

**Act on the State border of the Russian Federation**  
**1 April 1993(1)**

**Section I**  
**General provisions**

**Article 1**  
**State border of the Russian Federation**

The State border of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as "the State border", is the line, and the surface perpendicular to this line, defining the boundaries of the State territory (land, water, subsoil and airspace)) of the Russian Federation, that is, the spatial limit of the State sovereignty of the Russian Federation.

**Article 2**  
**Principles for establishing and changing the line of the State border and establishing and maintaining legal relations on the State border**

The State border of the Russian Federation is the border of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR), laid down under international treaties in force and the legislative acts of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). The borders of the Russian Federation with contiguous States which have not been formalized in an international legal relationship shall be laid down in treaties.

In establishing and changing the line of its State border and establishing and maintaining relations with foreign States on the State border and also regulating legal relations in the border areas (waters) of the Russian Federation and on international transport routes situated in Russian territory, the Russian Federation shall be guided by the following principles:

Ensuring the security of the Russian Federation and international security;  
Mutually advantageous comprehensive cooperation with foreign States;  
Mutual respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the inviolability of State borders;  
The peaceful resolution of border issues.

**Article 3**  
**Protection and guarding of the State border**

The protection of the State border as part of the system for ensuring the security of the Russian Federation and conducting the State border policy of the Russian Federation consists in the coordinated activities of federal bodies of the State authorities, the bodies of State authority of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local governmental bodies carried out by them within limits of their powers by taking political, organizational and legal, diplomatic, economic, defence, border, intelligence, counter-intelligence, operational-investigatory, customs, environmental-protection, sanitary and epidemiological, ecological and other measures. Organizations and citizens shall participate in these activities in accordance with the established procedure.

Measures to protect the State border shall be taken in accordance with the status of the State border

determined by international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and the legislation of the Russian Federation.

The Russian Federation shall cooperate with foreign States in protecting the State border on the basis of the generally recognized principles and norms of international law and international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation.

The protection of the State border shall ensure the vitally important interests of individuals, society and the State on the State border within the border territory (border zone, the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses, the internal maritime waters and the territorial sea of the Russian Federation, where a border regime has been established, passage points across the State border and also the territory of administrative districts and towns, sanatorium and health-resort areas, natural areas under special protection, sites and other areas adjoining the State border, the border zone, the shores of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses, and the seashore or passage points) and shall be carried out by all federal executive bodies in accordance with their powers established under the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Guarding the State border is an essential part of protecting the State border and shall be carried out by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation within the territory adjacent to the border, the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation in the airspace and underwater environment, and other forces (bodies) that maintain the security of the Russian Federation in the cases and in the manner determined by the legislation of the Russian Federation. The State border shall be guarded for the purpose of preventing illegal changes in the line of the State border, ensuring compliance by physical and juridical persons of the State border regime, the border-area regime and the regime at passage point across the State border. Measures for guarding the State border shall be considered in this Act as border measures.

Border measures shall be part of the system of security measures which are implemented within the framework of a unified State policy for maintaining security and correspond to threats to the vitally important interests of individuals, society and the State.

#### **Article 4** **Legislation on the State border**

Legislation on the State border is based on the constitution of the Russian Federation and international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and consists of this Act and other federal acts, laws and other normative legal acts of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation adopted in accordance with them.

If an international treaty concluded by the Russian Federation establishes regulations other than those contained in this Act and other legislative acts of the Russian Federation on the State border, the regulations set forth in the international treaty shall be applied.

### **Section II** **Establishment and changing of the borderline and marking of the State border**

#### **Article 5** **Establishment and changing of the line of the State border**

1. The line of the State border shall be established and changed through international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and federal laws.

Documents on changes or more precise demarcations of the line of the State border in an area carried out to verify the State border on the basis of international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation shall be implemented in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.

2. The line of the State border, unless otherwise stipulated in international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation, shall be established:

- (a) On land, along distinctive points, relief lines or clearly visible landmarks;
  - (b) At sea, along the outer limit of the territorial sea of the Russian Federation;
  - (c) On navigable rivers, along the middle of the main fairway or thalweg of the river; on unnavigable rivers and streams, along their middle or the middle of the river's main arm; on lakes and other water expanses, along an equidistant, median, straight, or other line joining the points where the State border intersects the shore of the lake or other water expanse. The State border running along a river, stream, lake or other water expanse shall not be shifted as a result of either a change in the contour of the river bank or lake shore or in the water level, or of a deviation of the course of the river or stream in any direction;
  - (d) On the reservoirs of hydraulic centres and other man-made water expanses, in accordance with the line of the State border running through the locality prior to their being filled;
  - (e) On bridges, dams and other structures traversing rivers, streams, lakes and other water expanses, along the centre of these structures or along their structural axis, irrespective of where the State border runs on the water.
3. Deleted.
4. Deleted.

#### Article 6 Demarcation of the State border

The State border shall be demarcated in areas by clearly visible border markers. The shape and dimensions of border markers and the procedure for placing them shall be determined by international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and decisions of the Government of the Russian Federation.

### Section III State border regime

#### Article 7 Maintenance and establishment of the State border regime

The State border regime shall include regulations on:

- Maintenance of the State border;
- Crossing of the State border by persons and means of transport;
- Transport of freight, goods and animals across the State border;
- Passage across the State border of persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals;
- Conducting economic, commercial and other activities on the State border or near it in the territory of the Russian Federation;
- Settlement with foreign States of incidents related to violations of these regulations.

The State border regime shall be established by this Act, other federal laws, and international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation.

With account taken of the mutual interests of the Russian Federation and contiguous States, separate regulations of the State border regime need not be established, and the nature of the regulations laid down may be simplified.

**Article 8**  
**Maintenance of the State border**

The regulations on maintenance of the State border shall govern the procedure for the establishment, preservation and maintenance in good order of border markers, control inspections of them, the equipment and maintenance of border clearings, and joint inspections of the State border with contiguous States.

Documents relating to joint inspections of the State border which do not contain changes in the border shall be approved by the Government of the Russian Federation.

In the interest of the proper maintenance of the State border, the border-service agencies and border troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as "the agencies and troops and the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation") shall, in the manner established under the legislation of the Russian Federation, be allotted for indefinite (permanent) use a strip of land running directly along the State border on land and, where necessary, along the shore of the Russian part of the waters of a border river, lake or other water expanse, in accordance with the rules established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

**Article 9**  
**Crossing of the State border by persons and means of transport**

The crossing of the State border on land by persons and means of transport shall be effected on international railway and automobile transit routes or in other places determined by international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation or decisions of the Government of the Russian Federation. These instruments may determine the time for crossing the State border and shall establish the procedure for proceeding from the State border to the passage point across the State border and in the opposite direction. During this procedure, it shall not be permitted to unload persons, freight, goods or animals or load them on means of transport.

A passage point across the State border means the area within a railway or coach terminal or station, seaport, river port, airport, or airfield open for international traffic (international flights), and also other, specially equipped places where border control and, when necessary, other types of control and passage across the State border by persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals are carried out.

The agencies and the troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall be granted the right to use, in coordination with the authorities of States that are contiguous with the Russian Federation, another procedure for the crossing of the State border by the military personnel of these agencies and troops and other persons in the performance of their duties to guard the State border.

Russian and foreign vessels, foreign warships and other national vessels operated for non-commercial purposes shall cross the State border on the sea, rivers, lakes and other water expanses in accordance with this Act, international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and federal laws.

The fifth, sixth and seventh paragraphs have been deleted.

Navigation on border rivers, lakes and other water expanses involving the crossing of the State border without calling at ports (roadsteads) of the Russian Federation and contiguous States shall be regulated by treaties

concluded by the Russian Federation with the contiguous States.

Foreign vessels, foreign warships and other national vessels operated for non-commercial purposes and Russian vessels, in proceeding from the State border to the passage point across the State border and in the opposite direction, shall, in navigating in the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses without calling at ports (roadsteads) of the Russian Federation, comply with the following requests by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation:

To show their flag, if for some reason, it has not been raised;

To change course if it is leading to an area where navigation is prohibited or which is temporarily dangerous for navigation or a security zone established around man-made islands, installations or structures;

To communicate the purpose of entering the territory of the Russian Federation;

Other requests provided for under the laws and other normative legal acts of the Russian Federation.

In proceeding from the State border to a passage point across the State border and in the opposite direction, the vessels referred to in the sixth paragraph of this article shall be prohibited (with the exception of the cases provided for under international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and laws and other normative legal acts of the Russian Federation) from:

(a) Calling at ports (roadsteads) of the Russian Federation that have not been opened by the Government of the Russian Federation for calls by foreign vessels;

(b) Entering areas that are prohibited or temporarily dangerous for navigation and security zones established around man-made islands, installations or structures if notification about such areas and zones has been made for general information;

(c) Stopping, disembarking (embarking) persons, unloading (loading) any freight, goods, currency or animals; lowering to the water or taking on board any floating devices; carrying out the take off, landing or taking on board any aircraft; or conducting commercial, research, surveying or other activities without the corresponding authorization to do so from the specially empowered federal executive bodies which guard the internal maritime waters and the territorial sea of the Russian Federation and their national resources within their jurisdiction, or with their authorization but in violation of the conditions for such authorization;

(d) Other actions prohibited under the legislation of the Russian Federation or international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation.

Aircraft shall cross the State border in specially designated flight corridors in compliance with the regulations laid down by the Government of the Russian Federation and published in air-navigation information documents. Crossing the State border outside the designated flight corridors, with the exception of the cases referred to in the twelfth paragraph of this article, shall be permitted only with the authorization of the Government of the Russian Federation.

In proceeding from the State border to a passage point across the State border and in the opposite direction and also in carrying out transit flights through the airspace of the Russian Federation, aircraft shall be prohibited (with the exception of the cases provided for under this Act) from:

(a) Landing in airports or airfields of the Russian Federation which have not been opened by the Government of the Russian Federation for international flights;

(b) Departing from airports or airfields of the Russian Federation which have not been opened by the Government of the Russian Federation for international flights. In specific cases involving special international flights, the departure of aircraft from the Russian Federation and also their landing after entering the airspace of the Russian Federation may be carried out from airports or airfields of the Russian Federation which have not been

opened for international flights only with the authorization by the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation or the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation granted in coordination with the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation, the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, the State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation;

- (c) Flying into areas prohibited for flights about which notification has been made for general information;
- (d) Other actions prohibited under the legislation of the Russian Federation or international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation.

In the interest of ensuring the security of the Russian Federation and also at the request of foreign States, the crossing of the State border at separate sections of it may, through a decision by the Government of the Russian Federation, be temporarily restricted or suspended, with notification given to the authorities of the States concerned.

In the event of an emergency situation arising from natural or technogenic causes, emergency rescue and reconstruction units (forces) shall cross the State border in order to bring under control and eliminate such situations in the manner set forth under international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and normative acts of the Government of the Russian Federation.

The emergency crossing of the State border by persons or means of transport on land, the entry of foreign vessels, foreign warships or other national vessels operated for non-commercial purposes into the territorial waters of the Russian Federation, or the emergency entry of aircraft into the airspace of the Russian Federation owing to the following emergency circumstances shall not be a violation of the regulations on crossing the State border:

An accident;

A wreck or a natural disaster threatening the safety of a foreign vessel (including aircraft), a foreign warship or other national vessel operated for non-commercial purposes;

A severe storm, ice flow or icy conditions threatening the safety of a foreign vessel, foreign warship or other national vessel operated for non-commercial purposes;

The towing of a damaged foreign vessel, foreign warship or other national vessel operated for non-commercial purposes;

The transport of rescued persons;

The provision of urgent medical assistance to crew members or passengers, and also owing to other emergency circumstances.

In cases involving the emergency crossing of the State border or the emergency non-compliance with the regulations set forth under this Act on the movement of vessels from the State border to the passage point across the State border or in the opposite direction, or the procedure for staying in the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses, the internal maritime waters, the territorial sea and the airspace of the Russian Federation, the master of a vessel, the commander of a warship and the commander of an aircraft must immediately so notify the administration of the nearest Russian seaport (river port) or the corresponding body of the unified air-traffic organization system, which shall inform the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation about that crossing of the State border, and shall thereafter act in accordance with their instructions or the instructions of the commander of a warship, the master of a seagoing or river vessel or the commander of an aircraft of the Russian Federation that has arrived in order to render assistance or determine the circumstances of what has occurred.

**Article 10**

**Movement of freight, goods and animals across the State border**

The movement of freight, goods and animals across the State border shall be carried out in the places and in the manner established under international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation, the legislation of the Russian Federation and decisions of the Government of the Russian Federation.

**Article 11**

**Passage of persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals across the State border**

The passage of persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals across the State border shall be carried out at the established passage points across the State border and shall consist in recognition of the legality of the crossing of the State border by persons and means of transport that have come to the territory of the Russian Federation and of the movement across the State border of freight, goods and animals into the territory of the Russian Federation, or in authorization for the crossing of the State border by persons and means of transport departing from the Russian Federation or the movement across the State border of freight, goods and animals beyond the Russian Federation.

The possession of valid documents on the right of persons to enter or depart from the Russian Federation and documents for means of transport, freight, goods and animals shall be the basis for the passage across the State border of persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals.

Foreign nationals and stateless persons who, in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation, are not permitted to enter the Russian Federation and also persons in respect of whom a decision has been taken to prohibit departure from the Russian Federation in the manner established under the legislation of the Russian Federation may not cross the State border.

A simplified procedure for the passage across the State border of nationals of the Russian Federation and a contiguous State with regard to the definition of the documents on the right to depart from the Russian Federation and to enter the Russian Federation may be established through a treaty concluded by the Russian Federation with a contiguous State.

The passage of persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals across the State border shall include border control (verification of the reasons for passage across the State border of persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals, inspection of means of transport, freight and goods in order to detect and detain violators of the regulations for crossing the State border and freight, goods and animals being transported which are prohibited under the legislation of the Russian Federation from being imported into or exported from the Russian Federation), and, where necessary, also customs, immigration, sanitary and quarantine, veterinary, phytosanitary, transport and other types of control.

The content, means, and methods of control and the procedures for carrying it out shall be established on the basis of federal laws through normative acts of the corresponding federal executive bodies coordinated with the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation and, in addition, with regard to ensuring the safety and health of persons, animals and plants, with the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation and the other federal executive bodies concerned.

Passage across the State border of Russian aircraft carrying out special international flights from airports and airfields that are not open for international flights and by foreign and Russian aircraft making emergency landings in unauthorized places shall be implemented by the agencies of the Federal Security Service of the Russian

Federation together with the administration of the airports and airfields or with the command of aviation units of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation with subsequent notification of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and other bodies of the Russian Federation concerned.

**Article 11.1**  
**Border-processing fee**

1. When border control is carried out in the case of departure from the Russian Federation, a fee shall be collected for border processing, the payment of which is mandatory throughout the territory of the Russian Federation.

The payment of the border-processing fee shall be an essential condition for carrying out border control in the case of departures from the Russian Federation.

2. Payment of the border-processing fee shall be made by:

Physical persons who are crossing the State border of the Russian Federation (with the exception of physical persons who are the owners of means of transport moving across the State border of the Russian Federation) (hereinafter referred to as "physical persons");

Physical and juridical persons who are the owners of means of transport moving across the State border of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as "owners of means of transport").

Any person concerned shall have the right to pay the border-processing fee for another person, unless otherwise stipulated under the legislation of the Russian Federation.

3. The border-processing fee shall be collected in the following amounts:

(1) In the case of physical persons, 80 per cent of the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

(2) In the case of owners of:

A passenger automobile, twice the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

A lorry or bus, the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Passenger aircraft with up to 50 seats, five times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Passenger aircraft with 50 to 100 seats, seven times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Passenger aircraft with 100 or more seats, ten times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Freight aircraft, seven times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Marine passenger vessels with up to 100 seats, seven times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Marine passenger vessels with 100 or more seats, ten times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

River passenger vessels, twice the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Marine freight vessels with a deadweight of up to 100 tons, three times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Marine freight vessels with a deadweight of 100 to 1,000 tons, five times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Marine freight vessels with a deadweight of 1,000 or more tons, seven times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

River freight vessels, the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Passenger railway cars, ten times the amount of the minimum wage established by law;

Railway freight cars, 20 per cent of the amount of the minimum wage established by law per car;  
Containers transported by railway, 15 per cent of the amount of the minimum wage established by law per container.

4. The following persons shall be exempt from payment of the border-processing fee:

Physical persons travelling to the Kaliningrad region from the rest of the territory of the Russian Federation and from the Kaliningrad region to the rest of the territory of the Russian Federation;

Owners of means of transport proceeding to the Kaliningrad region from the rest of the territory of the Russian Federation and from the Kaliningrad region to the rest of the territory of the Russian Federation;

Children under 14 years of age;

First- and second-category invalids and invalids from childhood of all categories;

Physical persons who are the owners of personal passenger automobiles and are first- or second-category invalids or invalids from childhood of all categories;

Physical persons travelling as part of special groups in order to provide assistance in eliminating the consequences of emergency situations brought about by natural or technogenic causes, and also the owners of means of transport travelling as part of such groups;

Physical persons from among the military and civilian personnel of Russian military contingents travelling to participate in peacemaking activities as part of multinational forces or collective peacekeeping forces, and also the owners of means of transport travelling as part of such forces;

Members of crews and brigades and the drivers of Russian and foreign means of transport in the performance of their official duties;

Employees of diplomatic missions and consular agencies of the Russian Federation and their family members, and also members of the diplomatic missions and consular agencies of foreign States in the Russian Federation and their family members;

Owners of means of transport that are diplomatic missions and consular agencies of the Russian Federation or diplomatic missions and consular agencies of foreign States in the Russian Federation;

Owners of personal automobiles, including proxy managers, the employees of diplomatic missions and consular agencies of the Russian Federation and also the employees of the diplomatic missions and consular agencies of foreign States in the Russian Federation;

Physical persons who are employees of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, employees of the Council of Europe and other international organizations in accordance with international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation, and also the members of official delegations of these organizations travelling across the State border of the Russian Federation to their destinations;

Physical persons who are the members of State, government and parliamentary delegations of the Russian Federation or of foreign States, and also the owners of the means of transport conveying such delegations;

Physical persons who have diplomatic passports, and also the owners of the means of transport conveying such persons;

Nationals of States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the owners of means of transport situated in the territory of those States (with the exception of the nationals of States which have instituted a border-processing fee, in respect of citizens of the Russian Federation and owners of means of transport situated in the territory of those States) during travel within the territory of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States;

Physical persons crossing the State border of the Russian Federation in accordance with international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation with contiguous States;

Owners of means of transport crossing the State border of the Russian Federation in accordance with international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation with contiguous States;

- Owners of means of transport providing fixed-route transport in areas adjacent to the border;
  - Owners of marine vessels engaged in sea fishing, research or other activities beyond the territorial sea of the Russian Federation without calling at foreign ports;
  - Physical persons in transit through the territory of the Russian Federation;
  - Owners of means of transport in transit through the territory of the Russian Federation;
  - Physical persons, including owners of personal passenger automobiles, who fought in the Second World War on the side of the States of the anti-Hitler coalition;
  - Physical persons, including owners of personal passenger automobiles, who are nationals of the Russian Federation permanently residing in the territory of the Russian Federation and own real estate in the territory of States that formerly were part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and who are travelling to the place where such property is located from the territory of the Russian Federation and in the opposite direction.
5. The procedure for collecting the border-processing fee shall be determined by the Government of the Russian Federation.

### Article 12 Opening of passage points across the State border

Passage points across the State border shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation on the basis of submissions by federal executive bodies and constituent entities of the Russian Federation coordinated with the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and other federal executive bodies concerned, with account taken of the interests of contiguous and other foreign States.

Passage points across the State border shall be opened after the federal executive bodies and constituent entities of the Russian Federation concerned have constructed, equipped and put into operation the corresponding buildings, premises, and structures on the basis of projects coordinated with the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and the customs and other agencies participating in control at passage points across the State border. In drawing up such projects, provision shall be made for the premises and structures necessary for organizing border and other types of control. The buildings shall be constructed and equipped through funds from the federal budget, the budgets of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, and funds of the federal executive bodies concerned which order the construction.

Organizations, irrespective of their form of ownership may provide free-of-charge, at passage points across the State border, service premises, installations and equipment which are necessary in order to carry out the activities of bodies engaged in border and other types of control and internal affairs agencies participating in the monitoring of compliance with the regime at passage points across the State border.

### Article 13 Conducting economic, commercial and other activities on the State border

1. Economic, commercial and other activities that involve crossing the State border and otherwise affect the interests of the Russian Federation or foreign States and are carried out by Russian or foreign juridical or physical persons, including jointly, directly on the State border or near it in the territory of the Russian Federation must not:

Harm the health of the population or the ecological or other security of the Russian Federation or contiguous or other foreign States or present a danger of inflicting such damage;

Impede the maintenance of the State border or the work of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation.

The activities referred to in the first paragraph of this article shall be carried out in accordance with international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation or other agreements with foreign States, in conformity with the regulations on crossing the State border and with notification of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation as to the places and times for crossing the State border and the work to be carried out, the number of participants, and commercial and other vessels, means of transport and other equipment and machinery to be used.

**Article 14**  
**Settlement of incidents related to violations of the State border regime**

The procedure for settling incidents related to violations of the State border regime, their referral to the jurisdiction of the border representatives of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation shall be determined by treaties concluded by the Russian Federation with contiguous States on the State border and its regime, other international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation, this Act and decisions by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Persons, aircraft, Russian and foreign marine and river vessels and warships, and other means of transport that have crossed the State border in violation of the regulations set forth under this Act shall be recognized as violators of the State border.

Foreign nationals and stateless persons who do not have the status of persons residing or staying in the territory of the Russian Federation and have crossed the State border from the territory of a foreign State and whose actions constitute a crime or administrative violation shall be held liable as provided under the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Where there are no grounds for instituting criminal proceedings or proceedings for administrative violations in respect of the violators of the State border referred to in the third paragraph of this article and they do not have the right to receive political asylum in accordance with the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall transfer them, in accordance with the official procedure, to the authorities of the State from whose territory they crossed the State border. If the transfer of violators to the authorities of a foreign State is not provided for under a treaty concluded by the Russian Federation with that State, the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall expel them from the Russian Federation at the places determined by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation. The expulsion of foreign nationals and stateless persons from the Russian Federation through passage points across the State border shall be reported to the authorities of the States to (or through) whose territory they are being expelled, if this is provided for under a treaty concluded by the Russian Federation with the corresponding State. Violators of the State border who have been subjected to administrative proceedings and in respect of whom a decision has been taken on their administrative expulsion shall be expelled from the Russian Federation in accordance with that procedure.

Nationals of the Russian Federation arriving at passage points across the State border who, during their stay abroad, have lost documents on the right to enter the territory of the Russian Federation shall remain at the passage point for the period of time necessary to establish their identity, but no longer than 30 days. The procedure and conditions for their stay at passage points across the State border shall be determined by the Government of the Russian Federation.

**Article 15**  
**Border representatives of the Russian Federation**

In order to settle questions relating to observance of the State border regime and to settle border incidents, border representatives of the Russian Federation (border commissioners and border agents and their deputies) shall be assigned to specific sections of the State border by the Director of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and in accordance with international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation.

In their activities, border representatives shall be guided by this Act, other federal laws, international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and the regulations on border representatives of the Russian Federation, approved by the Government of the Russian Federation.

The settlement of border incidents related to actions by Russian or foreign military aircraft or warships, other military facilities or military personnel (with the exception of the facilities or military personnel of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation when the need to prevent dangerous military activity is not affected) shall be carried out by representatives of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation with the participation, when necessary, of border representatives of the Russian Federation.

Issues and incidents that have not been settled by border representatives of the Russian Federation or representatives of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation shall be resolved through diplomatic channels.

**Section IV**  
**Border regime**

**Article 16**  
**Content and establishment of the border regime**

The border regime shall exclusively serve the purposes of creating the necessary conditions for guarding the State border and shall include regulations:

(1) In the border zone: concerning the entry (passage), temporary stay, and movement of persons and means of transport, economic, commercial and other activities, and the holding of mass public political, cultural and other events;

(2) In the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses, in the internal maritime waters and the territorial sea of the Russian Federation:

Concerning the inventory and maintenance of Russian small self-propelled and non-self-propelled (surface and underwater) vessels (equipment) and means of conveyance on ice, their navigation and movement on ice;

Concerning commercial, research, investigatory and other activities.

The second paragraph has been deleted.

The establishment of other border-regime regulations shall not be permitted. Any restriction of citizens' rights and freedoms shall be permitted only for the reasons and in the manner provided for by law.

A zone up to 5 kilometres in width along the State border on land, the seacoast of the Russian Federation,

the Russian shores of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses and islands on those expanses shall be included in the border zone. The areas belonging to populated areas, health resorts, holiday homes and other health institutions, cultural institutions (sites) and also places for mass recreation, active water use, the holding of religious ceremonies and other places where citizens traditionally spend time in large numbers need not be included in the border zone.

On the basis of the nature of the Russian Federation's relations with a contiguous State, a border zone need not be established on separate sections of the State border.

The boundaries of the border zone shall be determined, and warning signs shall be established through decisions by the executive bodies of constituent entities of the Russian Federation upon submissions by senior officials of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation in the territory of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

The sections (areas) of the internal waters of the Russian Federation within which the border regime is established shall be determined in the same manner.

The specific content and the spatial and temporal limits of the effect of the border-regime regulations provided for under this Act, and the range of persons in respect of whom one or other of those regulations applies shall be determined by decisions of the executive bodies of constituent entities of the Russian Federation in coordination with senior officials of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation in the territory of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and shall be published.

#### **Article 17**

#### **The entry (passage), temporary stay and movement of persons and means of transport in the border zone**

The entry (passage) of persons and means of transport into the border zone shall be carried out in accordance with identity documents and individual or collective passes issued by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation on the basis of personal applications submitted by citizens or applications by enterprises and their associations, organizations, establishments and public associations. The places of entry (passage) into the frontier zone shall be established. The time of entry (passage), itinerary, length of time and other conditions concerning the stay of persons and means of transport in the border zone may be specified.

#### **Article 18**

#### **Economic, commercial and other activities, the holding of mass public political, cultural and other events in the border zone**

Economic, commercial and other activities related to the use of land, forests, the subsoil and waters and the holding of mass public political, cultural and other events in the border zone shall be regulated by federal laws and the laws and other normative legal acts of constituent entities of the Russian Federation. Specific work projects and events shall be carried out with the permission of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation.

Permission to carry out work projects and activities, with the exception of the matters provided for under article 17 of this Act, shall include determination of the place and time for holding the activities, the number of participants, and the person responsible for conducting them. Permanent sites may be established for carrying out regular work projects and activities.

**Article 19**

**The keeping and grazing of livestock near the State border**

In order to prevent the spread of infectious diseases across the State border, the keeping and grazing of livestock may be prohibited or restricted in a belt (quarantine belt) along the State land border.

The quarantine belt, its width, the procedure for enclosing it and the veterinary regime applicable to it shall be established by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food of the Russian Federation or, on its instructions, by the veterinary-supervision bodies of constituent entities of the Russian Federation. The keeping and grazing of livestock in the border zone shall also be carried out in accordance with the procedure provided for under articles 17 and 18 of this Act.

**Article 20**

**Inventory, maintenance and use of Russian small vessels (equipment) and means of conveyance on ice**

Russian small self-propelled and non-self-propelled (surface and underwater) vessels (equipment) and means of conveyance on ice which are used in the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses, and in the internal maritime waters and the territorial sea of the Russian Federation, shall be subject to mandatory inventory and shall be kept at docks, mooring places and other basing areas. The procedure for the departure of these vessels and equipment from the basing areas and their return may be established with notification of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, and the time of departure, staying on the water (on ice), and removal from the basing areas and shores may be limited.

**Article 21**

**The carrying out of commercial, research, surveying and other activities in the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses and in the internal maritime waters and territorial sea of the Russian Federation**

1. Commercial, research, surveying and other activities shall be carried out in the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses and in the internal maritime waters and the territorial sea of the Russian Federation in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.
2. For the purposes of guarding the State border, the activities referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be carried out in the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses with the authorization of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, and in the internal maritime waters and the territorial sea of the Russian Federation with notification of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation. Information shall be provided on the places and times for conducting commercial, research, surveying or other activities, the number of participants, and the commercial and other vessels and other equipment used for this purpose.
3. Persons carrying out the activities referred to in paragraph 1 of this article without notification (authorization) of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation or with notification of them (with their authorization), but in violation of the conditions of such notification (authorization), shall incur the liability established under the legislation of the Russian Federation.

## Section V

### Regime at passage points across the State border

#### Article 22

##### Content and establishment of the regime at passage points across the State border

The regime at passage points across the State border shall include regulations on the entry into these points and the stay in and departure from them of persons and means of transport, and the import, stay and export of freight, goods and animals, drawn up exclusively in order to create the necessary conditions for carrying out border, customs and other types of control.

The regime at passage points across the State border shall be established by the federal executive transport bodies in accordance with the provisions of this Act and international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation, and normative legal acts coordinated with the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and the State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation.

On the basis of normative legal acts of the Federal Executive Transport Agency, the heads of airports, airfields, seaports, river ports, and railway and coach terminals and stations and the directors of other transport enterprises shall issue, with account taken of the local conditions, orders (instructions) establishing the regime at a given passage point across the State border, coordinated with the corresponding officials of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and customs and other agencies which carry out control on the State border.

The regime at passage points across the State border with regard to equipped transport facilities other than those referred to in the third paragraph of this article shall be established by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, in accordance with the requirements of the second paragraph of this article, in coordination with the customs and other agencies which control the passage at these points across the State border of persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals.

#### Article 23

##### Procedure for the entry (departure) of persons and means of transport, and the import (export) of freight, goods and animals at passage points across the State border

The entry into passage points across the State border and departure from them of persons and means of transport and also the import and export of freight, goods and animals shall be carried out at the places specially selected for these purposes on the basis of passes issued by the administrations of airports, airfields, seaports, river ports, railway and coach terminals and stations, and other transport enterprises in coordination with the agencies and troops of the Federal Customs Service of the Russian Federation.

#### Article 24

##### Stay of persons and means of transport at passage points across the State border

The places and length of time for stops by foreign-bound means of transport at passage points across the State border shall be determined by the administrations of airports, airfields, seaports, river ports, railway and coach terminals and stations, and other transport enterprises in coordination with the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and customs agencies.

The access of persons to and the boarding of foreign-bound means of transport during border and other types of control shall be restricted and, when necessary, prohibited.

The loading of passengers on means of transport during departures from the Russian Federation and their unloading upon arrival in the Russian Federation and the loading (unloading) of baggage, mail and freight shall be carried out with the authorization of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and customs agencies.

Officials of transport enterprises and organizations and the owners of means of transport must, at the request of representatives of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, open for inspection sealed railway cars, automobiles, holds and other spaces in means of transport and the freight transported in them.

Foreign-bound means of transport leaving the territory of the Russian Federation and means of transport travelling deep into the territory of the Russian Federation may begin movement in order to depart and may change parking places only with the authorization of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and customs agencies.

The stay of nationals of the Russian Federation without valid documents entitling them to enter the Russian Federation at passage points across the State border shall be regulated in the manner provided for under the fifth paragraph of article 14 of this Act.

Article 25 has been deleted.

#### **Article 26**

#### **Additional regime regulations at passage points across the State border**

The areas and buildings where border and other types of control are directly carried out shall be determined at the passage points across the State border. Additional regime restrictions which are instituted in accordance with regulations and in the manner provided for under articles 22, 23, 24 and 25 of this Act shall be introduced in these places.

#### **Section VI**

#### **Powers of State bodies with respect to the protection of the State border**

#### **Article 27**

#### **Powers of State bodies of the Russian Federation**

The State bodies of the Russian Federation shall, with respect to the protection of the State border, exercise the powers stipulated in the Constitution of the Russian Federation and in this Act.

The leading (coordinating) federal executive body with respect to the protection of the State border shall be the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation. The Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall head a single centralized system comprising the border inspection agencies; the foreign intelligence agency; the operational agencies conducting intelligence, counter-intelligence and operational-investigative activities and activities aimed at ensuring the security of the system of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation itself; the border guard and other border service agencies; the border troops of the Federal Border Service of the

Russian Federation; professional military training institutions, and enterprises, establishments and other organizations under the authority of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.

**Article 28**  
**Powers of the federal executive bodies**

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation shall:

On the basis of the decisions of the State bodies of the Russian Federation, conduct negotiations on the establishment and securing of the State border and on the establishment of the State border regime and prepare the necessary documents and materials;

Ensure the protection of the State border in the foreign policy and international-legal fields;

Within the limits of its competence, draw up documents on the right of entry into and departure from the Russian Federation for nationals of the Russian Federation, foreign nationals and stateless persons;

Resolve issues concerning the observance of the State border regime and incidents on the State border not settled by the border representatives of the Russian Federation or the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation.

2. The Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall:

In conjunction with the federal executive bodies, organize and ensure, within the limits of its powers, the protection of the State border on land, at sea, on rivers, lakes and other water expanses, and at passage points across the State border, the conduct of intelligence, counter-intelligence and operational-investigative activities, and the passage across the State border of persons, means of transport, freight, goods and animals;

Organize and ensure the leadership of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation;

Coordinate the activities of the federal executive bodies effecting on the State border all types of controls of compliance with the State border regime, the border regime and the regime at passage points across the State border;

Ensure, in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation, the coordination by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation of the activities of the Anti-Aircraft Defence Forces and the Navy with respect to the protection of the State border, and, in conjunction with the other competent federal executive bodies, the coordination by the operational agencies of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation of steps taken by the agencies of the law-enforcement system and the special-services system of the Russian Federation at the local level in the interests of protecting the State border;

Participate in the preparation by State bodies of normative and other legal acts concerning activities by juridical and physical persons that affect the interests of protecting the State border;

Participate in the delimitation, demarcation and redemarcation of the State border and in the drafting of the normative legal acts establishing the State border regime;

On instructions from the Government of the Russian Federation, undertake direct leadership of the activities of the border representatives of the Russian Federation;

Ensure the procurement and processing of information on threats to the security of the Russian Federation with respect to the protection of the State border, the submission of such information to the President and Government of the Russian Federation, and the notification of the federal executive bodies concerned, in accordance with the procedure established by federal laws and by the normative legal acts of the President of the Russian Federation;

Cooperate and communicate with relevant agencies of foreign States and with international organizations in

the interests of protecting the State border;

Ensure the security of the system of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation itself;

In conjunction with the federal State protection agencies, participate in ensuring the security of State protection installations on the State border within territory adjacent to the border.

3. The Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation shall:

Ensure the protection of the State border in airspace and under water;

Ensure the participation of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation in protecting the State border on land, at sea, and on border rivers, lakes and other water expanses in the instances and in accordance with the procedure defined in this Act and in other federal laws;

Within the limits of its competence, resolve incidents involving violations of the State border regime;

Provide assistance to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation in the form of resources, intelligence and otherwise in ensuring the protection of the State border, on the basis of the legislation of the Russian Federation and interdepartmental agreements.

4. The federal executive bodies effecting customs, immigration, health and quarantine, veterinary, phytosanitary, transport and other types of controls on the State border shall:

Organize and implement measures for the protection on the State border of the economic, environmental and other interests of individuals, society and the State;

Within the limits of their competence, issue normative acts with which all juridical and physical persons in the territory of the Russian Federation must comply;

Monitor compliance by enterprises, organizations, institutions, public associations and citizens with the requirements of the international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation and the legislation of the Russian Federation on issues falling within their competence;

Set up when necessary, at passage points across the State border, inspection agencies (checkpoints), organize their work and establish the means and methods of inspection, in accordance with the requirements of the sixth paragraph of article 11 of this Act;

Cooperate with one another and provide assistance to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation in the protection of the State border;

Cooperate with relevant agencies of foreign States in the protection of the State border.

5. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation shall:

Provide assistance to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation in implementing measures to protect the State border and combat illegal activities across it, in searching for individuals who violate the State border regime, and in ascertaining and verifying the circumstances of offences committed by citizens detained under administrative or criminal-process procedures;

Inform the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation of the situation with respect to law and order in districts of the Russian Federation adjacent to the border, of unlawful acts that are uncovered, and of criminal groups and individuals with unlawful intentions in relation to the State border and the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation;

Ensure the participation of the internal troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation in protecting the State border in the instances and in accordance with the procedure stipulated in this Act;

Ensure the participation of the internal affairs agencies in the monitoring of compliance with the border regime and the regime at passage points across the State border;

Ensure, upon application by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation,

the temporary restriction or prohibition of access by citizens to individual sectors of an area or to installations near the State border during the conduct of border searches and operations, the repulsion of armed incursions into the territory of the Russian Federation and the prevention of illegal mass crossings of the State border;

Maintain public order on the State border and in border districts of the Russian Federation when mass events of a federal or international nature are being held there;

Maintain law and order in districts adjacent to the border in the event of an emergency situation or the imposition of a state of emergency;

Participate in the legal education of the population of districts of the Russian Federation adjacent to the border and, in conjunction with the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, in the prevention of offences on the State border and at passage points across it.

6. The Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation shall:

Within the limits of its competence, procure, process and analyse information on threats to the security of the Russian Federation with respect to the protection of the State border;

In cooperation with the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, conduct counter-intelligence and operational-investigative activities in the interests of protecting the State border;

In cooperation with the State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation and the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, develop and implement measures to combat smuggling;

Provide counter-intelligence support in relation to the entry into and departure from the territory of the Russian Federation of nationals of the Russian Federation, foreign nationals and stateless persons and the regime for the stay of foreign nationals and stateless persons in the territory of the Russian Federation;

Cooperate with the federal executive bodies and the public associations of the Russian Federation and with foreign special services and organizations in the interests of protecting the State border.

7. The internal intelligence service of the Russian Federation shall, in cooperation with the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, conduct intelligence activities in the interests of protecting the State border.

### Article 29

#### Powers of the State bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation

The State bodies of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation shall:

Create conditions for the protection of the State border by the troops and agencies legally empowered thereto and, to that end, adopt laws and other normative legal acts, within the limits established by this Act;

In accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation, grant plots of land for the needs of protecting the State border and monitor use of the land and the observance on such plots of Russian Federation legislation on the protection of the natural environment;

Inform the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation of issues relating to the situation in districts of the Russian Federation adjacent to the border;

Create conditions for participation by citizens on a voluntary basis in the protection of the State border;

Monitor in their territory the observance by all agencies, enterprises, institutions, organizations, public associations, officials and citizens of Russian Federation legislation on the State border.

## Section VII

### Powers of the agencies and troops of the federal border service of the Russian Federation, the anti-aircraft defence forces, the navy and other forces and military units of the Russian Federation with respect to the protection of the State border

#### Article 30

##### Powers of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation

The agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall protect the State border on land, at sea, on rivers, lakes and other water expanses, and at passage points across the State border and effect passage across the State border. To that end, they shall:

Prevent by all available measures the unlawful alteration of the course of the State border on the ground;  
Monitor observance of the rules of the State border regime, the border regime and the regime at passage points across the State border that are of a permissive or advisory nature;

Conduct military, intelligence, counter-intelligence, operational-investigative, regime- and passage-related, and military-technical activities;

Conduct proceedings with respect to cases involving administrative offences assigned to their jurisdiction by the legislation of the Russian Federation, and, within the limits of their competence, consider such cases and execute decisions in relation thereto;

Conduct initial inquiries with respect to cases assigned to their jurisdiction by the legislation of the Russian Federation;

Take steps to prevent offences the combating of which falls within the competence of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation;

Participate in the activities of the border representatives of the Russian Federation and, when necessary, conduct border searches and operations.

Within territory adjacent to the border, the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall have the right to:

(1) Erect necessary technical installations, construct lines of communication, and deploy and use equipment and weapons on the land granted to them in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation for indefinite (continuous) use, subject to the established norms;

(2) Be present in any sectors of an area and move about them when performing official duties; demand that the owners or users of plots of land in the border zone set aside places for the movement of border details and equipment and maintain in appropriate condition passageways through barriers and other obstacles; escort Russian and foreign vessels and other means of transport and place border details on them; check necessary documents of persons and means of transport and inspect (search) means of transport and freight carried thereon in order to prevent and suppress violations of the State border regime, the border regime and the regime at passage points across the State border;

(3) Have border details arrest individuals whom there are grounds to suspect of violating the State border regime, the border regime and the regime at passage points across the State border, subject such individuals to searches of their person and convey them to the positions of subdivisions or units of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation or to other places in order to ascertain the circumstances of the

violation; have border ships stop, inspect and detain Russian and foreign vessels that have committed violations of the aforementioned regimes and convey (escort) them to the nearest Russian port in order to ascertain the circumstances of the violation. Vessels shall not be permitted to operate their radio receivers while being inspected or escorted. A report shall be drawn up of every instance in which a vessel is inspected or detained. The vessel and cargo documents seized from the captain shall be attached to the report on the vessel's detention;

(4) Place in administrative detention individuals who have committed violations of the State border regime, the border regime or the regime at passage points across the State border for a period of up to three hours in order to draw up a report and, when necessary, to identify such individuals and ascertain the circumstances of the offence, for up to three days, subject to notification of the public prosecutor in writing within 24 hours of detention, or for up to 10 days, with the authorization of the public prosecutor, if the offenders have no identification documents; subject detainees to searches of their person, and inspect and, when necessary, seize articles found on their person, other articles in their possession or ownership, and documents. A report shall be drawn up of every instance in which individuals are placed in administrative detention and subjected to searches of their person and in which articles found on their person are inspected or seized;

(5) Detain, with the authorization of the public prosecutor, foreign nationals and stateless persons who have crossed the State border illegally where a judgement has been passed concerning their transfer to the authorities of neighbouring States or their expulsion from the Russian Federation or where a decision has been taken concerning their administrative expulsion from the Russian Federation on the grounds stipulated in the fourth paragraph of article 14 of this Act, for the period necessary for the execution of the judgement or decision;

(6) Hold individuals subject to administrative detention in premises of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation specially equipped for that purpose, individuals detained under criminal-process procedures on suspicion of committing a crime, and accused persons remanded in custody as a preventive measure in temporary holding facilities or premises of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation specially equipped for holding individuals subject to administrative detention, and, when necessary, place such individuals in remand centres, temporary holding facilities and other specially equipped premises of the internal affairs agencies;

(7) Invite individuals to subdivisions of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and obtain from them explanations of the circumstances known to them of illegal crossings of the State border or other violations of the State border regime and of violations of the border regime or the regime at passage points across the State border. When necessary, the explanations of the circumstances of the aforementioned violations may be obtained in other places;

(8) Make appropriate notations in documents conferring the right to cross the State border and, when necessary, temporarily seize such documents; seize invalid documents; and extend expired Russian visas for foreign nationals and stateless persons in places where there are no offices of the Department of Consular Services of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. A fee equal to 10 times the minimum wage shall be charged for the extension of Russian visas within 10 days after expiration, and a fee equal to 17 times the minimum wage for the extension of Russian visas more than 10 days after expiration;

(9) Hand over to the customs agencies or, in the absence of customs agencies, detain contraband moved across the State border and other goods, freight and means of transport moved illegally across the State border that are discovered by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation when performing the tasks entrusted to them in the protection of the State border within territory adjacent to the border;

(10) Temporarily restrict or prohibit movement by persons or means of transport, including small boats

(craft) and vehicles for travelling on ice, exclude citizens from individual sectors of an area, oblige them to remain there or to leave such sectors for the purpose of protecting human life and health during the conduct of border searches and operations and other investigative activities, as well as activities in respect of criminal cases and cases involving administrative offences;

(11) In the event of a threat to the interests of the Russian Federation on the State border, temporarily restrict the performance of various work, with the exception of work for defence purposes and work connected with natural disasters or highly dangerous contagious diseases, subject to notification of the local self-government bodies and the enterprises, institutions and organizations concerned;

(12) Enter at any time of the day or night and search residences or other premises belonging to citizens and land or premises belonging to enterprises, institutions and organizations, with the exception of those having diplomatic immunity, when pursuing individuals whom there are adequate grounds to suspect of violating the State border regime. If a residence is entered without the consent of the persons living therein, the public prosecutor shall be so notified within 24 hours;

(13) Freely make use, for official purposes, of communications equipment and, when repelling armed incursions into the territory of the Russian Federation, preventing illegal mass crossings of the State border, conducting searches and conveying individuals suspected of committing offences, of means of transport belonging to enterprises (irrespective of the form of ownership), institutions, organizations, public associations and, when necessary, citizens, subject to compensation of the owners at their request for the expenses incurred or damage caused, in accordance with established procedure. Communications equipment and means of transport belonging to diplomatic, consular and other missions of foreign States and international organizations and special-purpose means of transport shall constitute exceptions;

(14) Request and obtain free of charge from State agencies, enterprises and their associations, institutions, organizations and public associations information necessary for the performance of the duties entrusted by law to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, except in cases where a special procedure for obtaining information has been established by law;

(15) Keep registers of individuals and records of factual data and statistics necessary for monitoring the maintenance of the State border regime, the border regime and the regime at passage points across the State border and use information systems for that purpose in a manner that is not at variance with federal law. The agencies of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall publish reference information every quarter and a year-end summary on the number of persons crossing the State border, indicating their nationality and the purpose of their visit (business, tourism, etc.), and on the balance with respect to the number of entries into and departures from the Russian Federation by foreign nationals, Russian nationals and stateless persons, and, in conjunction with the customs agencies, keep records of means of transport, freight, goods and animals moved across the State border, including in transit, and publish reference information every quarter and a year-end summary on the number of means of transport and the quantity of freight and goods moved across the State border;

(16) Make presentations to State agencies, enterprises and their associations, institutions, organizations and public associations on the elimination of causes and conditions that facilitate the commission of offences, where the conduct of the initial inquiry or of the proceedings with respect to the offence is assigned to the jurisdiction of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation;

(17) Enlist citizens on a voluntary basis in the performance of tasks relating to the protection of the State border, within territory adjacent to the border, in public associations, as supernumerary staff of the agencies of the Border Service and in other forms, and give incentives to citizens who distinguish themselves in protecting the

border;

(18) Use weapons, military equipment, special equipment, physical force and service dogs, in accordance with the procedure and in the instances stipulated in this Act;

(19) In addition, in the internal maritime waters and territorial sea of the Russian Federation and in the Russian part of the waters of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses, with respect to Russian and foreign vessels:

Order a vessel to show its flag if it is not flying; inquire as to the purpose for which a vessel is putting in to these waters;

Order a vessel to change its course if it is leading to an area that is closed or temporarily unsafe for navigation or to a safety zone established around an artificial island, installation or structure, provided that information about such areas and zones has been made generally available, or if it may entail another violation of the navigation regime;

Stop and inspect a vessel if it does not show its flag, respond to signals of inquiry or obey an order to change its course, or if it violates the generally recognized principles and norms of international law. Depending on the outcome of the inspection of the vessel, it may be authorized to continue to navigate (stay) in the waters of the Russian Federation, subject to compliance with the established rules, or ordered to leave the waters of the Russian Federation, or it may be detained, in accordance with the requirements of this Act;

Remove from the vessel and detain persons who have committed a crime and are liable to criminal prosecution under the legislation of the Russian Federation, and transfer such persons to the bodies conducting the initial inquiry and investigation, unless otherwise provided by the international treaties of the Russian Federation;

Pursue and detain outside the territorial waters of the Russian Federation a vessel that has violated international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation, federal laws or other normative legal acts of the Russian Federation until this vessel puts in to the territorial sea of its own country or of a third State, provided that such pursuit was begun in the waters or in the contiguous zone of the Russian Federation after the giving of a visual or audible stop signal from a distance that it could be seen or heard by the vessel and was carried on without interruption;

(20) Take measures to ensure the security of the system of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation itself, in accordance with the Federal Act on operational-investigative activities;

(21) Impose fines for the illegal transport of persons across the State border, in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation. (Note. Payment of a fine shall not release the transporters from their obligation to reimburse the actual costs of sending foreign nationals or stateless persons conveyed to the Russian Federation without entry documents to the point where the foreign nationals or stateless persons began their journey or to any other place that they are authorized to enter and the actual costs of their upkeep and expulsion from the territory of the Russian Federation).

The agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation may, when conducting border searches and operations in the territory of the Russian Federation, exceed the limits established in the second paragraph of this article with respect to the use of the rights granted to them.

The vessels and aircraft (helicopters) of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall, when performing official tasks, be entitled, without payment, to:

Use the waters and airspace of the Russian Federation, sea and river ports, airports and airfields (landing strips) in Russian territory, irrespective of their ownership and purpose;

Receive navigational, meteorological, hydrographic and other information;  
Receive flight and navigation support.

Other rights may be granted to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation solely by federal law.

The agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall not be permitted to use the rights granted to them for the performance of tasks not entrusted to them by federal law.

### Article 31 Powers of the Anti-Aircraft Defence Forces

The Anti-Aircraft Defence Forces shall protect the State border in airspace. They shall:

Monitor compliance with the rules for crossing the State border;

Intercept flights and take steps to force down in the territory of the Russian Federation aircraft that cross the State border illegally or violate the procedure for the use of Russian Federation airspace;

Provide assistance to aircraft that cross the State border illegally in cases of force majeure or as a result of unpremeditated acts by the crew by re-establishing their flight direction or leading them to landing fields in the territory of the Russian Federation or outside the airspace of the Russian Federation.

The Anti-Aircraft Defence Forces shall be entitled to:

(1) Use the equipment available to them to identify aircraft in the airspace of the Russian Federation and in the airspace beyond the territorial sea of the Russian Federation up to the borders of foreign States, in the event of a threatened or actual illegal crossing of the State border;

(2) When necessary, enlist the personnel and equipment of other elements of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and of State agencies, in accordance with the procedure established by the Government of the Russian Federation, in order to ascertain the situation in airspace and to take steps to prevent or halt the illegal crossing of the State border in airspace;

(3) Prohibit entirely or restrict flights by aircraft in individual areas of the airspace of the Russian Federation in the event of a threatened or actual illegal crossing of the State border in airspace;

(4) Invite the crew members of aircraft that have crossed the State border illegally, after the landing of such aircraft in the territory of the Russian Federation, to subdivisions of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation or other places in order to ascertain the circumstances of the illegal crossing and to transfer them to the bodies conducting the initial inquiry and investigation, unless otherwise provided by international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation;

(5) Use military equipment and weapons in accordance with this Act.

### Article 32 Powers of the Navy

The Navy shall protect the State border under water.

Naval forces shall, in the areas in which they are responsible for the maintenance of the naval-theatres operational regime:

Monitor the crossing of the State border;

Undertake anti-submarine defence, including defence against underwater sabotage, in the interests of the security of the Russian Federation;

On discovering underwater objects in the internal maritime waters and territorial sea of the Russian Federation and beyond their limits (in the event of an imminent illegal crossing of the State border by such objects), take steps to stop or prevent the activities of the objects discovered, in accordance with the norms of international law and the international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation in the military sphere;

Use military equipment and weapons in accordance with this Act.

### Article 33

#### Participation by the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, the internal troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and other forces and military units of the Russian Federation in the protection of the State border by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation

The protection of the State border at individual sections on land, on the seacoast, and on the shores of border rivers, lakes and other water expanses and, in particular, the prohibition of the illegal crossing of the border in places in which military installations and garrisons of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, the internal troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and other forces and military units of the Russian Federation are located and which are closed for passage by unauthorized persons and means of transport shall be entrusted to the command authorities of these military installations and garrisons. Such sections shall be defined jointly by commanders of border districts and groups of border troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, commanders of military district forces, fleets, flotillas and district forces of the internal troops and commanders (chiefs) of other forces and military units and shall be set out in the appropriate documents.

The Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, the internal troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and other forces and military units of the Russian Federation shall detach to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation personnel and equipment for participation in border searches and operations, in accordance with the procedure determined through joint decisions of the relevant federal executive bodies.

Other participation by the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, the internal troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation and other forces and military units of the Russian Federation in the protection of the State border shall be undertaken solely on the basis of federal laws.

### Article 34

#### Cooperation in the protection of the State border

The agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, the Anti-Aircraft Defence Forces and the Navy shall:

Provide assistance to one another in the performance of the duties entrusted to them with respect to the protection of the State border;

Within the limits of the powers established by this Act, coordinate the activities of the State agencies effecting the various types of controls of the maintenance of the regimes on the State border, without interfering in such activities;

Organize directly on the State border cooperation between their forces and State agencies, enterprises (irrespective of the form of ownership), institutions, organizations and public associations participating in the

protection of the State border or undertaking activities that affect the interests of protecting the State border. The chief of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and the commanders-in-chief of the Anti-Aircraft Defence Forces and the Navy shall, within the limits of their competence, give orders on issues relating to the observance of the regimes on the State border with which all agencies, enterprises, institutions, organizations, public associations, officials and citizens in the territory of the Russian Federation must comply;

Cooperate in the protection of the State border with the relevant agencies, troops and fleets of foreign States, in accordance with the procedure established by international treaties concluded by the Russian Federation, including those of an interdepartmental nature.

### Article 35 Use of weapons and military equipment

The agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, the Anti-Aircraft Defence Forces and the Naval forces shall, when protecting the State border within territory adjacent to the border, use weapons and military equipment in order to repel armed incursions into the territory of the Russian Federation and to prevent attempts to hijack and take abroad aircraft, seagoing vessels, river boats and other means of transport not containing passengers.

Weapons and military equipment may also be used against persons, aircraft, seagoing vessels, river boats and other means of transport that have crossed (are crossing) the State border in violation of the rules established by this Act, in response to the use of force by them or in instances where the violation cannot be stopped or the violators cannot be detained by other means; to protect citizens from attacks that threaten their lives and health and to free hostages; to repel attacks on military personnel or persons carrying out official duties or the societal obligation to protect the State border and members of their families, when their lives are in immediate danger; to repel attacks on subdivisions and installations of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and other forces and military units of the Russian Federation participating in the protection of the State border, in order to provide assistance to vessels (launches), aircraft and helicopters in repelling armed attacks on them.

The use of weapons and military equipment must be preceded by a clearly expressed warning of the intention to use them and by warning shots.

Weapons and military equipment may be used without warning in repelling armed incursions; in the event of surprise attacks or armed assaults on military personnel and other citizens, attacks involving the use of military equipment, aircraft, seagoing vessels, river boats and other means of transport, armed resistance and escapes by armed detainees; and to free hostages.

Military personnel shall be entitled to use weapons in order to render harmless animals threatening the lives and health of military personnel and other citizens and to give an alarm signal or to call for help.

It shall be prohibited to use weapons and military equipment against women and minors, except in cases of armed assaults or armed resistance by them, or group attacks that threaten life; against aircraft, seagoing vessels, river boats and other means of transport containing passengers; and against persons who have crossed or are attempting to cross the State border illegally if it is clear that this occurred by chance, or as a result of an accident or the effects of insuperable forces of nature.

The procedure for the use of weapons and military equipment shall be determined by the Government of the Russian Federation.

Military personnel of other elements of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and of other forces and military units of the Russian Federation enlisted in the protection of the State border may use weapons and military equipment, in accordance with the requirements of this article.

**Article 36**  
**Use of special equipment**

When performing duties relating to the protection of the State border within territory adjacent to the border and ensuring the security of the system of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation itself, military personnel shall use special equipment (handcuffs or improvised restraints, rubber batons, lachrymatory substances, repellent devices using photo and audible stimuli, equipment for forcibly stopping traffic), physical force, including combat tactics, and service dogs, in accordance with article 12, third paragraph, and article 14, fourth and fifth paragraphs, of the Act of the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic on the militia. The Government of the Russian Federation shall draw up a full list of the special equipment available to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and establish the grounds and rules for its use by military personnel of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and military personnel of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and other forces and military units of the Russian Federation when protecting the State border.

**Section VIII**

**Participation by local self-government bodies, enterprises and their associations, institutions, organizations, public associations and citizens in the protection of the State border**

**Article 37**

**Powers of local self-government bodies, enterprises and their associations, institutions, organizations and public associations of the Russian Federation with respect to the protection of the State border**

Local self-government bodies, enterprises and their associations (irrespective of the form of ownership), institutions, organizations, public associations and their officials shall:

Provide assistance to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, the Anti-Aircraft Defence Forces, the Navy and the State agencies effecting the various types of controls on the State border, carry out their lawful orders and supply information necessary for their activities;

Create conditions for participation by citizens on a voluntary basis in the protection of the State border within territory adjacent to the border.

The statutes of municipalities located wholly or partly within territory adjacent to the border may provide for local self-government officials with responsibility for border issues.

**Article 38**

**Participation by citizens in the protection of the State border**

Citizens shall participate on a voluntary basis in the protection of the State border, within territory adjacent to the border, in public associations or voluntary people's patrols, as supernumerary staff of the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and in other forms. The Government of the Russian Federation shall determine the procedure for involving citizens in the protection of the State border.

Section IX

Legal and social protection of military personnel and other citizens participating in the protection of the State border

Article 39

Legal protection of military personnel participating in the protection of the State border and members of their families

Military personnel participating directly in the protection of the State border shall be accorded the status of military personnel performing special duties established under the Act of the Russian Federation on the status of military personnel. They shall constitute representatives of federal executive power and shall be under the protection of the State. Citizens and officials must comply with their lawful requests. No one, other than persons specially empowered thereto by federal law, shall have the right to interfere in their activities.

Obstructing the performance by military personnel of their duties with respect to the protection of the State border, making an attempt on the lives or health of military personnel or members of their families, and infringing on their honour, reputation or property in connection with the performance by them of these duties shall constitute a criminal or administrative offence, as provided by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Article 40

Legal protection of citizens participating in the protection of the State border and members of their families

Unlawful acts against citizens and members of their families in connection with the provision of assistance by the former to the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation in the protection of the State border shall constitute liability, as provided for under the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Article 41

Social protection of military personnel and other citizens participating in the protection of the State border

The social protection of military personnel and other citizens participating directly in the protection of the State border shall be guaranteed by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Article 42

Establishment of additional guarantees and compensation for military personnel and other citizens participating in the protection of the State border

Other guarantees and compensation, in addition to those provided for in this Act, may be established for military personnel and other citizens participating in the protection of the State border by the legislation of the Russian Federation and by decisions of the Government of the Russian Federation and the federal executive bodies (within the limits of their powers).

## Section X

### Liability for offences on the State border

#### Article 43

##### Liability for offences on the State border

Persons guilty of violating the rules of the State border regime, the border regime and the regime at passage points across the State border shall bear criminal liability, as provided by federal laws, or administrative liability, as provided by federal laws or the laws of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

## Section XI

### Provision of resources for the protection of the State border

#### Article 44

##### Provision of financial resources for the protection of the State border

Financial resources for the protection of the State border shall be provided from the funds of the federal budget and the special-purpose federal budget-supported Development Fund of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, constituted in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.

The Development Fund of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall receive:

25 per cent of the amount collected as fines for offences uncovered by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and involving violations of the State border regime, the border regime and the regime at passage points across the State border, and 25 per cent of the funds raised from the sale of property confiscated for such violations and from the sale of contraband discovered or detained pursuant to article 30, second section, subparagraph 9, of this Act;

Funds received by the agencies and troops of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation from the collection of fees for the processing of documents at the border during border controls and for the extension of expired Russian visas for foreign nationals and stateless persons.

The funds of the Development Fund of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall constitute an additional source of financing for the activities of the system of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation, over and above the funds allocated for its maintenance from the federal budget, and are to be used to complete the equipping of the State border, to equip and develop the system of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and to improve the social support provided to military and civilian personnel of the system of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation and members of their families, in accordance with the procedure defined by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

The Regulations of the Development Fund of the Federal Border Service of the Russian Federation shall be approved by the Government of the Russian Federation.

#### Article 45

##### Provision of logistic support for the protection of the State border

Logistic support for the protection of the State border shall be provided from the State land, material,

technical and other reserves of the Russian Federation.

The norms and procedures for the provision of logistic support shall be established by the Government of the Russian Federation.

B. Yeltsin  
President of the Russian Federation  
Moscow, House of the Soviets  
of the Russian Federation  
1 April 1993  
N 4730-1

## Endnotes

### 1 (Note - Note)

Translated from Russian