



# THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

## ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ACT 2007

### 2020 REVISED EDITION

This revised edition incorporates all amendments up to and including 1 December 2021 and comes into operation on 31 December 2021.

*Prepared and Published by*

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT 1983



# Accounting Standards Act 2007

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

### PART 1

#### PRELIMINARY

#### Section

1. Short title
2. Interpretation

### PART 2

#### ACCOUNTING STANDARDS COUNCIL

3. Establishment and functions of Accounting Standards Council
4. Constitution of Council
5. Meetings and proceedings of Council
6. Appointment of committees and delegation of powers
7. Directions by Minister

### PART 3

#### ACCOUNTING STANDARDS FOR COMPANIES AND OTHER ENTITIES

8. Accounting standards
9. Manner of making, etc., accounting standards
10. Evidence of text of accounting standards

### PART 4

#### ACCOUNTING STANDARDS FOR STATUTORY BODIES

11. Accountant-General to establish accounting standards
12. Statutory bodies to comply with accounting standards

### PART 5

#### MISCELLANEOUS

13. Amendment of Schedule
14. Rules

## Section

The Schedule — Statutory bodies

---

An Act to establish the Accounting Standards Council to issue accounting standards applicable to companies and other incorporated and unincorporated bodies, to provide for accounting standards applicable to statutory bodies with a public function and for matters connected therewith.

[1 November 2007]

## PART 1

### PRELIMINARY

#### **Short title**

1. This Act is the Accounting Standards Act 2007.

#### **Interpretation**

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“accounting standard” means —

- (a) an accounting standard made or formulated by the Council under Part 3; or
- (b) an accounting standard for statutory bodies established by the Accountant-General under Part 4;

“Chairperson” means the Chairperson of the Council appointed under section 4(1)(a), and includes any temporary Chairperson of the Council if so appointed;

“company” means any company incorporated under the Companies Act 1967 or any corresponding previous written law, and includes a foreign company registered under Division 2 of Part 11 of that Act in respect of its operations in Singapore;

“Council” means the Accounting Standards Council established under section 3;

“making or formulating”, in relation to any accounting standard, includes amending and revoking the accounting standard;

“member”, in relation to the Council, means a member of the Council and includes the Chairperson of the Council;

“Minister” means the Minister charged with the responsibility for finance;

“statutory body” means a body —

- (a) established or constituted by or under a public Act;
- (b) that has a public function; and
- (c) whose annual report and audited financial statements are required by written law to be presented to Parliament.

## PART 2

### ACCOUNTING STANDARDS COUNCIL

#### **Establishment and functions of Accounting Standards Council**

**3.—**(1) There is established a body called the Accounting Standards Council whose functions are —

- (a) to make or formulate statements of standard accounting practice (called in this Act accounting standards) applicable to companies for the purposes of the Companies Act 1967; and
- (b) to make or formulate accounting standards applicable to such other entities as are specified in section 8(1).

(2) In addition to the functions imposed by subsection (1), the Council may undertake any other functions (not incompatible with those specified in subsection (1)) that the Minister may, by order in the *Gazette*, assign to the Council and, in so doing —

- (a) the Council is deemed to be fulfilling the purposes of this Act; and
- (b) the provisions of this Act apply to the Council in respect of those functions.

## **Constitution of Council**

4.—(1) The Council consists of the following members, all of whom are to be appointed by the Minister:

(a) a Chairperson;

(b) at least 10 but not more than 15 other members.

(2) A person must not be appointed as a member of the Council unless the person's knowledge of, or experience in, business, accounting, law or government or other relevant fields qualifies the person for the appointment.

(3) The Chairperson and other members of the Council each hold office for such period (not exceeding 2 years) and on such terms and conditions as the Minister may determine, and are eligible for re-appointment.

(4) The Minister may appoint any member of the Council to be a temporary Chairperson during the temporary incapacity from illness or otherwise, or during the temporary absence from Singapore, of the Chairperson.

(5) The Minister may revoke the appointment of the Chairperson or any other member of the Council if the Minister considers such revocation necessary in the interest of the effective performance of the functions of the Council under this Act or in the public interest.

(6) A member of the Council may resign from the member's office at any time by giving at least one month's notice in writing to the Minister.

(7) If any vacancy occurs in the membership of the Council, the Minister may, subject to subsections (1) and (2), appoint a person to fill the vacancy.

## **Meetings and proceedings of Council**

5.—(1) The Council must meet for the despatch of business at such times and places as the Chairperson may appoint.

(2) At every meeting of the Council, one half of the number of its members constitutes a quorum.

(3) The Chairperson presides at all meetings of the Council, but if the Chairperson is absent from a meeting —

- (a) the temporary Chairperson; or
- (b) if there is no temporary Chairperson, the member that the members present elect,

presides at that meeting.

(4) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Council may regulate its own proceedings.

### **Appointment of committees and delegation of powers**

**6.**—(1) The Council may appoint from among its own members or from among other persons any number of committees that it thinks fit for purposes which, in the opinion of the Council, would be more expediently carried out or managed by means of such committees.

(2) The chairperson of every committee appointed under subsection (1) must be a member of the Council.

(3) The Council may, subject to such conditions or restrictions as it thinks fit, delegate —

- (a) to any of its members; or
- (b) to any committee appointed by it under subsection (1),

any of the functions or powers of the Council under this Act or any other written law, except the power of delegation conferred by this section.

(4) Any function or power delegated under subsection (3) to any member or committee may be performed or exercised by that member or committee in the name and on behalf of the Council.

(5) No delegation under this section prevents the performance or exercise of any function or power by the Council.

### **Directions by Minister**

**7.** The Minister may give to the Council such directions, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, as he or she thinks fit as to

the performance of its functions and the exercise of its powers, and the Council must comply with such directions.

### PART 3

## ACCOUNTING STANDARDS FOR COMPANIES AND OTHER ENTITIES

### **Accounting standards**

**8.**—(1) Accounting standards made or formulated by the Council may be expressed to apply —

- (a) to all companies or specified classes or descriptions of companies;
- (b) to all co-operative societies registered under the Co-operative Societies Act 1979 or specified classes or descriptions of such co-operative societies;
- (c) to all societies registered under the Societies Act 1966 or specified classes or descriptions of such societies; and
- (d) to all charities registered, and all institutions of a public character approved or deemed approved, under the Charities Act 1994 or specified classes or descriptions of such charities or institutions of a public character.

(2) Such accounting standards may be of general or specially limited application, and differ according to differences in time, place or circumstance.

(3) The Council may issue practice directions on the interpretation of the accounting standards made or formulated under this Part and on matters relating to them and their use in Singapore.

(4) An accounting standard that was in force under section 200A of the Companies Act 1967 immediately before 1 November 2007, and any practice directions issued by the Accounting Standards Committee under that section, continue in force after that date as if they had been made or formulated by the Council under this Part after that date.



**Manner of making, etc., accounting standards**

**9.—(1)** In making or formulating accounting standards, the Council must have the following objects:

- (a) the development of accounting standards that require the provision of financial information that —
  - (i) assists directors of companies and officers of other entities mentioned in section 8(1) to discharge their duties and obligations in relation to financial reporting under the Companies Act 1967 or any other written law;
  - (ii) is relevant to assessing performance, financial position, financing and investment;
  - (iii) is relevant and reliable;
  - (iv) facilitates comparability; and
  - (v) is readily understandable;
- (b) to maintain investor confidence in the Singapore economy (including its capital markets).

(2) In making or formulating accounting standards, the Council —

- (a) must have regard to the suitability of a proposed accounting standard for different types of entities mentioned in section 8(1);
- (b) may apply different accounting requirements to the different types of entities; and
- (c) must ensure that there are appropriate accounting standards for each type of entity that must comply with accounting standards.

(3) A failure to comply with this Part in relation to the making or formulation of an accounting standard does not affect the validity of the standard.

**Evidence of text of accounting standards**

**10.—(1)** Where an accounting standard is made or formulated by the Council under this Part, the Council must —

- (a) publish a notice of the making or formulation of the accounting standard in such manner as will secure adequate publicity for such making or formulation;
- (b) specify in the notice mentioned in paragraph (a) —
  - (i) the date of such making or formulation;
  - (ii) the class or description of company or other entity specified in section 8(1) or otherwise in respect of which the accounting standard is made or formulated; and
  - (iii) the place at and the time during which the accounting standard which is the subject of the notice may be inspected; and
- (c) ensure that, so long as the accounting standard remains in force, copies of that accounting standard, and of all amendments to that accounting standard, are available for inspection by members of the public free of charge, and for purchase by members of the public at a reasonable price.

(2) No accounting standard, no amendment to the accounting standard and no revocation of the accounting standard has any force or effect as an accounting standard under this Act or for the purposes of any other written law until the notice relating thereto is published in accordance with subsection (1).

(3) Without affecting any other method of proof, in any proceedings under any written law —

- (a) the production of a document purporting to be a copy of a notice published by the Council under subsection (1)(a) is proof of such a notice until the contrary is proved; and
- (b) the production of a document purporting to be an accounting standard made or formulated by the Council as in force at a specified time, or an amendment or a revocation by the Council of such an accounting standard, and to be the subject of a notice under subsection (1)(a), and that is certified by the Chairperson under the hand of

the Chairperson to be a true copy of or extract from any accounting standard made or formulated, amended or revoked by the Council, is proof, until the contrary is proved, that —

- (i) the specified accounting standard or the amendment to the accounting standard was in force at that time or the revoked accounting standard was not in force, as the case may be; and
- (ii) the text set out in the document is the text of the accounting standard.

## PART 4

### ACCOUNTING STANDARDS FOR STATUTORY BODIES

#### **Accountant-General to establish accounting standards**

**11.—**(1) The Accountant-General may establish one or more accounting standards about the following:

- (a) the statements of standard accounting practice applicable to statutory bodies;
- (b) the content of financial statements and annual reports required to be prepared by statutory bodies.

(2) Before establishing an accounting standard under subsection (1), the Accountant-General must have regard to relevant accounting standards issued by the Council under this Act or by any appropriate professional bodies.

(3) The Accountant-General may establish an accounting standard under this Part —

- (a) by issuing the text of an accounting standard, which may or may not be an accounting standard made or formulated by the Council under Part 3; or
- (b) by modifying the text of any accounting standard mentioned in paragraph (a) to the extent necessary to take account of the legal or institutional environment for statutory bodies.

(4) An accounting standard established under subsection (1) applies to any periods specified in the standard.

### **Statutory bodies to comply with accounting standards**

**12.** The accounts and financial statements of every statutory body specified in the Schedule must be prepared in compliance with the accounting standards that are established under this Part and notified in writing to the statutory body by the Accountant-General.

## PART 5

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### **Amendment of Schedule**

**13.—**(1) The Minister may, by order in the *Gazette*, amend the Schedule.

(2) Every order made under subsection (1) must be presented to Parliament as soon as possible after publication in the *Gazette*.

#### **Rules**

**14.** The Minister may make rules to carry out the purposes and provisions of this Act, including rules for or with respect to all or any of the following matters:

- (a) the holding of meetings by the Council, the notice to be given of such meetings and the proceedings at those meetings, the keeping of minutes, and the custody, production and inspection of such minutes;
- (b) the opening, keeping, closing and auditing of the Council's accounts.

## THE SCHEDULE

Sections 12 and 13(1)

## STATUTORY BODIES

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>
<i>Statutory body</i>	<i>Act under which established or constituted</i>
1. Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority	Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Act 2004
2. Agency for Science, Technology and Research	Agency for Science, Technology and Research Act 1990
3. Board of Architects	Architects Act 1991
4. Building and Construction Authority	Building and Construction Authority Act 1999
5. Casino Regulatory Authority of Singapore	Casino Control Act 2006
6. Central Provident Fund Board	Central Provident Fund Act 1953
7. Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore	Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore Act 2009
8. Civil Service College	Civil Service College Act 2001
9. Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore	Competition Act 2004
10. Council for Estate Agencies	Estate Agents Act 2010
11. Defence Science and Technology Agency	Defence Science and Technology Agency Act 2000
12. Economic Development Board	Economic Development Board Act 1961
13. Energy Market Authority of Singapore	Energy Market Authority of Singapore Act 2001
14. Enterprise Singapore Board	Enterprise Singapore Board Act 2018
15. Government Technology Agency	Government Technology Agency Act 2016

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>
<i>Statutory body</i>	<i>Act under which established or constituted</i>
16. Health Promotion Board	Health Promotion Board Act 2001
17. Health Sciences Authority	Health Sciences Authority Act 2001
18. Home Team Science and Technology Agency	Home Team Science and Technology Agency Act 2019
19. Housing and Development Board	Housing and Development Act 1959
20. Info-communications Media Development Authority	Info-communications Media Development Authority Act 2016
21. Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore	Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore Act 1992
22. Institute of Technical Education, Singapore	Institute of Technical Education Act 1992
23. Intellectual Property Office of Singapore	Intellectual Property Office of Singapore Act 2001
24. ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute	ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute Act 1968
25. Jurong Town Corporation	Jurong Town Corporation Act 1968
26. Land Surveyors Board	Land Surveyors Act 1991
27. Land Transport Authority of Singapore	Land Transport Authority of Singapore Act 1995
28. Majlis Ugama Islam, Singapura	Administration of Muslim Law Act 1966
29. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore	Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996
30. Nanyang Polytechnic	Nanyang Polytechnic Act 1992
31. National Arts Council	National Arts Council Act 1991
32. National Council of Social Service	National Council of Social Service Act 1992
33. National Environment Agency	National Environment Agency Act 2002

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>
<i>Statutory body</i>	<i>Act under which established or constituted</i>
34. National Heritage Board	National Heritage Board Act 1993
35. National Library Board	National Library Board Act 1995
36. National Parks Board	National Parks Board Act 1996
37. Ngee Ann Polytechnic	Ngee Ann Polytechnic Act 1967
38. People's Association	People's Association Act 1960
39. Productivity Fund Administration Board	National Productivity Fund Act 2010
40. Professional Engineers Board	Professional Engineers Act 1991
41. Public Transport Council	Public Transport Council Act 1987
42. Public Utilities Board	Public Utilities Act 2001
43. Republic Polytechnic	Republic Polytechnic Act 2002
44. Science Centre Board	Science Centre Act 1970
45. Sentosa Development Corporation	Sentosa Development Corporation Act 1972
46. Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises	Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises Act 1975
47. Singapore Dental Council	Dental Registration Act 1999
48. Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board	Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board Act 2003
49. Singapore Food Agency	Singapore Food Agency Act 2019
50. Singapore Labour Foundation	Singapore Labour Foundation Act 1977
51. Singapore Land Authority	Singapore Land Authority Act 2001
52. Singapore Medical Council	Medical Registration Act 1997
53. Singapore Nursing Board	Nurses and Midwives Act 1999
54. Singapore Pharmacy Council	Pharmacists Registration Act 2007
55. Singapore Polytechnic	Singapore Polytechnic Act 1954

THE SCHEDULE — *continued*

<i>First column</i>	<i>Second column</i>
<i>Statutory body</i>	<i>Act under which established or constituted</i>
56. Singapore Sports Council	Singapore Sports Council Act 1973
57. Singapore Totalisator Board	Singapore Totalisator Board Act 1987
58. Singapore Tourism Board	Singapore Tourism Board Act 1963
59. SkillsFuture Singapore Agency	SkillsFuture Singapore Agency Act 2016
60. Temasek Polytechnic	Temasek Polytechnic Act 1990
61. Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board	Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act 2000
62. Urban Redevelopment Authority	Urban Redevelopment Authority Act 1989
63. Workforce Singapore Agency	Workforce Singapore Agency Act 2003

*[16/2009; 17/2009; 25/2010; 23/2015; 20/2016; 22/2016;  
23/2016; 24/2016; 10/2018; 11/2019; 21/2019;  
S 587/2009; S 615/2010; S 80/2019]*



LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ACT 2007

This Legislative History is a service provided by the Law Revision Commission on a best-efforts basis. It is not part of the Act.

**1. Act 39 of 2007 — Accounting Standards Act 2007**

Bill	:	27/2007
First Reading	:	16 July 2007
Second and Third Readings	:	27 August 2007
Commencement	:	1 November 2007

**2. 2008 Revised Edition — Accounting Standards Act (Chapter 2B)**

Operation	:	31 July 2008
-----------	---	--------------

**3. Act 16 of 2009 — Preservation of Monuments Act 2009**

(Amendments made by section 36(2) read with item (1) of the Schedule to the above Act)

Bill	:	9/2009
First Reading	:	23 March 2009
Second and Third Readings	:	13 April 2009
Commencement	:	1 July 2009 (section 36(2) read with item (1) of the Schedule)

**4. Act 17 of 2009 — Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore Act 2009**

(Amendments made by section 104 read with item 1 of the Fourth Schedule to the above Act)

Bill	:	10/2009
First Reading	:	23 March 2009
Second and Third Readings	:	13 April 2009
Commencement	:	1 July 2009 (section 104 read with item 1 of the Fourth Schedule)

**5. G.N. No. S 587/2009 — Accounting Standards Act (Amendment of Schedule) Order 2009**

Commencement	:	1 December 2009
--------------	---	-----------------

**6. Act 25 of 2010 — Estate Agents Act 2010**

(Amendments made by section 73 read with item 1 of the Third Schedule to the above Act)

Bill	:	19/2010
First Reading	:	16 August 2010
Second and Third Readings	:	15 September 2010
Commencement	:	22 October 2010 (section 73 read with item 1 of the Third Schedule)

**7. G.N. No. S 615/2010 — Accounting Standards Act (Amendment of Schedule) Order 2010**

Commencement	:	1 November 2010
--------------	---	-----------------

**8. Act 23 of 2015 — Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (Amendment) Act 2015**

(Amendments made by section 14(1) of the above Act)

Bill	:	20/2015
First Reading	:	11 May 2015
Second and Third Readings	:	14 July 2015
Commencement	:	12 August 2015 (section 14(1))

**9. Act 22 of 2016 — Info-communications Media Development Authority Act 2016**

(Amendments made by section 102(1) of the above Act)

Bill	:	21/2016
First Reading	:	11 July 2016
Second and Third Readings	:	16 August 2016
Commencement	:	1 October 2016 (section 102(1))

**10. Act 23 of 2016 — Government Technology Agency Act 2016**

(Amendments made by section 82(1) of the above Act)

Bill	:	22/2016
First Reading	:	11 July 2016
Second and Third Readings	:	16 August 2016
Commencement	:	1 October 2016 (section 82(1))

**11. Act 24 of 2016 — SkillsFuture Singapore Agency Act 2016**  
(Amendments made by section 78(1) of the above Act)

Bill	:	24/2016
First Reading	:	11 July 2016
Second and Third Readings	:	16 August 2016
Commencement	:	3 October 2016 (section 78(1))

**12. Act 20 of 2016 — Singapore Workforce Development Agency  
(Amendment) Act 2016**  
(Amendments made by section 20(1) of the above Act)

Bill	:	19/2016
First Reading	:	11 July 2016
Second and Third Readings	:	16 August 2016
Commencement	:	4 October 2016 (section 20(1))

**13. Act 10 of 2018 — Enterprise Singapore Board Act 2018**  
(Amendments made by section 78(1) of the above Act)

Bill	:	3/2018
First Reading	:	8 January 2018
Second and Third Readings	:	5 February 2018
Commencement	:	1 April 2018 (section 78(1))

**14. Act 11 of 2019 — Singapore Food Agency Act 2019**  
(Amendments made by section 66(1) of the above Act)

Bill	:	5/2019
First Reading	:	15 January 2019
Second and Third Readings	:	12 February 2019
Commencement	:	1 April 2019 (section 66(1))

**15. G.N. No. S 80/2019 — Accounting Standards Act (Amendment of  
Schedule) Order 2019**

Commencement	:	1 April 2019
--------------	---	--------------

**16. Act 21 of 2019 — Home Team Science and Technology Agency Act 2019**  
(Amendments made by section 51(1) of the above Act)

Bill	:	15/2019
First Reading	:	8 July 2019

Second and Third Readings : 6 August 2019  
Commencement : 1 December 2019 (section 51(1))

### Abbreviations

C.P.	Council Paper
G.N. No. S (N.S.)	Government Notification Number Singapore (New Series)
G.N. No.	Government Notification Number
G.N. No. S	Government Notification Number Singapore
G.N. Sp. No. S	Government Notification Special Number Singapore
L.A.	Legislative Assembly
L.N.	Legal Notification (Federal/Malaysian Subsidiary Legislation)
M. Act	Malayan Act/Malaysia Act
M. Ordinance	Malayan Ordinance
Parl.	Parliament
S.S.G.G. (E) No.	Straits Settlements Government Gazette (Extraordinary) Number
S.S.G.G. No.	Straits Settlements Government Gazette Number