



**THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**UNITED NATIONS ACT**

**(CHAPTER 339)**

**(Original Enactment: Act 44 of 2001)**

**REVISED EDITION 2002**

(31st July 2002)

*Prepared and Published by*

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT (CHAPTER 275)

Informal Consolidation – version in force from 14/1/2020

# United Nations Act

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

### Section

1. Short title
2. Power to make regulations to enable effect to be given to Article 41 of Charter of United Nations
3. Immunity from suit
4. Protection of persons for acts done under this Act
5. Liability for breach of regulations
6. Liability of citizens of Singapore for offences committed outside Singapore
7. Jurisdiction of District Court

---

An Act to enable Singapore to fulfil its obligations respecting Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations.

[29th October 2001]

### Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the United Nations Act.

### Power to make regulations to enable effect to be given to Article 41 of Charter of United Nations

2.—(1) Subject to subsection (2), if, under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations signed at San Francisco on 26th June 1945 (being the Article which relates to measures not involving the use of armed force), the Security Council of the United Nations calls upon the Government to apply any measures to give effect to any decision of that Council, the Minister may, from time to time, make all such regulations as appear to him to be necessary or expedient for enabling those measures to be effectively applied, including (without prejudice to the generality of the preceding words) provisions for —

- (a) the apprehension, trial and punishment of persons offending against the regulations; and

- (b) empowering any person or class of persons to exercise, when investigating any offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder, all or any of the powers of a police officer under the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68) in relation to seizable offences.

(2) The measures to be applied under subsection (1) shall not apply to any financial institution or class of financial institutions to the extent that the financial institution or class of financial institutions is or may be subject to the directions issued or regulations made by the Monetary Authority of Singapore under section 27A of the Monetary Authority of Singapore Act (Cap. 186).

*[Act 16 of 2016 wef 10/06/2016]*

(2A) The measures to be applied under subsection (1) do not apply to any VCC or class of VCCs to the extent that the VCC or class of VCCs is or may be subject to the directions or regulations made by the Monetary Authority of Singapore under section 83 of the Variable Capital Companies Act 2018.

*[Act 44 of 2018 wef 14/01/2020]*

(2B) In subsection (2A), “VCC” has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Variable Capital Companies Act 2018.

*[Act 44 of 2018 wef 14/01/2020]*

(3) No regulation made under this Act shall be deemed to be invalid because it deals with any matter provided for by any written law, or because of repugnancy to or inconsistency with any written law other than the Constitution.

(4) All regulations made under this Act shall be presented to Parliament as soon as possible after publication in the *Gazette*.

(5) All expenses incurred by the Government in applying any such measures as are mentioned in this section shall be defrayed out of moneys provided by Parliament.

### **Immunity from suit**

**3.—(1)** No action, suit or other legal proceedings shall lie against —

- (a) any party to a contract for failing, neglecting or refusing to carry out any act required by the contract; or

- (b) any person for failing, neglecting or refusing to carry out any act under any written law,

where such failure, neglect or refusal is solely attributable to, or occasioned by, the provisions of this Act or any regulations made thereunder.

(2) Nothing in this section shall affect the operation of the Frustrated Contracts Act (Cap. 115).

### **Protection of persons for acts done under this Act**

4. No person shall be personally liable in respect of any act done by him in the execution or purported execution of this Act or any regulations made thereunder if he did it in the honest belief that his duty under this Act or any regulations made thereunder required or entitled him to do it.

### **Liability for breach of regulations**

5.—(1) Every person who commits, or attempts to commit, or does any act with intent to commit, or counsels, procures, aids, abets, or incites any other person to commit, or conspires with any other person (whether in Singapore or elsewhere) to commit any offence against any regulations made under this Act shall be liable on conviction —

- (a) in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding \$500,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years or to both; or

- (b) in any other case, to a fine not exceeding \$1 million.

*[Act 4 of 2014 wef 10/03/2014]*

(2) Nothing in this Act or any regulations made thereunder shall prevent any person from being prosecuted under any other written law for any act or omission which constitutes an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder, or from being liable under that other written law to any punishment or penalty higher or other than that provided by this Act or the regulations, but no person shall be punished twice for the same offence.

### **Liability of citizens of Singapore for offences committed outside Singapore**

6.—(1) The provisions of this Act have effect, in relation to citizens of Singapore, outside as well as within Singapore, and where an offence under this Act or any regulations made thereunder is committed by a citizen of Singapore in any place outside Singapore, he may be dealt with in respect of that offence as if it had been committed within Singapore.

(2) Any proceedings against any person under this section which would be a bar to subsequent proceedings against that person for the same offence, if the offence had been committed in Singapore, shall be a bar to further proceedings against him, under any written law for the time being in force relating to the extradition of persons, in respect of the same offence outside Singapore.

### **Jurisdiction of District Court**

7. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68), a District Court shall have jurisdiction to try any offence under this Act and shall have power to impose the full penalty or punishment in respect of the offence.

*[9/2003 wef 16/05/2003]*

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
UNITED NATIONS ACT  
(CHAPTER 339)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the United Nations Act. It is not part of the Act.

**1. Act 44 of 2001 — United Nations Act 2001**

Date of First Reading	:	5 October 2001 (Bill No. 42/2001 published on 5 October 2001)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	15 October 2001
Date of commencement	:	29 October 2001

**2. 2002 Revised Edition — United Nations Act**

Date of operation	:	31 July 2002
-------------------	---	--------------

**3. Act 9 of 2003 — Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2003**  
(Consequential amendments made to Act by)

Date of First Reading	:	20 March 2003 (Bill No. 7/2003 published on 21 March 2003)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	24 April 2003
Date of commencement	:	16 May 2003

**4. Act 4 of 2014 — Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2014**

Date of First Reading	:	11 November 2013 (Bill No. 25/2013 published on 11 November 2013)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	21 January 2014
Date of commencement	:	10 March 2014

**5. Act 16 of 2016 — Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 2016**

Date of First Reading	:	14 April 2016 (Bill No. 15/2016 published on 14 April 2016)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	9 May 2016
Date of commencement	:	10 June 2016

**6. Act 44 of 2018 — Variable Capital Companies Act 2018**

Date of First Reading	:	10 September 2018 (Bill No. 40/2018 published on 10 September 2018)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	1 October 2018
Date of commencement	:	14 January 2020