LEGISLATIVE POWER

LAW No. 4033

ON CONSULAR FEES

THE CONGRESS OF THE PARAGUAYAN NATION APPROVES WITH THE FORCE OF LAW

LAW

TITLE I
FUNDAMENTAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I
Nature of charges

Article 1.- Taxable acts and documents: the following are subject to the payment of consular fees, which are levied as charges for the intervention and actions of national consulates abroad:

a) public or private documents from foreign sources intended to produce legal effects in the territory of the Republic; and

b) public or private documents issued within the territory of the Republic, intended to have legal effect abroad.

Article 2.- Administration of consular income: the administration of consular income is the responsibility of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, subject to the General National Budget Law.

Article 3.- Currency: the present consular fee schedule shall be in United States Dollars, and shall be applied in a fixed and uniform manner for all consulates and national consular sections of diplomatic representations abroad; as well as for fees *that* are deferred and paid at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in accordance with Article 6 of the present Law; except for those countries where the legal currency is the Euro, in which case the amounts may be collected in that currency. The Ministry of Finance shall establish the mechanism for converting foreign currencies into United States dollars. Fees may also be collected in other currencies, provided that written authorisation is obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which in turn shall regulate the special conditions for collection and accountability in the different countries.

Article 4.- Tariff Classification: the actions that give rise to the collection of tariff duties are systematised as follows:

CHAPTER I. NAVIGATION

a) Maritime or river transport. **(Section 1)**

b) Crew. (Section 2)

c) Miscellaneous operations on ships. (Section 3)

d) Damages and disputes. **(Section 4ª)**

CAP. II. AIR NAVIGATION

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CHAPTER IV. LAND TRANSPORT

CHAPTER V. TRADE

a) Import operations. (Section 1ª)

b) Miscellaneous operations. (Section 2)

CHAPTER VI. CIVIL STATUS OF PERSONS

CHAPTER VII. PASSPORTS AND OTHER IDENTITY DOCUMENTS

CHAPTER VIII. NOTARIAL ACTIONS

CHAPTER IX. MISCELLANEOUS

CHAPTER X. SPECIAL CUSTOMS DUTIES CHAPTER XI.

LEGAL ACTS

CHAPTER II
Regulatory provisions

Article 5.- Application of the Tariff: consular offices may not charge fees higher than those set forth in this tariff.

All documents shall bear the following information:

1- The consular registry number.

2- The reference to the paragraphs, notes or articles of the fee schedule corresponding to the fees charged.

3- The total amount of fees collected and their equivalent in the currency in which they were paid.

In the case of free-of-charge actions, this circumstance shall be noted with the legend "NOT CHARGED" and a reference to the relevant legal provision.

Article 6.- Method of collection of fees: unless otherwise provided in this Law or in the regulations to be issued, consular officials are required to collect the amount, in accordance with Article 3 of this Law, in the form of the corresponding stamps, which must be affixed to the documents and immediately cancelled, unless the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regulates the use of other forms of proof of payment.

In cases authorised by this Law or, exceptionally, due to lack of funds, with prior authorisation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, documents shall be stamped "TO BE REPLACED", with payment deferred until the signatures are certified by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Paraguay.

Article 7.- Originals and copies of documents: unless otherwise provided in this tariff, the fee for the original of a document does not cover copies or duplicates.

Article 8.- Consular offices shall require exporters to present the corresponding commercial invoice endorsed either by the trade association for the products in question, by the binational chambers of commerce, or by institutions specifically authorised to issue certificates of origin

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Article 9.- Vessels: for the purposes of this tariff, "vessel" shall be understood to mean any type of craft, whether or not it has its own propulsion.

With the exception of tugs, regardless of their tonnage, the provisions of this tariff shall not apply to vessels of less than 100 (one hundred) gross registered tonnes.

This tariff exempts from all types of consular duties national or foreign warships and, in general, those not intended to obtain financial gain from the transport of passengers or goods.

Article 10.- Tonnage of ships. Calculation: when consular fees in this tariff refer to the tonnage of ships, the minimum tonnage shall be taken as 100 (one hundred) gross registered tonnes, even if the exact tonnage is less.

For ships of more than one hundred gross registered tonnes, the basis for calculation shall be the multiple of 100 (one hundred) that coincides with the exact tonnage or immediately exceeds it.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs may authorise, by means of a reasoned decision, the calculation of the Consular Tariff on the basis of the net tonnage of the vessel in order to honour the international commitments assumed by the Republic of Paraguay.

TITLE II
TARIFF TABLE

Article 11.- Tariff Rights: the tariff provisions set forth below shall govern all consular actions.

Paragraphs	Actions	U$S
	CHAPTER I-NAVIGATION **SECTION 1. MARITIME OR RIVER TRANSPORT**	
1.	Each endorsement of the original cargo manifest of a vessel, at its port of departure.	0.45
2.	Each endorsement of the original cargo manifest of a ship, at its port of call abroad.	0.30
	NOTE 1.- The charges in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be calculated per gross tonne of the ship in question.	
3.	The endorsement of each of the other original copies of the cargo manifests relating to calls at national ports.	15.00
4.	Each endorsement of documents correcting errors or omissions in the documents referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3.	30.00
5.	Each endorsement of a cargo manifest not destined for a Paraguayan port.	15.00
6.	Each ballast manifest endorsement for a vessel.	0.10
	NOTE 2.- The tax shall be calculated for each tonne of gross tonnage of the vessel in question.	
7.	The endorsement of each of the other original copies of the ballast manifests relating to calls at national ports	10.00

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8.	Each visa for documents correcting errors or omissions in the documents referred to in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7.	30.00
9.	Each endorsement of a ship's cargo manifest.	15.00
10.	Each certificate issued by a Consulate, stating the the Captain's declaration that the ship will not take cargo in a Paraguayan port.	30.00
11.	Each visa for a ship's health certificate, per voyage.	0.30
	NOTE 3.- The tax shall be calculated for each tonne of gross tonnage of the vessel in question.	
12.	Each receipt, storage, and return of books and papers of a ship.	15.00
	SECTION 2. CREW	
13.	Each endorsement of the crew list or roster of a ship.	0.10
	NOTE 4.- The tax shall be calculated for each tonne of gross tonnage of the vessel in question.	
14.	Each certification or endorsement of appointment or replacement of the Captain of a vessel.	45.00
15.	All documentation for the embarkation or disembarkation of skippers, stewards, pilots, engineers or any other officer, crew member or equivalent.	3.00
	NOTE 5.- The following shall be free of charge for actions relating to the embarkation of sailors, stokers or service personnel of any kind.	
16.	Each certificate to accredit the travel of students or assistants to engineers, pilots, navigation engineers and the endorsement of such documents.	3.00
	3. SECTION. MISCELLANEOUS OPERATIONS ON SHIPS	
17.	Each authorisation of a logbook or navigation log, a new role or any other ship's logbook.	15.00
18	Each issue, renewal or extension of a pass or navigation letter.	140.00
19.	Each visa for permits for tonnage measurement, re-measurement, repair, careening of vessels or other similar purposes.	30.00

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20.	Each endorsement of a contract for the exchange or sale of a vessel, its rigging, or any other interest in the ownership thereof, including contracts for incorporation, dissolution, capital increase, adjustments, and account settlements.	150.00
21	Each endorsement of a bulk loan agreement, with or without ship mortgage.	75.00
22.	Each endorsement of a ship's inventory.	0.10
23.	Each endorsement of a deed or certificate of change of flag of a vessel.	0.30
	NOTE 6.- The tax referred to in paragraphs 22 and 23 shall be calculated for each tonne of gross tonnage of the vessel in question.	
24.	Each registration of a ship built for Paraguayan registry.	120.00
25.	Each endorsement or issuance of a certificate of registration of tonnage, including copies or certificates.	135.00
26.	Each endorsement of a ship charter party.	60.00
	4" SECTION. DAMAGES AND DISPUTES	
27.	Each intervention by the Consular Office to examine or review outstanding accounts between shipowners and captains.	75.00
	NOTE 7.- The charge corresponds to the entire intervention of the Consular Office and includes the performance of inherent functions, such as the examination and application of expert reports and the awarding of the rights corresponding to each party. Consular fees shall be paid in equal parts by the interested parties. Whenever the rights of ship crew members are affected, the latter shall receive a 50% (fifty per cent) reduction in the amount they are required to pay under this tariff.	
28.	For each action or arbitration award on settlement of accounts, settlement of breakdowns and other disputes. On the resulting net amount.	3%
29.	For each instrument of deposit of goods or salvage from a ship, whether the Consul acts ex officio or at the request of an interested party.	150.00
	NOTE 8.- The tax is independent of the storage fees payable to the depositary.	
30.	Each file prepared at the request of the Captain or other interested parties, concerning forced arrival, ship damage and other navigation incidents. For each page of the file.	5.00

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31.	Each case investigated at the request of the Captain or other interested parties concerning damage to goods, seizures, embargoes on the ship or cargo, or similar acts. On the resulting liquid amount.	3%
32.	Each entry in the ship's logbooks or in the corresponding consular register corresponding consular register, of the protest notes made by the Captain of the vessel or by other interested parties.	45.00
33.	Each consular intervention related to tenders or public auctions of ship hulls or their remains, or goods, as a result of a shipwreck or damage.	1.5%
34.	For any action not mentioned herein and related to this Chapter.	30.00
	NOTE 9.- Whenever the actions provided for in this Chapter give rise to notarial actions by the Consulate, the provisions of Chapter 8 shall also apply.	
	CHAPTER II-AIR NAVIGATION	
35.	Each visa for the documentation of a commercial aircraft on a regularly established route, when requested.	30.00
36.	Each endorsement of the documentation of an aircraft on a non-commercial flight, upon presentation of the permit to fly over national territory.	8.00
37.	For any action not mentioned herein and related to this Chapter.	15.00
	NOTE 10.- In the case of paragraphs 35 and 36, there shall be no charge. the health certificate visa corresponding to the aircraft and its crew.	
	CHAPTER III—RAIL TRANSPORT	
38.	Each visa in the documentation for each passenger carriage passenger carriage with its wagons bound for national territory, when requested.	9.00
39.	Each endorsement for the correction of errors or omissions in the documentation referred to in the previous paragraph.	18.00
	CHAPTER IV-LAND TRANSPORT	
40.	Each endorsement of a vehicle's cargo manifest M fo ler.	15.00

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41.	Each endorsement on the cargo manifest corresponding to each trailer unit.	15.00
	NOTE 11.- The endorsement refers to each document for each vehicle and each trailer, with the exception of those manifests that are drawn up in accordance with knowledge of goods coming from overseas and which are transhipped.	
42.	Each endorsement of the transport documentation for transport for passengers on regularly scheduled routes, when requested.	15.00
43.	For any action not mentioned herein and related to this Chapter.	15.00
CHAPTER V-TRADE		
1" SECTION. IMPORT OPERATIONS		
ot.	Each endorsement of a set of commercial invoices in four copies.	15.00
45.	Each endorsement of additional copies of commercial invoices, for each copy.	5.00
46.	Each endorsement of the original or negotiable copy of a bill of lading corresponding to sea, river, rail, and land shipments.	15.00
47.	Each endorsement of copies of the bills of lading referred to referred to in the previous paragraph, per copy.	5.00
48.	Each endorsement of documents correcting errors or omissions in the documents referred to in the preceding paragraphs.	30.00
49.	Each endorsement of documentation for the introduction of live cattle.	2.00
	NOTE 12.- Only certificates per livestock unit referred to in the documentation will be accepted.	
50.	Each endorsement of the original certificate of origin.	25.00
51	Each endorsement of the copy of the document referred to in the previous paragraph.	5.00
	NOTE 13.- Only certificates of origin issued by the trade association for the products in question, or by binational chambers of commerce or institutions specially authorised to issue certificates of origin, shall be accepted. Consular offices may not issue certificates of origin.	

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52.	Each endorsement of a shipping manifest, packing list, price list, or similar document.	12.00
	NOTE 14.- The payment provided for in paragraphs 78 and 79 to the documents referred to in this section (from paragraph 44 to paragraph 52).	
	SECTION 2. MISCELLANEOUS OPERATIONS	
53.	Each legalisation of a certificate in favour of foreign commercial companies proving that they are incorporated in accordance with the laws of their country of domicile.	150.00
	NOTE 15.- Consular offices may not issue the certificate referred to in the previous paragraph.	
54.	Each legalisation of the original document for the transfer of trademarks, trade names and patents.	120.00
55.	Each legalisation or endorsement of a copy of the document referred to in the previous paragraph.	30.00
56.	Each legalisation of the original of authorisations to extend or renew trademarks and patents.	120.00
57.	Each legalisation or endorsement of a copy of the document referred to in the previous paragraph.	30.00
58.	Each legalisation of the original formula for each chemical product, for commercial purposes.	80.00
59.	Each legalisation or endorsement of a copy of the document referred to referred to in the previous paragraph.	30.00
60.	For any action not mentioned and related to this Chapter.	40.00
	CHAPTER VI-CIVIL STATUS OF PERSONS	
61.	Each registration of a birth certificate or record in the corresponding books.	5.00
62.	Each registration of a death certificate or record in the corresponding registers.	5.00
63.	Any other action or annotation relating to the civil status of persons.	5.00
	Each entry in the consular office's record books of a foreign court ruling relating to the civil status of persons and/or its legalisation.	45.00
	NOTE 16.- The fees in paragraphs 61, 62, 63 and 64 include the issuance of a certificate by the consular offices. Any additional certificates requested will be charged at the same rate as the original entries.	

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65.	Each visa or legalisation of the following documents relating to the civil status of persons, not issued by consular offices. a) Birth. b) Marriage. c) Death.	15.00 15.00 15.00
	CHAPTER VII-PASSPORTS AND OTHER IDENTITY DOCUMENTS	**ENTITY**
66.	For each issuance, renewal or extension of passports the following fees shall apply: a) Issuance. b) Renewal or extension.	40.00 15.00
	NOTE 17.- A 50% (fifty per cent) surcharge will be applied when the passport includes minor children in addition to the holder.	
67.	The following fees are established for each type of visa in foreign passports: a) Permanent or temporary resident visa. b) Non-resident visa for one entry. c) Non-resident visa for multiple entries.	120.00 50.00 85.00
	NOTE 18. a) Visas will be free of charge in ordinary passports issued by those states that stamp Paraguayan passports free of charge, in accordance with the principle of reciprocity. b) Visas in diplomatic, official, or service passports of those States that grant equal treatment to Paraguay shall be free of charge, as shall those applied to passports or similar documents issued by international organisations. c) A fee higher or lower than the basic fee established in paragraph 67 may be charged for visas in ordinary passports of those States that set an amount higher or lower than that established in this Law, in accordance with the principle of reciprocity and subject to prior authorisation and regulations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	
68.	Each visa or legalisation of background certificates police, judicial or equivalent.	20.00
69.	Each visa and/or registration of a judicial decision on naturalisation or a letter of citizenship of a naturalised citizen and the issuance of the corresponding testimoni te.	60.00

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70.	Each issuance of a certificate of nationality, except in the case provided for in the preceding paragraph.	15.00
71.	Each issuance, endorsement or legalisation of a travel permit, safe-conduct pass and certificate of life and residence issued by consular offices.	**15.00**
	CHAPTER VIII—NOTARIAL ACTIONS	
	NOTE 19.- In any notarial act in which the Consul acts as a Notary Public, a fee shall be charged equal to that provided for in the Notary Fees Act. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall regulate this provision.	
	NOTE 20.- Notarial acts performed before consular officials shall have the same force and validity as those performed in the Republic before Notaries Public. To that end, the formalities and rules set forth in the laws and in the agreements of the Supreme Court of Justice shall be observed in all applicable matters.	
	CHAPTER IX-MISCELLANEOUS	
72.	Each legalisation or certification of signatures, study certificates, diplomas or programmes corresponding to secondary education. Unless otherwise provided for in international agreements or treaties.	10.00
73.	Each legalisation or certification of signatures, academic certificates, diplomas and programmes corresponding to university education. Unless otherwise provided for in international agreements or treaties.	20.00
	NOTE 21.- The legalisation of study certificates , diplomas and programmes corresponding to primary education shall be free of charge.	
74.	Each legalisation or certification of signatures on any document not listed in this tariff.	20.00
75.	Each certification of any document registered in the books of the consular offices, per page.	20.00
	NOTE 22.- Paragraph 75 shall apply to all cases not covered by this tariff.	
76.	For the safekeeping of any files, records or other documents, for each year or fraction of a year.	30.00
77.	For the voluntary deposit of money, jewellery, securities, shares or similar documents, for each year or fraction of a year. and	**1%**

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	NOTE 23.- The Ministry of Finance may instruct consular offices to collect fees or other charges in accordance with domestic legislation, in which case the Consul shall be entitled to a commission of 8% (eight per cent) of the amount collected as personal remuneration, which shall be recorded in the corresponding Budget Classifier.	
	CHAPTER X—SPECIAL CUSTOMS DUTIES	**S**
78.	For each application for legalisation, visa or consular action, regardless of the other fees in this tariff, as compensation for the administrative expenses of the consular office.	15
	NOTE 24.- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall regulate the manner of collection, distribution and accounting of the revenues collected under this concept.	
79.	For each additional document, copy or action related to the previous paragraph, provided that it is submitted on the same day.	5.00
	NOTE 25.- Whenever the Consul is required to act outside the seat of his or her functions, the official shall receive, in addition to corresponding travel expenses, if any, and a fee of US$30 for each day or fraction of a day.	
	NOTE 26.- Whenever exemptions from duties are granted, they shall not extend to the proceedings of this Chapter. Likewise, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall have the power to exempt the application of paragraphs 78 and 79, in accordance with the circumstances and specific cases that warrant it.	
	CHAPTER XI-LEGAL ACTS	
80.	For each legalisation of a general power of attorney.	100.00
81.	For each legalisation of a special power of attorney.	80
82.	For each legalisation of the testimony of a deed of incorporatio of commercial companies.	150.00
83.	For each legalisation of the testimony of a deed of civil, non-profit companies.	30.00
84.	For each legalisation of the testimony of any other legal act not listed in this tariff.	40.00
	NOTE 27.- For the purposes of applying the consular fee, each of the legal acts and/or actions mentioned in the corresponding deeds shall be considered, and the fee established for each paragraph shall be charged.	

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TITLE III
ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Article 12.- Collections: Collections from consular fees shall be remitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to be deposited in an account authorised by the Directorate General of the Treasury, in foreign currency, and shall be considered as "Institutional Resources" of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

These funds shall be used exclusively to finance the programmes included in the budget of said Ministry. The fees corresponding to Title II, Chapter X of this Tariff, "Special Tariff Fees," constitute resources corresponding to diplomatic and consular representations for operating and maintenance expenses within the limits of expenses established by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article 13.- A limit or percentage of consular income shall be established to cover the operating and maintenance costs of diplomatic missions and consular offices. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall regulate the limit or percentage of retention and the destination of the resources received for this purpose. The percentage of retention shall not exceed, in any case, 30^{0} /or (thirty per cent) of the revenue collected. The limits or percentages mentioned shall be related to the cost of living in each country and the level of revenue collected by each diplomatic mission and consular office.

Article 14.- Documentation: The Customs Authorities of the Republic shall not proceed with the clearance of imported goods unless the import documents provided for in the Customs Code have been endorsed or legalised, except for those originating from countries where the Republic of Paraguay is unable to provide this service efficiently due to the lack of a consulate or other situations of force majeure. In such cases, legalisation shall be carried out by Paraguayan Customs, and payment of the corresponding duty shall be deferred until that time. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall regulate the countries or cities that may benefit from this exception and shall organise the mechanism for the collection of duties within the national territory.

Article 15.- Violations and penalties: Any violation of the tariff provisions of this Law by importers shall be punished with a fine of up to three times the amount of unpaid duties, which shall be collected by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This provision shall be regulated by said Ministry.

Article 16.- Any public official to whom a document is presented without consular approval or legalisation, when such a requirement is mandatory, shall forward the relevant communication to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and suspend the procedure until the document is regularised with the payment of the corresponding duties and fines.

Article 17.- Poverty exemption: Paraguayan residents abroad, spouses and minor children with poverty exemption, as verified by the respective consular officials, shall be exempt from paying the fees corresponding to the necessary procedures provided for in this Law.

Officials shall grant this exemption exceptionally in essential cases and with restrictive criteria. sables y con cr



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Article 18.- Exemptions: The only exemptions from consular fees are those provided for in this Law and those established by special laws, provided that they expressly and specifically so provide. The generic exemption from taxes and fees in general does not exempt from the application of consular fees. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs may, by reasoned decision, exempt documents relating to humanitarian donations from the payment of customs duties, on a restrictive basis and as an exceptional measure.

Article 19.- Exceptions: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Directorate General of Consular Affairs, may, on an exceptional basis and for each specific case, authorise the legalisation or visaing of documents, regardless of their nature, origin or provenance.

Article 20.- Repeals: as of the date of publication of this Law, the following legal provisions are repealed: Law No. 1844 of 5 December 2001 "ON CONSULAR FEES", Law No. 2533 of 27 December 2004 "PARTIALLY AMENDING LAW No. 1844 OF 5 DECEMBER 2001 'ON CONSULAR FEES'
CONSULAR". Where applicable, Law No. 133 of 18 March 1993 "UPDATING THE FEES AND CHARGES ESTABLISHED IN DECREE-LAW No. 46 'ON
CONSULAR FEES', DATED 11 FEBRUARY 1972"; and its amendments Law No. 624/95 and Law No. 1030/97 and any legal provision contrary to this Law.

Article 21.- Communicate to the Executive Branch.

The Bill was approved by the Honourable Chamber of Senators on the thirtieth day of March in the year two thousand and ten, and was enacted by the Honourable Chamber of Deputies **on the seventeenth day of June in the year two thousand and ten,** in accordance with the provisions of Article 207, paragraph 1) of the National Constitution.

César Ariel Oviedo Verdún
President
Honourable Chamber of Deputies

Migu arrizosa Galiano
President
H. Advertising Chamber ad es

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Jan Artemio Barrios Cristaldo
Parliamentary Secretary

Orland iorotto S" ez
S Parliamentary Secretary

Asunción, e Julio of 2010

Let it be known as Law of the Republic, published inserted in the Official Register.
The President of the First Republic

Fernando Armindo Lugo Méndez

Héctor Ri**cardo Lac**ógñata Zaragoza
Mi**nistro de Rel Foreign** Affairs