ship or other property by judicial process to secure a maritime claim, but does not include the seizure of a ship in execution or satisfaction of a judgement ;

“*Attorney-General*” means the Attorney-General of the Federation ;

“*Caveat*” means an undertaking filed in the Registry by the owner of, or person interested in, a ship or other property to appear to any action in rem filed against that ship or other property and provide bail or other security even though the ship or other property is not arrested ;

“*Caveator*” means the person by whom or on whose behalf the caveat was filed ;

“*Chief Judge*” means the Chief Judge of the Federal High Court ;

“*Concurrent Writ*” has the same meaning as provided in Order 3 rules 12 and 13 of these Rules ;

“*Court*” means the Federal High Court ;

“*Foreign jurisdiction*” or “*Out of jurisdiction*” means out of the Federal Republic of Nigeria ;

“*General maritime claim*” means a general maritime claim as defined by the Act ;

“*Interested person*” in relation to a proceeding or in relation to a ship or other property that is under arrest, includes an underwriter or an insurer of the ship or other property, or of a liability in relation to the ship or other property or any person that has a legal or an equitable or a security interest in the ship or other property ;

“*Intervener*” in relation to a proceeding or to a ship or other property under arrest means any person not named in the writ of summons in an admiralty action in rem who is interested in the res under arrest or in the fund at the Admiralty Registry and includes mortgagees, trustees in bankruptcy, underwriters who have accepted abandonment, charterers, persons who have possessory liens or competing maritime liens, and generally persons who are plaintiffs in other actions in rem against the same property ;

“*Judge*” means Judge of the Federal High Court ;

“*Proprietary maritime claim*” means a proprietary maritime claim as defined by the Act ;

“*Registrar*” means the Chief Registrar, Deputy Chief Registrar, Assistant Chief Registrar, Principal Registrar, Senior Registrar or any other officer acting or performing the functions of a Registrar ;

“*Ship*” shall bear the same meaning as in the Act ; and

“*Warrant of arrest*” means a warrant for the arrest of a ship or other property.

Citation

3. These Rules may be cited as the Admiralty Jurisdiction Procedure Rules, 2023.

SCHEDULE
ADMIRALTY PROCEDURE FORMS
FORM 1

[ORDER 3 RULE 3 (1) AND ORDER 5 RULES 1 & 2]
(Writ of Summons in Action in Rem)
IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

IN THE JUDICIAL DIVISION

Suit No.

ADMIRALTY IN REM

BETWEEN

.....

AND

To the Defendant : (Name) of
(Address).....

Admiralty action in Rem against : (The ship "X" or as the case may be describing the property against which action is brought).

Between the owners of the Ship "A" or as the case may describing the plaintiff (or name) Plaintiffs.

And the Owners of the Ship "X" or as the case may be describing the property against which action is brought Defendants.

To the Defendants and other persons interested in the Ship "X" (detailing registration of ship if known).

The writ summons has been issued by the plaintiffs against the property described above in respect of the claim set out on the back.

Within (14) days after service of this writ counting the day of service, you must either satisfy the claim or lodge in the Registry of this Court mentioned below an acknowledgement of service or file a memorandum of appearance.

If you fail satisfy the claim or lodge an acknowledgement within the time stated, the plaintiff may proceed with the action and judgement may be given without further notice to you and if the property described in Writ is under arrest of the Court it may be sold by Order of the Court.

ISSUED from the Admiralty Registry of the Federal High Court
day of, 20.....

(Statement of Claim to be affixed to the back)

The plaintiff's claim is for etc. (b)

The writ was issued by G. H. ofwhose address for service isagent for of legal practitioner for the said plaintiff who reside at (a) (mention the city /town or district and also the same of the street and number of the house of the plaintiff's residence, if any).

Endorsement to be made on copy of writ forthwith after service.

This writ was served by meon the defendant (here insert mode of service)

On the day of, 20.....

Endorsed the day of, 20.....

(Signed)

Address

Note :

(a) *Endorsement of claim.*— if the plaintiff sues, or the defendant is sued, in a representative capacity, the endorsement must state in what capacity the plaintiff sues of the defendant is sued. If the claim is for a debt or liquidated demand only, the endorsement, even though not special, must strictly comply with the provisions of the Act including a claim for four days' costs.

(b) *Address for service.*— the address must be within the jurisdiction.

(c) *Address of Plaintiff.*— in the case of a Company in liquidation the plaintiff's address should run ".....plaintiffs, who are a company in liquidation. The liquidator is (name of liquidator, Address of liquidator)".

In the case of a foreign corporation within the meaning of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, the plaintiffs' address should run thus :

".....plaintiffs, who are a foreign corporation within the meaning of Companies and Allied Matters Act, the registered name and address of the person to be served are (here add registered name and address)".

ENDORSEMENT OF SERVICE —

Before the writ is issued the following certificate must be indorsed on it.

The Registry, Federal High Court

In the.....Judicial Division.

A sufficient affidavit in verification of the endorsement on this writ to authorize the sealing thereof has been produced to me this..... day of, 20.....

.....
(Signature of Registrar)

FORM 2

[ORDER 3 RULE 4 (1)

(Writ of Summons in Action in Personam)

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

IN THE JUDICIAL DIVISION

ADMIRALTY IN

Suit No.

BETWEEN

A.B. Plaintiff

AND

C.D. Defendant

You are hereby commanded that within thirty days after the service of this writ on you, inclusive of the day such service you do cause an appearance to be entered for you in an action at the suit of A.B., and take notice that the default of you so doing the plaintiff may proceed therein, and judgement may be given in your absence.

DATED thisday of, 20.....

.....
Registrar Memorandum

to be subscribed on the writ.

N.B. This writ is to be served within the twelve Calendar months from the date thereof, if renewed, within six Calendar months from the date of the last renewal including the day of such date, and not afterwards. The defendant may enter appearance personally or by legal practitioner either by handling in the appropriate forms duly completed at the Registry of the Federal High Court of the Judicial Division in which the action is brought or by sending them to the Registry by registered post.

Endorsement to be made on the writ before issue thereof.

FORM 3

[ORDER 3 RULE 3 (2) (c) AND RULE 4 (e)(iii)]
(Summons to Witness Requiring Subpoena)

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

IN THE JUDICIAL DIVISION

ADMIRALTY IN

Suit No.

BETWEEN

..... Plaintiff (s)

AND

..... Defendant (s)

Whereas the plaintiff/defendant has listed your name as a prospective witness in this case and has indicated that a subpoena will be needed to get you to testify at the trial; whereas the rules of practice and procedure of this Court require every witness to reduce his intended testimony in writing under oath for same to be filed in the Registry of the Court by the party calling the witness, for the service on the opposite party; Now therefore, you are hereby ordered to deliver to the above-named plaintiff(s) / defendants(s) or his/her legal practitioner at the address indication below, on or below the day of, 20..... your written statement (i.e. your intended testimony) on oath, concerning the case,

TAKE NOTICE that if you fail to deliver the statement as aforesaid, you will be guilty of contempt of the Court and a Bench Warrant for arrest and / or committal to prison may be issued against you.

DATED thisday of, 20.....

Address at which the statement is to be delivered :

To plaintiff (s) / defendant(s) :

C/o.

.....
Registrar

Note :

(a) This summons is to served with the pleadings of the party calling the witness.

(b) The witness will still be required to attend Court when duly notified, or a formal adoption of the written statement on oath and to tender exhibits if need be, and be cross-examined.

FORM 4
(ORDER 3 RULE 7)
(Writ for Service Out of Jurisdiction)
ADMIRALTY ACTIONS IN PERSONAM
IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

IN THE JUDICIAL DIVISION

Suit No.

BETWEEN

To : C.D.

You are hereby commanded that within(here insert the number of days directed by the Court or Judge ordering the service or notice) on you, inclusive of the day such service you do cause an appearance to be entered for you in Judicial Division of the Federal High Court in an action at the suit of A.B., and take notice that the default of you so doing the plaintiff may proceed therein, and judgement may be given in your absence.

DATED thisday of, 20.....

.....
Registrar

MEMORANDUM TO BE SUBSCRIBED ON THE WRIT.

N.B. : This writ is to be served within the twelve Calendar months from the date thereof, if renewed, within six Calendar months from the date of the last renewal including the day of such date, and not afterwards.

The defendant (or defendants) may appear hereto entering appearance (or appearances) either personally or by legal practitioner at the Registry of the Federal High Court of the Judicial Division in which the writ is issued.

This writ was served, etc. (as in Form 1)

Endorsement to be made on the writ before issue thereof

N.B. : This writ is to be used where the defendant or all defendants or one or more defendants is or are out of jurisdiction.

When the defendant to be served is not a citizen of Nigeria, notice of this writ and not the writ itself is to be served upon him.

Note : The above endorsement "N.B" must be on every writ or concurrent writ for service out of jurisdiction, or of which notice is to be served out jurisdiction. The endorsement "N.B." need not be made on a writ against defendants domiciled abroad, but on whom it is intended to serve within the jurisdiction.

See also notes to Form 1, supra

FORM 5

(ORDER 3 RULE 8)

GENERAL FORM OF ORIGINATING SUMMONS

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

IN THE JUDICIAL DIVISION

ADMIRALTY IN

Suit No.

BETWEEN

A.B. Plaintiff (s)

AND

C.D. Defendant (s)

To, C.D. of in the of

Let of in within thirty days after service of this summons on him, inclusive of the day of such service, cause an appearance to be entered for him to this summons which is issued upon the application of of who claim the following reliefs (state the nature of the claim), for the determination of the following questions: (state the questions).

DATED thisday of, 20.....

This summons was taken out by legal practitioners for the above-named

The defendant may appear hereunto by entering appearance personally or by a legal practitioner either by filing the appropriate processes in response at the Registry of the Court where the summons was issued or by sending them to that office by any of the methods allowed by these Rules.

Note : If the defendant does not respond within the time at the place above mentioned, such orders will be made and proceedings may be taken as the Judge may think just and expedient.

FORM 6

(ORDER 4 RULE 3)

PRELIMINARY ACT

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

IN THE JUDICIAL DIVISION

ADMIRALTY IN

Suit No.

BETWEEN

A.B. Plaintiff (s)

AND

C.D. Defendant (s)

Preliminary Act on behalf of

PART 1

1. The names of the ships which came into collision and their ports of registry.

2. The length, breadth, gross tonnage, beam, horsepower and draught at the material time of the ship and the nature and tonnage of any cargo carried by the ship.

3. The date and time (including the time zone) of the collision.

4. The place of the collision.

5. The direction and force of the wind.

6. The state of the weather.

7. The state, direction and force of the tidal or other current.

8. The position, the course steered and speed through the water of the ship when the other ship was first seen or immediately before any measures were taken with reference to her presence, whichever was the earlier.

9. The lights or shapes (if any) carried by the ship.

10.—(a) The distance and bearing of the other ship of and when her echo was first observed by radar. (b) The distance, bearing and approximate heading of the other ship when first seen.

11. The light or shape or combination of lights or shapes (if any) of the other ship when first seen.

12. Other lights or shapes or combination of lights or shapes (if any) of the other ship subsequently seen before the collision, and when.

13. The alterations (if any) made to the course and speed of the ship after the earlier of the two times referred to in rule 2 (h) of this Order up to the time of collision, and when, and what measures (if any) other than alterations of course or speed, taken to avoid the collision, and when.

14. The leading of the ship, the parts of each ship which first came into contact and the approximate angle between the two ships at the moment of contact.

15. The sound signals (if any) given, and when.

16. The sound signals (if any) heard from the other ship, and when.

PART 2

State :

- (1) that the information in Part 1 is incorporated in Part 2 ;
- (2) any other facts and matters upon which the party filing this Preliminary Act relies ;
- (3) all allegations of negligence or other fault on which the party filing this Preliminary Act relies ;
- (4) the relief or remedy which the party filing this Preliminary Act claims.

Statement of Truth

- (I believe) (The Plaintiff believes) that the facts stated in this Preliminary Act are true.
- I am duly authorized by the plaintiff / defendant to sign this statement.

Full name (Plaintiff)

Name of Plaintiff/Defendant's solicitor's firm

Signedposition or office held.....

- Plaintiff / Defendant's representative (if signing on behalf of firm or company).
- Delete as appropriate.

FORM 7

(ORDER 7 RULE 1 (11), 2 AND 5)

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

HOLDEN AT NIGERIA

Suit No.

ADMIRALTY ACTION IN REM AGAINST ; (A).....

BETWEEN

..... Plaintiff (s)

AND

..... Defendant (s)

Warrant of arrest and detentions of :

(a) presently at (b)

To the Admiralty Marshal of the Federal High Court and to all and singular his substitute.

Whereas it appears that the (c) presently at is about to leave Nigeria outside the jurisdiction of the Court (d)

The plaintiff's claim is as per the writ of summons being served along with this warrant.

This is therefore to require and order you forthwith to arrest and detain the said (e) and to keep same under detention until you shall receive further order (s) from the Court.

MADE by the Presiding Judge and under the SEAL of the Court, the day of, 20.....

.....
Presiding Judge

Notes :

(a) If a ship, Name of ship, if cargo or other property, description of cargo or other property.

(b) State location of ship or cargo/name of custodian of cargo in respect of which it is due / if freight, its location.

(c) State name of ship.

(d) If cargo, paragraph should read :

Whereas it appears that the cargo of Presently on which freight is currently in the custody is about to be taken out of the jurisdiction of the Court and / or dissipated.

(e) Name of ship or description of cargo or freight and the cargo in respect of which it is payable.

FORM 8

(ORDER 8 RULE 1)

PRAECIPE FOR CAVEAT AGAINST ARREST

(Description of Property or name of ship)

IN ADMIRALTY

We.....of(Solicitors for

Request a caveat against the arrest of (description of property giving name, if a ship) and hereby undertake to acknowledge issue or service of the writ in any action that may be begun in the Federal High Court against the said and within 3 working days after receiving notice that such an action has begun, to give bail in the action in the sum not exceeding N or to pay that sum into Court. We consent that the writ of summons and any other document in the action may be left for us at

DATED thisday of, 20.....

..... (Signed)

FORM 8A

[ORDER 7 RULE 1 (6)]

REPORT OF SEARCH OF CAVEAT AGAINST ARREST REGISTER

..... (Description of Property or name of ship)

IN ADMIRALTY

Further to a search of the caveat against arrest register byon theday of, 20....., I confirm as follows :

- * There is no caveat against the arrest of the above stated filed in the Admiralty Registry of this Judicial Division of the Court.
- * There is a caveat(s) against the arrest of the above stated..... filed in the Admiralty Registry of this Judicial Division of the Court. The details of the filed caveat(s) are as follows :

- (a) Name of Caveator :
- (b) Caveator's Contact Details :
- (c) Form of Security :

DATED thisday of, 20.....

..... (Signed)

FORM 9

[ORDER 8 RULE 4 (2) (b)]

BAIL BOND

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

IN THE JUDICIAL DIVISION

IN ADMIRALTY

Suit No.

BETWEEN

..... Plaintiff

AND

..... Defendant

WHEREAS this Admiralty action in rem against the above-mentioned property is pending in the Federal High Court and the parties to the said action are the above-mentioned plaintiffs and defendants.

NOW, THEREFORE, we "A.B." and "C.D." ofhereby jointly and severally submit ourselves to the jurisdiction of the said Court and consent that if they, the above - mentioned defendants (or plaintiffs in the case of a counter-claim) do not pay what may be adjudged against them in this action, with costs, or do not pay any sum due to be paid by them in consequence of any admission of liability therein or under any agreement by which this action is settled before the judgement and which is filed in the said Court, executive may issue against us, our executors or administrators, goods and chattels, for the amount unpaid, or an amount of ₦ whichever is the less.

.....
(Signed)

This Bail Bond was signed by the said A.B. and C.D.,
The sureties, thisday of, 20.....
Before me

.....
Commissioner for Oaths.

FORM 10

[ORDER 8 RULE 7]

PRAECIPE FOR CAVEAT AGAINST RELEASE

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA

IN THE JUDICIAL DIVISION

Suit No.

ADMIRALTY ACTION IN REM

BETWEEN

A.B. Plaintiff

AND

C.D. & E.F. Defendant

(Description of Property or name of ship)

We,Solicitor/Agent for of request the entry of a Caveator with respect to the Above-mentioned property pursuant to Order

The intending Caveator claims to have a right of action in rem against the above-mentioned property for [state nature of claim, e.g. salvage, collision damage and the approximate amount claimed if known].

DATED thisday of, 20.....

.....
(Signed)

B 4158

FORM 11

[ORDER 8 RULE 10]

PRAECIPE FOR WITHDRAWAL OF CAVEAT

(Description of Property or name of ship)

We, A.B. of (Address) (Solicitors for the Owners of the X) of (Address) request that the Caveat (state nature of Caveat) entered on the day of, 20..... on behalf of the Owners of X be withdrawn.

DATED thisday of, 20.....

.....
(Signed)

FORM 12
[ORDER 10 RULE 1 (2)]
RELEASE

To the Chief Registrar of the Federal High Court and to all singular, his substitutes.
WHEREAS in this action you were ordered to arrest the
and to keep same under safe custody until you receive further Orders from the
Court.

Now you are hereby ordered to release the said from the
arrest effected by virtue of the Warrant in this action.

MADE by the Presiding Judge.

At this.....day of, 20.....

.....
(Signed)

FORM 13

[ORDER 19 RULE 2]

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT

HOLDEN AT NIGERIA

Suit No.

BETWEEN

..... Plaintiff(s)

AND

..... Defendant(s)

WARRANT OF ARREST AND DETENTION of

PRESENTLY AT

To the Chief Registrar of the Federal High Court and to all his authorized officers.

WHEREAS it appears that the Presently at is about to leave Nigeria.

The plaintiffs claim is as per the writ of summons being served along with this warrant of arrest.

This is therefore to require and order you forthwith to arrest and detain the said and to keep same under detention until you shall receive further order(s) from the Court.

MADE by the Presiding Judge and under the SEAL of the Court, the day of, 20.....

.....
Presiding Judge

MADE at Abuja this 18th day of May, 2023.

JOHN TERHEMBA TSOHO, FICMC, OFR
Chief Judge of Federal High Court

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note does not form Part of the above rules but is intended to explained their purport)

These Rules provide for the rules of procedure to be followed in the Federal High Court in Admiralty actions and accordingly revoke the Admiralty Jurisdiction Procedure Rules, 2011.