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Government Technology Agency Bill

Bill No. 22/2016.

Read the first time on 11 July 2016.

GOVERNMENT TECHNOLOGY AGENCY ACT 2016

(No. of 2016)

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Section

1. Short title and commencement
2. Interpretation

PART 2

ESTABLISHMENT, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF AGENCY

3. Government Technology Agency
4. Agency is body corporate
5. Objectives and functions of Agency
6. Powers of Agency
7. Powers of Agency in relation to proposals for privatisation
8. Directions of Minister, etc.
9. Agency's symbols, etc.

PART 3

CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF AGENCY

Division 1 — Appointment, resignation and removal

10. Membership of Agency
11. Appointment of members of Agency
12. Membership disqualification

Section

- 13. Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson
- 14. Premature vacancies
- 15. Temporary Chairperson and members
- 16. Removal of member
- 17. Resignation from office
- 18. Validity of acts, etc.

Division 2 — Terms and conditions for members

- 19. Term of appointment
- 20. Remuneration, etc.
- 21. Vacation of office
- 22. Other terms and conditions

Division 3 — Disclosure of members' interests

- 23. Interpretation of this Division
- 24. Obligation to disclose interest
- 25. To whom and what to disclose
- 26. Consequences of being interested in relevant matter
- 27. Consequences of failure to disclose interest

PART 4

DECISION-MAKING BY AGENCY

Division 1 — Meetings

- 28. Procedure generally
- 29. Notice of meetings
- 30. Method of holding meetings
- 31. Quorum
- 32. Presiding at meetings
- 33. Voting at meetings
- 34. Decisions in writing
- 35. Execution of documents

Division 2 — Committees and delegation

- 36. Appointment of committees
- 37. Proceedings of committees, etc.
- 38. Ability to delegate
- 39. Validity of delegate's acts, etc.

PART 5

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Section

- 40. Appointment of Chief Executive
- 41. Employees
- 42. Public servants and public officers
- 43. Preservation of secrecy
- 44. Protection from personal liability

PART 6

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- 45. Financial year
- 46. Revenue and property of Agency
- 47. Payments into Consolidated Fund
- 48. Bank accounts
- 49. Financial procedures and records
- 50. Annual estimates
- 51. Power of investment
- 52. Issue of shares, etc.
- 53. Borrowing power
- 54. Appointment of auditor
- 55. Powers of auditor
- 56. Auditor's report
- 57. Audited annual financial statements
- 58. Annual and other reports of Agency

PART 7

SECURITY AND RELIABILITY OF SYSTEMS AND SERVICES — PUBLIC SECTOR

- 59. Purpose of this Part
- 60. Power to issue directives, etc.
- 61. Monitoring of compliance
- 62. Remedial measures, etc.
- 63. Power to obtain information, etc.

PART 8

SECURITY AND RELIABILITY OF SYSTEMS
AND SERVICES — PUBLIC ENTITIES

Section

- 64. Interpretation of this Part
- 65. Responsible Minister's request to Agency
- 66. Arrangements with public entity
- 67. Agency's powers

PART 9

ADMINISTRATION

- 68. Composition of offences
- 69. Offences by corporations
- 70. Offences by unincorporated associations or partnerships
- 71. Service of documents
- 72. Exclusion of public authority
- 73. Regulations

PART 10

TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS AND
PERSONNEL TO AGENCY

- 74. Interpretation of this Part
- 75. Transfer of undertakings to Agency
- 76. Transfer of employees to Agency
- 77. General preservation of employment terms, etc.
- 78. Transfer of records

PART 11

SAVING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

- 79. Interpretation of this Part
- 80. Application of this Part
- 81. Saving and transitional provisions

PART 12

CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS
TO OTHER ACTS

- 82. Consequential amendments to other Acts
-

A BILL

intituled

An Act to establish the Government Technology Agency and to make consequential amendments to certain other Acts.

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

PART 1
PRELIMINARY

Short title and commencement

1. This Act is the Government Technology Agency Act 2016 and
5 comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by
notification in the *Gazette*.

Interpretation

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

- 10 “Agency” means the Government Technology Agency
established by section 3;
- “auditor”, in relation to the Agency, means the Auditor-General
or such other auditor appointed by the Minister under
section 54(1);
- 15 “Chairperson”, in relation to the Agency, means the member of
the Agency who is appointed under section 13(1)(a) as the
Chairperson of the Agency, and includes any individual
acting in that capacity;
- 20 “Chief Executive”, in relation to the Agency, means the Chief
Executive of the Agency appointed under section 40(2), and
includes any individual acting in that capacity;
- “committee”, in relation to the Agency, means a committee of the
Agency appointed under section 36;
- “committee member” means a member of a committee of the
Agency appointed under section 36;
- 25 “delegate”, in relation to the Agency, means a person to whom
the Agency, under section 38(1), delegates any of its functions
or powers;
- 30 “Deputy Chairperson”, in relation to the Agency, means the
member of the Agency who is appointed under
section 13(1)(b) as the Deputy Chairperson of the Agency;
- “document” includes any device or medium on which
information is recorded or stored;

“employee”, in relation to the Agency, means —

- (a) in the case of Part 10, an individual who is employed by the Agency under a contract of service; or
- (b) in any other case, an individual who is employed by the Agency under a contract of service or who is otherwise engaged to perform duties in the Agency;

5

“function”, in relation to the Agency, means a function conferred on the Agency by this Act or any other Act;

“info-communications technology” means any technology employed in the collection, storage, use or transmission of information, and includes a technology that involves the use of a computer or a telecommunication system;

10

“member”, in relation to the Agency, means a member of the Agency appointed under section 11, and includes a temporary member appointed under section 15(2);

15

“power”, in relation to the Agency, means a power given to the Agency by this Act or any other Act;

“public authority” means a body that is established or constituted by or under a public Act to perform or discharge a public function, but does not include a Town Council established under section 4 of the Town Councils Act (Cap. 329A);

20

“public entity” means a body corporate (not being a public authority) that —

- (a) provides an essential service to the public or a section of the public; and
- (b) receives funding or other facilities or support from the Government in connection with the provision of the essential service;

25

“public sector” means the Government and all public authorities, and includes any part of the public sector;

30

“public sector body” means a Ministry, a Government department, a public authority or any other body of persons in the public sector;

“system”, in relation to info-communications technology or related engineering, includes infrastructure and application;
 “telecommunication system” has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Telecommunications Act (Cap. 323).

5

PART 2

ESTABLISHMENT, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF AGENCY

Government Technology Agency

10 **3.** A body called the Government Technology Agency is established by this section.

Agency is body corporate

4. The Agency —

- (a) is a body corporate with perpetual succession;
- (b) may acquire, hold and dispose of real and personal property;
and
- (c) may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

15

Objectives and functions of Agency

5.—(1) The objectives of the Agency are to —

- (a) harness and deploy info-communications technology and related engineering for services that benefit Singapore; and
- (b) develop the necessary capabilities to support the delivery of such services.

20

(2) The Agency has the following functions:

- (a) to act as a lead agency in the public sector in respect of the functions specified in paragraphs (b) to (g);
- (b) to advise and make recommendations to the Government on national needs and policies in respect of info-communications technology and related engineering matters;

25

- (c) to provide, develop, implement or operate, or direct or facilitate the provision, development, implementation or operation, of info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services in the public sector;
- (d) to ensure the security and reliability of info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services in the public sector; 5
- (e) to provide to the public sector consultancy, project management and other services, manpower and facilities for info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services; 10
- (f) to undertake the procurement of info-communications technology and related engineering goods (including equipment and systems) and services for —
 - (i) the public sector; and 15
 - (ii) such other organisation as the Minister may, by written notice to the Agency and with the agreement of that organisation, designate;
- (g) to promote and develop competencies and professional standards in the public sector in relation to info-communications technology and related engineering matters; 20
- (h) to collaborate, in the performance of its functions, with other public sector bodies that have similar or related functions;
- (i) to promote or undertake research into and development of matters relating to info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services in the public sector; 25
- (j) to develop and promote, and collaborate with the public sector on, the use of info-communications technology and related engineering in the public sector for the technological advancement of Singapore; 30
- (k) to assist, where appropriate, a public entity with the security and reliability of that public entity's info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services;

(*l*) to represent Singapore and advance Singapore's interest internationally in relation to info-communications technology and related engineering matters for the public sector;

5 (*m*) to promote and facilitate public participation in the development of info-communications technology and related engineering capabilities for Singapore;

(*n*) to perform such other functions as may be conferred on the Agency by any other Act.

10 (3) The Agency may also undertake such other functions as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, assign to the Agency, and in so undertaking —

(*a*) the Agency is deemed to be fulfilling the purposes of this Act; and

15 (*b*) the provisions of this Act apply to the Agency in respect of those other functions.

(4) Nothing in this section imposes on the Agency, directly or indirectly, any form of duty or liability enforceable by proceedings before any court to which the Agency would not otherwise be subject.

20 **Powers of Agency**

6.—(1) Subject to this Act, the Agency has power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for, or in connection with, the performance of its functions.

25 (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the powers of the Agency mentioned in that subsection include power —

(*a*) to develop and issue codes and guidelines on data protection standards for the public sector in respect of the use of info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services;

30 (*b*) to collaborate with other persons (in or outside Singapore), in respect of info-communications technology and related engineering matters for the public sector;

- (c) to organise, provide for or collaborate with any person on training programmes, assessments and certifications of, and scholarships for, persons in relation to info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services;
 - (d) to enter into agreements and arrangements; 5
 - (e) to execute and manage agreements on behalf of the public sector for the procurement of info-communications technology and related engineering goods (including equipment and systems) and services;
 - (f) to form or participate in the formation of a body corporate, unincorporated association or trust, or enter into a joint venture with any person; 10
 - (g) to charge for the provision of goods or services, or the performance of work, by or on behalf of the Agency;
 - (h) to waive or refund the whole or part of any fee or charges payable or paid to the Agency under this Act or any other Act administered by the Agency; 15
 - (i) to carry out such works or activities as the Agency considers necessary, advantageous or convenient for making the best use of the Agency's assets; 20
 - (j) to accept grants, gifts, donations or contributions from any source, or raise funds by all lawful means;
 - (k) to provide financial support, grant, aid or assistance to any person in connection with any function of the Agency; and
 - (l) to do any other thing that is necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with, or as incidental to, the performance of its functions. 25
- (3) To avoid doubt, subsection (1) does not limit any other power given to the Agency by any other provision in this Act or by any other Act. 30

Powers of Agency in relation to proposals for privatisation

7.—(1) Where the Minister proposes to transfer any property or function of the Agency to another body corporate (called in this

section the transferee), the Agency has the power to do anything which, in the opinion of the Agency, is appropriate for the purpose of —

- (a) facilitating the implementation of the Minister's proposal;
- 5 (b) facilitating the implementation of, or securing a modification of, any related proposal of the Minister;
- (c) promoting, in relation to the Minister's proposal or related proposal, the interest of the transferee; or
- 10 (d) promoting, in relation to the Minister's proposal or related proposal, the interest of a body corporate that may become, under the Minister's proposal or related proposal, a member of the same group as the transferee.

(2) To avoid doubt, subsection (1) does not limit any other power given to the Agency by any other provision in this Act or by any other Act.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1)(d), a body corporate is a member of the same group as the transferee if —

- (a) the body corporate is a holding company or subsidiary of the transferee; or
- 20 (b) the body corporate is another subsidiary of the transferee's holding company.

(4) In this section —

“holding company” and “subsidiary” have the same meanings as in section 5 of the Companies Act (Cap. 50);

25 “related proposal” means a proposal of the Minister that relates to the Minister's proposal to transfer a property or function of the Agency to the transferee, and includes a proposal relating to or connected with —

- 30 (a) any property, right or liability of the Agency that would be affected by the proposed transfer, or that is proposed to be transferred to the transferee;

- (b) the performance, whether before or after the transfer, of a function of the Agency that is proposed to be transferred to the transferee; or
- (c) the formation, flotation, control, finances, or officers or employees, of the transferee or of any other body corporate that may become, under the Minister's proposal or related proposal, a member of the same group as the transferee. 5

Directions of Minister, etc.

8.—(1) The Minister may give to the Agency directions on the performance by the Agency of its functions; and the Agency must give effect to all such directions. 10

(2) To avoid doubt, the Minister is entitled —

- (a) to information in the possession of the Agency; and
- (b) where the information is in or on a document, to have, and make and retain copies of, that document. 15

(3) For the purposes of this section, the Minister may request the Agency —

- (a) to furnish information to the Minister; or
- (b) to give the Minister access to information. 20

(4) The Agency must comply with a request under subsection (3).

(5) In this section, “information” means information specified, or of a description specified, by the Minister that relates to the Agency's functions, and includes a document.

Agency's symbols, etc.

9.—(1) The Agency has the exclusive right to the use of one or more symbols or representations as it may select or devise (each called in this section the Agency's symbol or representation), and to display or exhibit those symbols or representations in connection with the Agency's activities or affairs. 25 30

(2) A person who —

(a) uses, without the prior written permission of the Agency, a symbol or representation that is identical with the Agency's symbol or representation; or

5 (b) uses a symbol or representation that so resembles the Agency's symbol or representation as to deceive or cause confusion, or to be likely to deceive or to cause confusion,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding
10 6 months or to both.

PART 3

CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF AGENCY

Division 1 — Appointment, resignation and removal

Membership of Agency

15 **10.**—(1) The Agency consists of at least 6 and not more than 17 members.

(2) One of the members (who is not the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson) may be the Chief Executive.

Appointment of members of Agency

20 **11.**—(1) Each member is to be appointed by the Minister.

(2) Every appointment must be made by instrument in writing given to the member.

(3) The instrument must state —

(a) the term of the appointment; and

25 (b) the date the appointment takes effect (which must not be earlier than the date on which the member receives the instrument).

Membership disqualification

12.—(1) In appointing members, the Minister must have regard to whether the members will collectively possess the appropriate knowledge, skills and experience to assist the Agency to perform its functions effectively.

5

(2) The following individuals are disqualified to be or from being a member:

- (a) a Judge or judicial officer;
- (b) an undischarged bankrupt;
- (c) an individual who has been sentenced to imprisonment for a term of 6 months or more, and has not received a free pardon; 10
- (d) an individual who is —
 - (i) disqualified under section 154(1) of the Companies Act (Cap. 50) from acting as a director, or taking part (directly or indirectly) in the management, of a company during the period of disqualification in that section; or 15
 - (ii) disqualified by a court order (under section 149(1), 149A(1) or 154(2) of the Companies Act) from being a director or in any way (directly or indirectly) being concerned in, or taking part in, the management of a company during the period of disqualification in the court order; 20
- (e) an individual who lacks capacity in respect of his or her duties as a member within the meaning of the Mental Capacity Act (Cap. 177A), or in respect of whom an order is made under section 10 of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) Act (Cap. 178A). 25

Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson

13.—(1) The Minister may, by instrument in writing, appoint — 30

- (a) a member to be the Chairperson of the Agency for the period specified in the instrument; and

(b) a member (other than the Chairperson) to be the Deputy Chairperson of the Agency for the period specified in the instrument.

5 (2) A member who is appointed as the Chief Executive is not eligible for an appointment under subsection (1).

(3) The Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson holds office until —

(a) his or her term of office as Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson (as the case may be) expires;

(b) he or she ceases to hold office as a member; or

10 (c) the Minister terminates his or her appointment as Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson (as the case may be),

whichever first happens.

15 (4) The Deputy Chairperson has and may perform all the functions and exercise all the powers of the Chairperson in relation to a matter if —

(a) the Chairperson is unavailable; or

(b) the Chairperson is interested (within the meaning of section 23) in the matter.

Premature vacancies

20 **14.—**(1) If a premature vacancy occurs in the office of a member, the Minister may, subject to sections 10 and 12, appoint an individual to fill the vacancy and hold that office for the remainder of the term for which the vacating member was appointed.

(2) Section 11 applies to an appointment under subsection (1).

25 (3) In this section, “premature vacancy”, for an office, means a vacancy that occurs in that office for any reason other than the expiry of the term of office.

Temporary Chairperson and members

30 **15.—**(1) The Minister may appoint an individual (other than the Chief Executive) to act temporarily as the Chairperson of the Agency during any period, or during all periods, when the Chairperson —

(a) is absent from duty or Singapore; or

(b) is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of the office.

(2) The Minister may appoint an individual to act temporarily as a member of the Agency (other than the Chairperson) during any period, or during all periods, when the member —

5

(a) is absent from duty or Singapore; or

(b) is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of the office.

(3) An individual is ineligible for appointment under this section to act as the Chairperson or a member if the individual is disqualified under section 12(2) for appointment as a member of the Agency.

10

Removal of member

16.—(1) The Minister may, at any time and without giving any reason, remove a member from office.

(2) Every removal under subsection (1) must be made by written notice to the member.

15

(3) The notice must state the date the removal takes effect (which must not be earlier than the date on which the member receives the notice).

Resignation from office

17.—(1) A member may resign his or her office by written notice to the Minister.

20

(2) The resignation is effective —

(a) on the expiry of one month after the date on which the Minister receives the notice; or

(b) on any later date specified in the notice.

25

Validity of acts, etc.

18.—(1) The performance of any function, or the exercise of any power, of the Agency by the Agency is not affected merely because at the relevant time —

- (a) there was a vacancy in the membership of the Agency, including a vacancy arising from the failure to appoint a member;
- 5 (b) there was some defect or irregularity existing in the appointment or continuance in office of an individual purporting to be a member;
- (c) a member failed to disclose his or her interest in a relevant matter (within the meaning of Division 3);
- 10 (d) the Agency failed to report to the Minister under section 27; or
- (e) there was an irregularity in the Agency's decision-making procedure (but only if the irregularity did not affect the merits of the decision made).

15 (2) The acts of an individual as a member of the Agency are not affected merely because there was some defect or irregularity existing in the appointment or continuance in office of the individual purporting to be a member.

Division 2 — Terms and conditions for members

Term of appointment

20 **19.**—(1) The term of appointment of a member must not exceed 3 years.

(2) A member may be re-appointed.

Remuneration, etc.

25 **20.** The members are to be paid, out of the funds of the Agency, such salaries, fees and allowances as the Minister may, from time to time, determine.

Vacation of office

21.—(1) A member ceases to hold office if he or she —

- (a) dies;
- 30 (b) is adjudicated a bankrupt;

- (c) becomes disqualified from being a member under section 12(2);
 - (d) is removed from office in accordance with section 16;
 - (e) resigns in accordance with section 17;
 - (f) fails, without reasonable cause, to disclose any interest required to be disclosed under Division 3, and the Agency reports to the Minister, under section 27, of the member's failure to do so; 5
 - (g) fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings of the Agency (without the approval of the Agency); or 10
 - (h) is not re-appointed when his or her term of office expires.
- (2) A member is not entitled to any compensation or other payment or benefit relating to his or her ceasing, for any reason, to hold office as a member.

Other terms and conditions

15

22. The Minister may specify other terms and conditions of appointment of a member in the instrument of appointment.

Division 3 — Disclosure of members' interests

Interpretation of this Division

23.—(1) In this Division, “relevant matter” means a matter that relates to, or may in the future relate to — 20

- (a) the performance of a function, or the exercise of a power, of the Agency; or
 - (b) an arrangement or an agreement made or entered into, or proposed to be made or entered into, by or on behalf of the Agency. 25
- (2) A member is interested in a relevant matter if —
- (a) the member, or an associate of the member, may derive a financial benefit from the relevant matter;

(b) the member, or an associate of the member, may have a financial interest in a person to whom the relevant matter relates; or

(c) the member, or an associate of the member, is otherwise, directly or indirectly, interested in the relevant matter.

(3) However, a member is not interested in a relevant matter —

(a) only because of an interest in a question about the level of salaries, fees, allowances or expenses to be set for members;

(b) only because of an interest that the member, or an associate of the member, shares in common with the general public or a substantial section of the public;

(c) only because the member, or an associate of the member, has an interest in the payment or reimbursement of membership fees for, or expenses related to membership in, a body with predominantly charitable objects;

(d) only because the member has past or current involvement in the relevant sector, industry or practice; or

(e) if his or her interest is so remote or insignificant that it cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to influence him or her in carrying out his or her responsibilities under this Act or another Act administered by the Agency.

(4) In this Division, a person is an associate of another if —

(a) they are spouses, siblings, a parent and child, or in a similar close family relationship;

(b) they are in partnership;

(c) one is a body corporate and the other is a director or manager of, or holds an analogous position in, the body corporate;

(d) one is a private company within the meaning of section 4(1) of the Companies Act (Cap. 50) and the other is a shareholder in the company; or

(e) a chain of relationships can be traced between them under one or more of paragraphs (a) to (d).

Obligation to disclose interest

24.—(1) A member who is interested in a relevant matter must disclose details of the interest in accordance with section 25 as soon as practicable after the member becomes aware that he or she is interested in the matter. 5

(2) A general notice of an interest in a relevant matter that is disclosed in accordance with section 25 is a standing disclosure of that interest for the purposes of this section.

(3) However, a standing disclosure ceases to have effect if the nature of the interest materially alters or the extent of the interest materially increases. 10

(4) To avoid doubt, this section is in addition to, and not in derogation of, the operation of any rule of law restricting or prohibiting a member from having any interest in the Agency's arrangements or agreements or from holding offices or possessing interests in conflict with his or her duties as a member. 15

To whom and what to disclose

25.—(1) A member who is interested in a relevant matter must disclose details of the interest —

(a) in the case of the Chairperson, to the Chief Executive, all other members and the Minister; or 20

(b) in the case of any other member, to the Chief Executive and —

(i) to the Chairperson;

(ii) if there is no Chairperson or if the Chairperson is interested in the matter, to the Deputy Chairperson; or 25

(iii) if there is neither a Chairperson nor Deputy Chairperson, or if both the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson are interested in the matter, to the Minister. 30

(2) The details that must be disclosed under subsection (1) are —

- (a) the nature of the interest and the monetary value of the interest (if the monetary value can be quantified); or
- (b) the nature and extent of the interest (if the monetary value cannot be quantified).

(3) The Chief Executive must ensure that every interest of a member in a relevant matter —

- (a) is recorded in a register of interests kept by the Agency; and
- (b) is brought to the attention of the person who presides, under section 32, at a meeting of the Agency that relates to the relevant matter.

Consequences of being interested in relevant matter

26. A member who is interested in a relevant matter —

- (a) must not vote or take part in any discussion or decision of the Agency relating to the relevant matter, or otherwise participate in any activity of the Agency that relates to the relevant matter;
- (b) must withdraw from a meeting of the Agency during any discussion or the consideration of any decision relating to the relevant matter if the person presiding at the meeting under section 32 so requests;
- (c) must not sign any document relating to the entry into a transaction or the initiation of the relevant matter; and
- (d) is to be disregarded for the purpose of forming a quorum for that part of a meeting of the Agency during which a discussion or decision relating to the relevant matter occurs or is made.

Consequences of failure to disclose interest

27.—(1) The Agency must report to the Minister of a failure to comply with section 25 or 26, and of the acts affected, as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the failure.

(2) The Agency's report under subsection (1) of a member's failure to comply with section 25 or 26 must state whether that failure was due to any reasonable cause.

PART 4

DECISION-MAKING BY AGENCY

5

Division 1 — Meetings

Procedure generally

28. Except as otherwise provided under this Act or any other Act, the members of the Agency may regulate their own procedure.

Notice of meetings

10

29.—(1) The Agency is to hold such meetings as are necessary for performing its functions.

(2) The Chairperson must appoint the times and places of the meetings of the Agency, and cause notice of those meetings to be given to each member not present when the appointment is made.

15

(3) If the Chairperson receives a written request, signed by 4 or more members, that a meeting of the Agency be convened for a purpose specified in the request, the Chairperson must, within 7 days after receiving the request, convene a meeting for that purpose.

Method of holding meetings

20

30.—(1) A meeting of the Agency may be held —

(a) by a quorum of members, being assembled together at the time and place appointed for the meeting; or

(b) by means of audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication but only if —

25

(i) all of the members who wish to participate in the meeting have access to the technology needed to participate in the meeting; and

(ii) a quorum of members are able to simultaneously communicate with each other throughout the meeting.

30

(2) For the purposes of this Act, a member participating in a meeting as permitted under subsection (1)(b)(i) is taken to be present at the meeting.

Quorum

5 **31.—**(1) The quorum for a meeting of the Agency is the higher of the following:

(a) one-third of the number of members;

(b) 3 members.

10 (2) No business may be transacted at a meeting of the Agency if a quorum is not present.

Presiding at meetings

32.—(1) At a meeting of the Agency, the following person presides:

15 (a) if there is a Chairperson and he or she is present and is not interested (within the meaning of section 23) in the matter — the Chairperson;

(b) if there is no Chairperson, or the Chairperson is not present or is interested (within the meaning of section 23) in the matter, and there is a Deputy Chairperson who is present and is not interested (within the meaning of section 23) in the matter — the Deputy Chairperson;

20

(c) in any other case, the member elected, from among the members present at the meeting, to preside.

25 (2) The person specified in subsection (1)(b) or (c) may perform the functions and exercise the powers of the Chairperson for the purposes of the meeting.

(3) In this section, a reference to a meeting of the Agency includes the process for, and the adoption of, a decision by the members of the Agency under section 34.

Voting at meetings

30 **33.—**(1) Each member has one vote.

(2) In addition to his or her general vote, the person presiding at a meeting has, in the case of an equality of votes at the meeting, a casting vote.

(3) A decision is adopted by the Agency at a meeting if it is agreed to by all members present at the meeting without dissent or if a majority of the votes cast on it are in favour of it.

(4) A member present at a meeting of the Agency is presumed to have agreed to, and to have cast a vote in favour of, a decision of the Agency unless he or she expressly dissents from or votes against the decision at the meeting.

Decisions in writing

34.—(1) The members may, in place of the procedure described in section 33, adopt a decision by assenting to the decision in writing if —

(a) all the members are given (whether by post, personal delivery or electronic communication) the terms of the decision to be made; and

(b) a majority of those members who are entitled to vote on the matter sign or approve a document containing the terms of the decision to be made and a statement that they are in favour of those terms.

(2) The decision is deemed to have been adopted at a meeting of the Agency on the date on which the document containing the terms of the decision to be made is signed or approved by the last member required to form the majority of members in favour of the decision.

(3) The adoption of the decision by the Agency may consist of several documents containing the same terms of the decision to be made, each signed or approved by one or more members.

(4) For the purposes of this section, a member has the same voting rights as he or she would have under section 33(1) and (2) had a meeting been held on the matter.

Execution of documents

35.—(1) The Agency must have a seal.

(2) The seal of the Agency is to be kept and used as authorised by the Agency.

(3) A document is duly executed by the Agency if —

(a) the seal of the Agency is affixed to the document in the presence of one of its members who must sign the document to attest that the seal was so affixed, and the document is signed —

(i) by any 2 members generally or specially authorised by the Agency for the purpose; or

(ii) by one member and the Chief Executive; or

(b) it is signed on behalf of the Agency by a person or persons authorised to do so by the Agency and in accordance with the terms of that authorisation.

(4) Where a document is to be executed under seal, the Agency may, under subsection (3)(b), authorise one or more of its employees to execute, on the Agency's behalf, the document under the Agency's seal in accordance with the terms of that authorisation.

(5) A document purporting to be executed in accordance with this section is presumed to be duly executed until the contrary is shown.

(6) All courts, judges and persons acting judicially must take judicial notice of the imprint of the seal of the Agency appearing on a document.

(7) When a document is produced bearing a seal purporting to be the seal of the Agency, it is presumed that the seal is the seal of the Agency until the contrary is shown.

Division 2 — Committees and delegation

Appointment of committees

36.—(1) The Agency may appoint such number of committees as it thinks fit for purposes which, in the opinion of the Agency, would be better regulated and managed by means of such committees.

(2) A committee appointed under this section may consist of such individuals as the Agency thinks fit, and may include individuals who are not members of the Agency.

(3) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the Agency may appoint committees —

5

(a) to advise the Agency on matters relating to the Agency's functions and powers that are referred to the committee by the Agency; or

(b) to perform any function or exercise any power of the Agency that is delegated to the committee, if the committee includes at least one member of the Agency.

10

(4) An individual may not be appointed as a member of a committee unless, before appointment, he or she discloses to the Agency the details of any interest (within the meaning of section 23, as modified by section 37(3)) the individual may have if he or she were a member of that committee.

15

Proceedings of committees, etc.

37.—(1) Subject to this Act and the control of the Agency, a committee appointed under section 36 may regulate its own proceedings and business.

20

(2) Section 18 applies to a committee and the members of the committee, with the necessary modifications.

(3) Sections 23 to 27 apply to a committee and the members of the committee, subject to the following modifications:

(a) the reference in those sections to a relevant matter is a reference to a relevant matter (within the meaning of section 23) that is regulated or managed by the committee;

25

(b) the reference in those sections to a member is a reference to a member of the committee;

(c) the reference in section 25 to disclosing details of an interest is a reference to disclosing the details to the Agency and the Chief Executive;

30

(d) the reference in section 26 to a discussion, decision, meeting or other activity of the Agency is a reference to a discussion, decision, meeting or other activity of the committee;

5 (e) the reference in section 27 to the Agency reporting to the Minister is a reference to the committee reporting to the Agency.

Ability to delegate

10 **38.—**(1) The Agency may delegate any of its functions or powers, either generally or specially and subject to such conditions or restrictions as it thinks fit, to any of the following persons:

(a) a member of the Agency;

(b) the Chief Executive or an employee of the Agency;

(c) a committee of the Agency that includes at least one member of the Agency;

15 (d) a company that is incorporated in Singapore and is a subsidiary of the Agency.

(2) A delegation under subsection (1) must be by written notice given to the delegate.

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to —

20 (a) the power to make subsidiary legislation conferred by this Act or any other Act;

(b) the power to delegate conferred by this section; or

(c) any function or power under this Act or any other Act that is declared by this Act or that other Act to be non-delegable.

25 (4) A delegation in accordance with this section —

(a) except as otherwise provided in this Act or any other Act administered by the Agency, does not affect or prevent the performance of any function or the exercise of any power by the Agency;

30 (b) is not affected by any change in the membership of the Agency;

- (c) is not affected by any change in the membership of a committee (where the committee is the delegate), so long as the committee includes at least one member of the Agency; or
 - (d) is not affected by any change in the individual appointed as the Chief Executive or holding any specified office in the Agency (where the delegate is the Chief Executive or the holder of the specified office). 5
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (1)(d), a company is a subsidiary of the Agency if — 10
- (a) the Agency is the sole member of that company; or
 - (b) the Agency, as a member of that company, holds more than half of the voting power in that company.

Validity of delegate's acts, etc.

- 39.** A delegate who purports to perform a function or exercise a power under delegation — 15
- (a) is taken to do so in accordance with the terms of the delegation under section 38, unless the contrary is shown; and
 - (b) must produce evidence of the delegation, if reasonably requested to do so. 20

PART 5

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Appointment of Chief Executive

- 40.—**(1) The Chief Executive — 25
- (a) is responsible to the Agency for the proper administration and management of the functions and affairs of the Agency in accordance with the policy laid down by the Agency; and
 - (b) may be known by such designation as the Agency may determine. 30

(2) The Agency must, with the approval of the Minister, appoint an individual to be the Chief Executive, and the Minister must consult the Public Service Commission before giving that approval.

5 (3) The Agency may remove the Chief Executive from office only with the approval of the Minister, and the Minister must consult the Public Service Commission before giving that approval.

(4) The terms and conditions of the Chief Executive's appointment are to be determined by the Agency.

10 (5) The Agency may appoint an individual to act temporarily as the Chief Executive during any period, or during all periods, when the Chief Executive —

(a) is absent from duty or Singapore; or

(b) is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of the office.

Employees

15 **41.**—(1) The Agency may, from time to time, appoint and employ such employees as may be necessary for the effective performance of its functions.

(2) The Agency may determine their remuneration and the other terms and conditions of their employment insofar as they are not
20 determined by or under any Act or other law.

Public servants and public officers

42.—(1) The Chief Executive, and all members, employees and delegates of the Agency, and all committee members —

25 (a) are deemed to be public servants for the purposes of the Penal Code (Cap. 224); and

(b) are deemed to be public officers for the purposes of the Government Contracts Act (Cap. 118).

(2) The Chief Executive, and all members, employees and delegates of the Agency, and all committee members are —

30 (a) in relation to their administration, assessment, collection or enforcement of payment of composition sums under this Act or any other Act administered by the Agency; or

- (b) in relation to all procurement undertaken, and all agreements executed or managed, by them (on behalf of or as a delegate of the Agency) on behalf of the Government,

deemed to be public officers for the purposes of the Financial Procedure Act (Cap. 109); and section 20 of that Act applies to these individuals even though they are not or were not in the employment of the Government.

Preservation of secrecy

43.—(1) The Chief Executive, a member, an employee or a delegate of the Agency, or a committee member, who has information in his or her capacity as such that would not otherwise be available to him or her, must not disclose that information to any person except —

- (a) in the performance of the Agency's functions;
- (b) with the prior authorisation from the Agency to do so;
- (c) in complying with the requirements in this Act for a member of the Agency or a committee member to disclose an interest;
- (d) as required or allowed by this Act or any other Act; or
- (e) as required by an order of court.

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

Protection from personal liability

44. No liability shall lie against the Chief Executive, any member, employee or delegate of the Agency, any committee member, or any other person acting under the direction of the Agency, for anything which is done or purported to be done, or omitted to be done, in good faith and with reasonable care in —

- (a) the performance or purported performance of any function of the Agency; or
- (b) the exercise or purported exercise of any power of the Agency.

PART 6

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Financial year

5 **45.** The financial year of the Agency begins on 1 April of each year and ends on 31 March of the succeeding year except that the first financial year of the Agency begins on the date of commencement of this Act and ends on 31 March of the succeeding year.

Revenue and property of Agency

46.—(1) The funds and property of the Agency include —

- 10 (a) all moneys paid to the Agency by way of grants, subsidies, donations, gifts and contributions for purposes of the Agency;
- (b) all moneys paid to, and all other moneys and property lawfully received by, the Agency for purposes of the Agency;
- 15 (c) all fees, charges and other sums paid to the Agency (or an employee of the Agency or any other person acting on behalf of the Agency), under this Act or any other Act administered by the Agency, except as otherwise provided in section 47 or that other Act;
- 20 (d) all moneys, dividends, royalties, interest or income received from any transaction made under the powers of the Agency under this Act or any other Act administered by the Agency;
- (e) all moneys borrowed by the Agency under this Act; and
- 25 (f) all accumulations of income derived from any property or money referred to in paragraphs (a) to (e).

(2) The moneys of the Agency are to be applied only in payment of expenses incurred by it in the discharge of its functions, obligations and liabilities, and in making any payment that the Agency is authorised or required to make.

Payments into Consolidated Fund

47. All sums collected for the composition of an offence under this Act or any other Act administered by the Agency are to be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

Bank accounts

5

48.—(1) The Agency must open and maintain one or more accounts with such bank or banks as the Agency thinks fit.

(2) Every account under subsection (1) may only be operated by a person who is authorised to do so by the Agency.

Financial procedures and records

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49. The Agency must —

(a) keep proper accounts and records of its transactions and affairs; and

(b) do all things necessary to ensure that —

(i) all payments out of its moneys are correctly made and properly authorised; and

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(ii) adequate control is maintained over the funds and property of, or in the custody of, the Agency and over the expenditure incurred by the Agency.

Annual estimates

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50.—(1) The Agency must, in every financial year, prepare or cause to be prepared, and adopt, annual estimates of income and expenditure of the Agency for the ensuing financial year.

(2) The Agency may adopt supplementary estimates of income and expenditure of the Agency where necessary.

25

(3) A copy of all annual estimates and supplementary estimates mentioned in this section must be sent to the Minister as soon as possible after their adoption by the Agency.

Power of investment

51. The Agency may invest its moneys in accordance with the standard investment power of statutory bodies as defined in section 33A of the Interpretation Act (Cap. 1).

Issue of shares, etc.

52. As a consequence of —

(a) the vesting of any property, right or liability in the Agency under this Act; or

(b) any capital injection or other investment by the Government in the Agency in accordance with any other written law,

the Agency must issue such shares or other securities to the Minister for Finance as that Minister may, from time to time, direct.

Borrowing power

53.—(1) The Agency cannot raise loans for the performance of its functions under this Act or any other Act administered by the Agency except in accordance with this section.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the Agency may raise loans by —

(a) mortgage, overdraft or other means, with or without security;

(b) charge, whether legal or equitable, on any property vested in the Agency or on any other revenue receivable by the Agency under this Act or any other written law; or

(c) the creation and issue of debentures or bonds, or such other instrument as the Minister may approve.

(3) The Agency may raise loans under subsection (2) —

(a) from the Government; or

(b) with the approval of the Minister, from another source, whether in or outside Singapore.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the power to raise loans includes the power to enter into any financial agreement or arrangement under which credit facilities are granted to the Agency for the purchase of goods or services.

Appointment of auditor

54.—(1) The accounts of the Agency are to be audited by the Auditor-General, or such other auditor as may be appointed annually by the Minister in consultation with the Auditor-General.

(2) A person is not qualified for appointment as an auditor under subsection (1) unless the person is a public accountant who is registered or deemed to be registered under the Accountants Act (Cap. 2).

(3) The remuneration of the auditor is to be paid out of the funds of the Agency.

Powers of auditor

55.—(1) The Agency must, as soon as practicable after the close of each financial year, prepare and submit the financial statements in respect of that year to the auditor of the Agency, who must audit and report on them.

(2) For the purpose of auditing and reporting on the financial statements submitted under subsection (1), the auditor of the Agency, or a person authorised by the auditor for that purpose (called in this section an authorised person), is entitled at all reasonable times —

(a) to full and free access to all accounting and other records relating, directly or indirectly, to the financial transactions of the Agency;

(b) to make copies of or extracts from any of those accounting and other records; and

(c) to require any person to furnish the auditor or the authorised person with such information in the possession of that person, or to which that person has access, as the auditor or the authorised person considers necessary for the purposes of the auditor's functions under this Act.

(3) A person —

(a) who fails, without any reasonable cause, to comply with any requirement of the auditor of the Agency or an authorised person under subsection (2); or

- (b) who otherwise obstructs, hinders or delays the auditor or the authorised person in the performance of his or her functions, or the exercise of his or her powers, under this Act,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

Auditor's report

56.—(1) The auditor's report on the financial statements submitted under section 55(1) must state —

- (a) whether the financial statements show fairly the financial transactions and the state of affairs of the Agency;
- (b) whether proper accounting and other records have been kept, including records of all assets of the Agency whether purchased, donated or otherwise;
- (c) whether the receipts, expenditure, investment of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the Agency during the financial year have been in accordance with this Act; and
- (d) such other matters arising from the audit as the auditor considers should be reported.

(2) The auditor may at any other time report to the Minister, through the Agency, on any matter arising out of the performance of an audit under this Act.

Audited annual financial statements

57.—(1) The Agency must, as soon as its accounts and financial statements have been audited in accordance with the provisions of this Act, send to the Minister a copy of the audited financial statements, signed by the Chairperson, together with a copy of the auditor's report under section 56(1).

(2) The Minister must, as soon as practicable, cause a copy of the audited financial statements and of the auditor's report under section 56(1) to be presented to Parliament.

(3) Where the auditor is not the Auditor-General, the auditor must forward to the Auditor-General a copy of the audited financial

statements and of the auditor's report under section 56(1), at the same time as the auditor submits them to the Agency.

Annual and other reports of Agency

58.—(1) The Agency must, as soon as practicable after the end of each financial year, cause to be prepared and transmitted to the Minister a report dealing generally with the activities of the Agency during the preceding financial year and containing such information relating to the proceedings and policy of the Agency as the Minister may, from time to time, direct. 5

(2) The Minister must, as soon as practicable, cause a copy of every such report to be presented to Parliament. 10

PART 7

SECURITY AND RELIABILITY OF SYSTEMS AND SERVICES — PUBLIC SECTOR

Purpose of this Part 15

59. The purpose of this Part is to ensure the security and reliability of info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services in the public sector.

Power to issue directives, etc.

60. The Agency may develop and issue directives, codes, standards or guidelines for the public sector in relation to the architecture or use of info-communications technology or related engineering systems or services in the public sector. 20

Monitoring of compliance

61.—(1) The Agency may monitor the public sector's compliance — 25

(a) with the directives, codes, standards or guidelines issued by the Agency under section 60; or

(b) where a public sector body authorises the Agency to do so, with the directives, codes, standards or guidelines (relating to 30

the architecture or use of info-communications technology or related engineering systems or services in the public sector) issued or directed by that public sector body.

5 (2) For the purpose of subsection (1), the Agency may carry out, or authorise any person to carry out, an audit of the architecture or use of any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service in the public sector.

10 (3) The Agency may report on the compliance of a public sector body with any directive, code, standard or guideline referred to in subsection (1) —

(a) to the public sector body; or

(b) to any other person within the public sector.

Remedial measures, etc.

15 **62.**—(1) Where the Agency is of the opinion that additional measures are required to safeguard or restore the security or reliability of any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service in the public sector, the Agency may, with the authorisation of the Minister —

20 (a) implement, or direct the public sector body responsible for that system or service (called in this section the responsible public sector body) to implement, such security, mitigation or recovery measures as the Agency considers necessary; and

25 (b) direct the deployment of such resources (including personnel) of the responsible public sector body, as the Agency considers necessary, for the purpose of implementing the measures.

(2) In this section, “measures” includes the development and implementation of systems and services.

Power to obtain information, etc.

30 **63.**—(1) For the purposes of sections 61 and 62, the Agency may require a public sector body to grant access, or make the necessary arrangements for access to be granted, to the Agency or any person authorised by the Agency in respect of —

- (a) any information or document relating to any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service;
 - (b) any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service; or 5
 - (c) any premises containing that information or document, or that info-communications technology or related engineering system or service.
- (2) The Agency's powers under subsection (1) are subject to any other Act that prohibits or restricts the disclosure of information. 10

PART 8

SECURITY AND RELIABILITY OF SYSTEMS AND SERVICES — PUBLIC ENTITIES

Interpretation of this Part

- 64.** In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires — 15
- “designated public entity” means a public entity that is declared by the Minister under section 66(3) to be a designated public entity;
 - “relevant system or service”, in relation to a designated public entity, means the system or service of the designated public entity in respect of which arrangements are established under section 66; 20
 - “responsible Minister”, in relation to a public entity or designated public entity, means the Minister charged with the responsibility for — 25
 - (a) the sector or industry that includes the public entity or designated public entity; or
 - (b) the public authority that regulates the public entity or designated public entity.

Responsible Minister's request to Agency

65. A responsible Minister may request the Agency to assist a public entity to ensure the security or reliability of any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service of the public entity if the responsible Minister is of the opinion that —

- (a) the security or reliability of the system or service is at significant risk or has been significantly compromised; and
- (b) it is in the public interest, or in the interest of public safety or the security of Singapore, to make the request to the Agency.

Arrangements with public entity

66.—(1) Upon the responsible Minister making a request under section 65, the Minister charged with the responsibility for the Agency may direct the Agency to establish the necessary arrangements with the public entity on the steps that the Agency may take under section 67, including with respect to —

- (a) the matters in respect of which the Agency may exercise its powers under section 67; and
- (b) the methodologies and procedures to be adopted by the Agency when exercising its powers under section 67.

(2) The arrangements established under subsection (1) must be submitted to the responsible Minister for his or her approval.

(3) After the responsible Minister approves the arrangements, the Minister charged with the responsibility for the Agency may, by notification in the *Gazette*, declare the public entity to be a designated public entity and specify the date on which the arrangements are to take effect.

(4) The Agency and the designated public entity may, at any time, by agreement, vary the arrangements, with the approval of the responsible Minister.

Agency's powers

67. Subject to the arrangements established and approved under section 66, the Agency may do any or all of the following in relation to the designated public entity:

- (a) develop and recommend to the designated public entity directives, codes, standards or guidelines in relation to the architecture or use of the relevant system or service of the designated public entity; 5
- (b) carry out an audit, or require an audit to be carried out, of the architecture or use of the relevant system or service; 10
- (c) advise the designated public entity to implement such security, mitigation or recovery measures as the Agency considers necessary;
- (d) advise the designated public entity on the deployment of such resources (including personnel) of the designated public entity, as the Agency considers necessary, for the purpose of implementing the measures; 15
- (e) report to the designated public entity and the responsible Minister on the matter, including on the outcome of the investigations undertaken by, and the status of the designated public entity's adoption and implementation of any advice or recommendation of, the Agency. 20

PART 9

ADMINISTRATION

Composition of offences 25

68.—(1) The Chief Executive, or an employee of the Agency authorised in writing by the Agency, may compound any offence under this Act that is prescribed as a compoundable offence by collecting from a person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence a sum not exceeding the lower of the following: 30

- (a) one half of the amount of the maximum fine that is prescribed for the offence;

(b) \$2,000.

(2) On payment of such sum of money, no further proceedings are to be taken against that person in respect of the offence.

Offences by corporations

5 **69.**—(1) Where, in a proceeding for an offence under this Act, it is necessary to prove the state of mind of a corporation in relation to a particular conduct, evidence that —

10 (a) an officer, employee or agent of the corporation engaged in that conduct within the scope of his or her actual or apparent authority; and

 (b) the officer, employee or agent had that state of mind,
is evidence that the corporation had that state of mind.

(2) Where a corporation commits an offence under this Act, a person —

15 (a) who is —

 (i) an officer of the corporation; or

 (ii) an individual who is involved in the management of the corporation and is in a position to influence the conduct of the corporation in relation to the
20 commission of the offence; and

 (b) who —

 (i) consented or connived, or conspired with others, to effect the commission of the offence;

25 (ii) is in any other way, whether by act or omission, knowingly concerned in, or is party to, the commission of the offence by the corporation; or

30 (iii) knew or ought reasonably to have known that the offence by the corporation (or an offence of the same type) would be or is being committed, and failed to take all reasonable steps to prevent or stop the commission of that offence,

shall be guilty of that same offence as is the corporation, and shall be liable on conviction to be punished accordingly.

(3) A person mentioned in subsection (2) may rely on a defence that would be available to the corporation if it were charged with the offence with which the person is charged and, in doing so, the person bears the same burden of proof that the corporation would bear.

5

(4) To avoid doubt, this section does not affect the application of —

(a) Chapters V and VA of the Penal Code (Cap. 224); or

(b) the Evidence Act (Cap. 97) or any other law or practice regarding the admissibility of evidence.

10

(5) To avoid doubt, subsection (1) also does not affect the liability of the corporation for an offence under this Act, and applies whether or not the corporation is convicted of the offence.

(6) In this section —

“corporation” includes a limited liability partnership within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Limited Liability Partnerships Act (Cap. 163A);

15

“officer”, in relation to a corporation, means any director, partner, chief executive, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the corporation, and includes —

20

(a) any person purporting to act in any such capacity; and

(b) for a corporation whose affairs are managed by its members, any of those members as if the member was a director of the corporation;

“state of mind” of a person includes —

25

(a) the knowledge, intention, opinion, belief or purpose of the person; and

(b) the person’s reasons for the intention, opinion, belief or purpose.

Offences by unincorporated associations or partnerships

70.—(1) Where, in a proceeding for an offence under this Act, it is necessary to prove the state of mind of an unincorporated association or a partnership in relation to a particular conduct, evidence that —

5 (a) an employee or agent of the unincorporated association or the partnership engaged in that conduct within the scope of his or her actual or apparent authority; and

 (b) the employee or agent had that state of mind,

is evidence that the unincorporated association or partnership had that
10 state of mind.

(2) Where an unincorporated association or a partnership commits an offence under this Act, a person —

 (a) who is —

15 (i) an officer of the unincorporated association or a member of its governing body;

 (ii) a partner in the partnership; or

 (iii) an individual who is involved in the management of the unincorporated association or partnership and who is in a position to influence the conduct of the unincorporated association or partnership (as the
20 case may be) in relation to the commission of the offence; and

 (b) who —

25 (i) consented or connived, or conspired with others, to effect the commission of the offence;

 (ii) is in any other way, whether by act or omission, knowingly concerned in, or is party to, the commission of the offence by the unincorporated association or partnership; or

30 (iii) knew or ought reasonably to have known that the offence by the unincorporated association or partnership (or an offence of the same type) would be or is being committed, and failed to take all

reasonable steps to prevent or stop the commission of that offence,

shall be guilty of the same offence as is the unincorporated association or partnership (as the case may be), and shall be liable on conviction to be punished accordingly.

5

(3) A person mentioned in subsection (2) may rely on a defence that would be available to the unincorporated association or partnership if it were charged with the offence with which the person is charged and, in doing so, the person bears the same burden of proof that the unincorporated association or partnership would bear.

10

(4) To avoid doubt, this section does not affect the application of —

(a) Chapters V and VA of the Penal Code (Cap. 224); or

(b) the Evidence Act (Cap. 97) or any other law or practice regarding the admissibility of evidence.

(5) To avoid doubt, subsection (1) also does not affect the liability of an unincorporated association or a partnership for an offence under this Act, and applies whether or not the unincorporated association or partnership is convicted of the offence.

15

(6) In this section —

“officer”, in relation to an unincorporated association (other than a partnership), means the president, the secretary, or any member of the committee of the unincorporated association, and includes —

20

(a) any person holding a position analogous to that of president, secretary or member of a committee of the unincorporated association; and

25

(b) any person purporting to act in any such capacity;

“partner” includes a person purporting to act as a partner;

“state of mind” of a person includes —

(a) the knowledge, intention, opinion, belief or purpose of the person; and

30

- (b) the person's reasons for the intention, opinion, belief or purpose.

Service of documents

71.—(1) A document that is permitted or required by this Act to be served on a person may be served as described in this section.

(2) A document permitted or required by this Act to be served on an individual may be served —

- (a) by giving it to the individual personally;
- (b) by sending it by prepaid registered post to the address specified by the individual for the service of documents or, if no address is so specified, the individual's residential address or business address;
- (c) by leaving it at the individual's residential address with an adult apparently resident there, or at the individual's business address with an adult apparently employed there;
- (d) by affixing a copy of the document in a conspicuous place at the individual's residential address or business address;
- (e) by sending it by fax to the fax number given by the individual as the fax number for the service of documents; or
- (f) by sending it by email to the individual's email address.

(3) A document permitted or required by this Act to be served on a partnership (other than a limited liability partnership) may be served —

- (a) by giving it to any partner or other like officer of the partnership;
- (b) by leaving it at, or by sending it by prepaid registered post to, the partnership's business address;
- (c) by sending it by fax to the fax number used at the partnership's business address; or
- (d) by sending it by email to the partnership's email address.

(4) A document permitted or required by this Act to be served on a body corporate (including a limited liability partnership) or unincorporated association may be served —

- (a) by giving it to the secretary or other like officer of the body corporate or unincorporated association, or the limited liability partnership's manager; 5
- (b) by leaving it at, or by sending it by prepaid registered post to, the body corporate's or unincorporated association's registered office or principal office in Singapore;
- (c) by sending it by fax to the fax number used at the body corporate's or unincorporated association's registered office or principal office in Singapore; or 10
- (d) by sending it by email to the body corporate's or unincorporated association's email address.

(5) Service of a document under this section takes effect — 15

- (a) if the document is sent by fax and a notification of successful transmission is received, on the day of transmission;
- (b) if the document is sent by email, at the time that the email becomes capable of being retrieved by the person; and
- (c) if the document is sent by prepaid registered post, 2 days after the day the document was posted (even if it is returned undelivered). 20

(6) However, this section does not apply to documents to be served in proceedings in court.

(7) In this section — 25

“business address” means —

- (a) in the case of an individual, the individual's usual or last known place of business in Singapore; or
- (b) in the case of a partnership (other than a limited liability partnership), the partnership's principal or last known place of business in Singapore; 30

“email address” means the last email address given by the addressee concerned to the person giving or serving the document as the email address for the service of documents under this Act;

5 “residential address” means an individual’s usual or last known place of residence in Singapore.

Exclusion of public authority

10 **72.** The Minister may, by written notice to the Agency and a public authority, exclude that public authority from the application of any provision of this Act where the application of that provision to that public authority is inappropriate.

Regulations

15 **73.** The Agency may, with the approval of the Minister, make regulations prescribing matters required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed, or necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.

PART 10

TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS AND PERSONNEL TO AGENCY

20 Interpretation of this Part

74. In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires —

“agreement” includes an arrangement and an undertaking;

25 “asset”, in relation to the transferor, means property of any kind (whether tangible or intangible, whether arising from, accruing under, created or evidenced by or the subject of, an instrument or otherwise and whether actual or contingent) of the transferor on the eve of the transfer date and includes, without limitation, any —

30 (a) legal or equitable interest in real or personal property, whether situated in or outside Singapore;

(b) chose in action;

- (c) money or securities;
- (d) plant and equipment, whether situated in or outside Singapore;
- (e) intellectual property;
- (f) infrastructure, whether situated in or outside Singapore; 5
and
- (g) right;

“Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore” means the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore established by section 3 of the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore Act (Cap. 137A); 10

“liability”, in relation to the transferor, means any liability, debt or obligation (whether actual or contingent, liquidated or unliquidated, and whether owed alone or jointly, or jointly and severally, with any other person) of the transferor on the eve of the transfer date; 15

“records”, in relation to the transferor, means registers, papers, documents, minutes, receipts, books of account and other records, however compiled, recorded or stored, of the transferor existing on the eve of the transfer date; 20

“right”, in relation to the transferor, means any right, power, privilege or immunity of the transferor on the eve of the transfer date;

“transfer date” means the date of commencement of Part 2; 25

“transferor” means the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore;

“transferring IDA employee” means an employee of the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore who, on the eve of the transfer date, is in the Government Technology Agency Designate Wing of the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore; 30

“transferring IDA function” means the functions discharged by the Government Technology Agency Designate Wing of the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore on the eve of the transfer date.

5 **Transfer of undertakings to Agency**

75.—(1) On the transfer date, all assets and liabilities of the Info-communications Development Agency of Singapore, to the extent that they relate, directly or indirectly, to the transferring IDA function, are transferred to the Agency.

10 (2) A certificate signed by the Minister certifying whether an asset or a liability specified in the certificate has been transferred to the Agency under subsection (1) is admissible in evidence in any proceedings as proof of the matters stated in the certificate.

15 (3) When any asset or liability of the transferor is transferred to the Agency under subsection (1), the following provisions have effect:

(a) the asset vests in the Agency without the need for any further conveyance, transfer, assignment or assurance;

(b) the liability becomes the liability of the Agency;

20 (c) all legal or other proceedings relating to that asset or liability that are pending immediately before the transfer date by or against the transferor (or a predecessor of the transferor) are taken to be proceedings pending by or against the Agency;

25 (d) any legal or other proceedings relating to that asset or liability which could have been started immediately before the transfer date by or against the transferor (or a predecessor of the transferor) may be started by or against the Agency;

30 (e) a judgment or order of a court or other tribunal obtained before the transfer date by or against the transferor (or a predecessor of the transferor) relating to that asset or liability becomes enforceable by or against the Agency;

(f) any document in any legal or other proceedings relating to that asset or liability that has been served on or by the transferor (or a predecessor of the transferor) before the

transfer date is taken, where appropriate, to have been served on or by the Agency;

- (g) any act, matter or thing done or omitted to be done before the transfer date in relation to that asset or liability by, to or in respect of the transferor (or a predecessor of the transferor) is (to the extent to which that act, matter or thing has any force or effect) taken to have been done or omitted to be done by, to or in respect of the Agency; 5
 - (h) a reference to the transferor (or a predecessor of the transferor) in any Act, any instrument made under any Act, any agreement or any document of any kind is taken to be or includes (to the extent to which the reference relates to that asset or liability) a reference to the Agency; 10
 - (i) any agreement relating to that asset or liability and to which the transferor (or a predecessor of the transferor) is a party becomes enforceable by or against the Agency. 15
- (4) The operation of this section does not —
- (a) constitute a breach of, or default under, any Act or other law, or any agreement, or otherwise a civil wrong or criminal wrong; 20
 - (b) constitute a breach of duty of confidence (whether arising by contract, in equity, by custom, or in any other way);
 - (c) constitute a breach of any contractual provision prohibiting, restricting or regulating the assignment or transfer of assets or liabilities or the disclosure of any information; 25
 - (d) constitute a termination of any agreement or obligation, fulfil any condition that allows a person to terminate or otherwise releases a person from any agreement or obligation, or give rise to any right or remedy in respect of any agreement or obligation; or 30
 - (e) constitute frustration of any contract, or cause any agreement to be void or otherwise unenforceable.
- (5) No attornment to the Agency by a lessee of the transferor is required.

Transfer of employees to Agency

76.—(1) On the transfer date, every transferring IDA employee stops being an employee of the transferor, and is each transferred to the service, and becomes an employee, of the Agency on terms no less
 5 favourable than those enjoyed by the employee on the eve of the transfer date.

(2) A certificate signed by the Minister certifying whether an individual named in the certificate has been transferred to the service of the Agency under subsection (1) is admissible in evidence in any
 10 proceedings as proof of the matters stated in the certificate.

(3) The transfer of an employee of the transferor to the Agency under subsection (1) —

(a) does not interrupt continuity of that employee's service;

(b) does not constitute a retrenchment or redundancy of that
 15 employee's employment by the transferor; and

(c) does not entitle that employee to any compensation or other payment or benefit merely because he or she stops being employed by the transferor.

(4) Nothing in this section prevents —

(a) any of the terms and conditions of employment of an individual transferred to the service of the Agency under subsection (1) from being altered by or under any law, award or agreement with effect from any time after the transfer date; and
 20

(b) an individual transferred to the service of the Agency under subsection (1) from resigning from such service any time after the transfer date, in accordance with the terms and conditions of his or her employment then applicable.
 25

(5) To avoid doubt, section 18A of the Employment Act (Cap. 91) does not apply to the transfer of any employee of the transferor to the service of the Agency under subsection (1).
 30

General preservation of employment terms, etc.

77.—(1) When an employee of the transferor is transferred to the service of the Agency under section 76(1) (called in this section a transferred employee), the transferred employee's service with the Agency must be regarded for all purposes as having been continuous with his or her service with the transferor immediately before the transfer date. 5

(2) On the transfer date —

(a) a transferred employee retains all accrued rights as if his or her employment with the Agency were a continuation of employment with the transferor; 10

(b) the liabilities of the transferor relating to the transferred employee's accrued rights to annual, sick, maternity or other leave and superannuation become the liabilities of the Agency; and 15

(c) a reference in the contract of employment that had effect in relation to the transferred employee immediately before the transfer date is taken to be, or includes, a reference to the Agency.

(3) Until such time as the Agency draws up the terms and conditions of employment for the transferred employee, the Agency is to be regarded as employing the transferred employee on the same terms and conditions of his or her employment with the transferor on the eve of the transfer date. 20

(4) Any term or condition of employment drawn up by the Agency relating to the length of service of the transferred employee with the Agency must recognise the length of service of that employee with the transferor (including any previous service of that employee taken to be service with the transferor) to be service with the Agency. 25

(5) For any conduct of the transferred employee when he or she was employed by the transferor which would have rendered that employee liable to be reprimanded, reduced in rank, retired, dismissed or punished by the transferor, the Agency may — 30

(a) start any disciplinary proceedings against that employee;

(b) carry on and complete any disciplinary proceedings started by the transferor against that employee if those proceedings are pending on the eve of the transfer date; and

(c) reprimand, reduce in rank, retire, dismiss or otherwise punish that employee as if that employee were not transferred.

(6) Where, on the eve of the transfer date, any matter about the conduct of the transferred employee during his or her employment with the transferor concerned —

(a) was in the course of being heard or investigated by a committee of the transferor acting under due authority; or

(b) had been heard or investigated, but no order, ruling or direction had been made, by that committee,

that committee must complete the hearing or investigation and make such order, ruling or direction as it could have made under the authority vested in it before that date, and that order, ruling or direction is to be regarded as an order, ruling or direction of the Agency.

Transfer of records

78. On the transfer date, every record, or part of a record, of the transferor that relates to the following become the record of the Agency:

(a) any asset or liability transferred to the Agency under section 75(1);

(b) any transferring IDA employee.

PART 11

SAVING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Interpretation of this Part

79. In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires —

“Former IDA” means the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore established by section 3 of the

Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore Act (Cap. 137A);

“transfer date” means the date of commencement of Part 2;

“transferring IDA function”, in relation to the Former IDA, has the same meaning as in section 74.

5

Application of this Part

80.—(1) This Part applies in respect of the Former IDA in relation to the transferring IDA function.

(2) This Part does not affect the operation of, or derogate from —

(a) any provision in Part 10; or

10

(b) section 16 of the Interpretation Act (Cap. 1).

Saving and transitional provisions

81.—(1) Any guideline or standard of performance that is issued by the Former IDA for the public sector (in relation to the transferring IDA function) under the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore Act, and is in force immediately before the transfer date, remains in force and is deemed to have been issued by the Agency under this Act, to the extent that it is not inconsistent with this Act.

15

(2) Every act done by or on behalf of the Former IDA (in relation to the transferring IDA function) has effect as though it was done by or on behalf of the Agency, and remains in force until such time as the Agency invalidates, revokes, cancels or otherwise determines that act.

20

(3) Where anything has been started by or on behalf of the Former IDA (in relation to the transferring IDA function) before the transfer date, the Agency may carry on and complete that thing on or after that date.

25

(4) For a period of 2 years after the date of commencement of any provision of this Act, the Minister may, by regulations, prescribe such additional provisions of a saving or transitional nature consequent on the enactment of that provision as the Minister may consider necessary or expedient.

30

PART 12
CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS
TO OTHER ACTS

Consequential amendments to other Acts

5 **82.**—(1) The Schedule to the Accounting Standards Act (Cap. 2B, 2008 Ed.) is amended by inserting, immediately after item 12, the following item:

“12A. Government Technology Government Technology
 Agency Agency Act 2016”.

10 (2) Paragraph 6 of the First Schedule to the Central Provident Fund Act (Cap. 36, 2013 Ed.) is amended by inserting, immediately after item (14), the following item:

“(14A) Government Technology Agency.”.

15 (3) The Schedule to the Official Secrets Act (Cap. 213, 2012 Ed.) is amended by inserting, immediately after item 12, the following item:

“12A. Government Technology Agency”.

(4) Part I of the Schedule to the Statutory Bodies and Government Companies (Protection of Secrecy) Act (Cap. 319, 2004 Ed.) is amended by inserting, immediately after item 6A, the following item:

20 “6B. Government Technology Government Technology
 Agency Agency Act 2016”.

(5) The Schedule to the Statutory Corporations (Contributions to Consolidated Fund) Act (Cap. 319A, 2004 Ed.) is amended by inserting, immediately after item 13, the following item:

25 “14. Government Technology Government Technology
 Agency Agency Act 2016”.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to establish the Government Technology Agency (the Agency) and to make consequential amendments to certain other Acts.

Part 1 introduces the fundamental concepts used in the Bill.

Part 2 establishes the Agency and sets out its functions and powers.

Part 3 deals with the constitution of the Agency.

Part 4 provides for decision-making by the Agency.

Part 5 deals with the Agency's personnel matters.

Part 6 sets out the financial provisions for the Agency.

Part 7 deals with the security and reliability of info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services in the public sector.

Part 8 deals with the security and reliability of info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services of certain private sector entities.

Part 9 provides for the administration of the Bill, and also certain general provisions.

Part 10 contains provisions that transfer the relevant undertakings and personnel of the Info-communications Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) to the Agency.

Part 11 provides for saving and transitional arrangements.

Part 12 makes consequential amendments to other Acts.

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Clause 1 relates to the short title and commencement.

Clause 2 is a general definition provision. It contains definitions of terms used in several Parts of the Bill.

PART 2

ESTABLISHMENT, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF AGENCY

Clause 3 establishes the Government Technology Agency.

Clause 4 defines the nature and legal capacity of the Agency. The Agency is a body corporate with perpetual succession, and proceedings may be taken by or against the Agency in its corporate name.

Clause 5 describes the objectives and functions of the Agency.

Clause 6 provides the Agency with broad powers to do all things necessary to perform its functions.

Clause 7 provides the Agency with powers to facilitate or promote a proposal of the Minister to privatise any property or function of the Agency.

Clause 8 provides the Minister with power to give directions of a general nature to the Agency. This clause also provides for the Minister to have access to information in the possession of the Agency.

Clause 9 confers on the Agency the exclusive right to the use of one or more symbols or representations it selects or devises and to display or exhibit those symbols or representations in connection with the Agency's activities or affairs.

PART 3

CONSTITUTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF AGENCY

Clause 10 deals with the membership of the Agency. It is to consist of at least 6 and not more than 17 members. One of those members may be the Chief Executive. However, the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson of the Agency cannot be appointed as the Chief Executive.

Clause 11 provides for the appointment of the Agency's members by the Minister.

Clause 12 requires the Minister, when appointing the members, to consider whether they will collectively possess the appropriate knowledge, skills, and experience to assist the Agency to perform its functions effectively. The clause also disqualifies certain individuals from being members of the Agency.

Clause 13 provides for the appointment and tenure of a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson from among members appointed.

Clause 14 deals with premature vacancies occurring in the office of any member of the Agency and empowers the Minister to appoint an individual to fill the vacancy and hold that office for the remainder of the term for which the vacating member was appointed.

Clause 15 provides for the appointment of an individual to act temporarily as the Chairperson or other member of the Agency when the Chairperson or that member is absent from duty or Singapore, or is unable to perform the duties of the office.

Clause 16 gives the Minister the power to remove a member of the Agency from office. The Minister does not have to give any reason for the removal.

Clause 17 deals with resignation from office by a member of the Agency.

Clause 18 preserves the validity of any function performed, or any power exercised, by the Agency during a vacancy in the Agency's membership, or when a

member's appointment was defective, a member did not disclose his or her interest in a matter relating to the Agency (relevant matter), the Agency did not report to the Minister of a member's failure to disclose his or her interest in a relevant matter, or there was a procedural irregularity in the Agency's decision-making procedure. The clause also preserves the acts of a member whose appointment is defective.

Clause 19 provides that the term of appointment of each member of the Agency must not exceed 3 years.

Clause 20 provides for the members of the Agency to be paid, out of the funds of the Agency, remuneration and other allowances that the Minister determines.

Clause 21 outlines the circumstances in which the office of a member may become vacant.

Clause 22 clarifies that the Minister may specify other terms and conditions of appointment of a member in the instrument of appointment.

Clause 23 contains definitions of terms used in Division 3 (comprising clauses 23 to 27).

Clause 24 requires a member of the Agency who is interested in a relevant matter to disclose details of the interest as soon as practicable after the member becomes aware that he or she is interested in that matter.

Clause 25 sets out how that disclosure of interest is to be done and to whom.

Clause 26 sets out the consequences of a member being interested in a relevant matter. A member who is interested in a relevant matter cannot vote or take part in any discussion or decision of the Agency relating to the relevant matter or do any other related act. The member must also withdraw from any part of a meeting of the Agency relating to the relevant matter if the person presiding at the meeting so requests, and the member is to be disregarded for the purpose of forming a quorum for that part of the meeting.

Clause 27 requires the Agency to report to the Minister if a member of the Agency fails to disclose his or her interest in a relevant matter, and to state in the report whether the member's failure was due to any reasonable cause.

PART 4

DECISION-MAKING BY AGENCY

Clause 28 allows the Agency to determine its own meeting procedures to the extent they are not fixed by the Bill or other written law.

Clause 29 requires notice of meetings of the Agency to be given to its members.

Clause 30 sets out the method of holding meetings. These can be face-to-face meetings with members physically gathered at a place, or by means of audio, audio and visual, or electronic communication technology. However, if technology is

used, and a face-to-face meeting is to be dispensed with, all of the members who wish to participate in the meeting must have access to the technology needed to participate in the meeting, and a quorum of members must be able to simultaneously communicate with each other throughout the meeting.

Clause 31 prescribes the quorum to be one-third of the number of members or 3 members, whichever is the higher.

Clause 32 describes the persons who are to preside at meetings of the Agency.

Clause 33 specifies the process of voting at an Agency meeting. A member present at a meeting of the Agency is presumed to have agreed to, and to have voted in favour of, a decision of the Agency unless he or she expressly dissents from or votes against the decision at the meeting. Abstentions are thus impermissible.

Clause 34 provides for decision-making through circulation of documents without a meeting. The clause provides that a decision in writing signed or approved by the majority of the members has the same effect as if it had been adopted at a meeting of the Agency.

Clause 35 provides the process for execution of documents by the Agency.

Clause 36 empowers the Agency to appoint committees for matters that would be better regulated and managed by means of such committees.

Clause 37 provides for the necessary modifications for clause 18 (on validity of acts), and clauses 23 to 27 (on disclosure of interests) to apply to the committees of the Agency, and to their members.

Clause 38 allows the Agency to delegate some of its functions or powers, either generally or specially, to a member of the Agency, the Chief Executive or any employee of the Agency (including individuals on secondment to the Agency), a committee of the Agency, or a wholly-owned subsidiary company of the Agency.

Clause 39 provides for the validity of a delegate's acts.

PART 5

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Clause 40 provides that the Chief Executive of the Agency is to be appointed by the Agency with the approval of the Minister. The Minister must consult the Public Service Commission on a proposed appointment before approving it. The Agency may also appoint an individual to act temporarily as the Chief Executive when the Chief Executive is absent from duty or Singapore, or is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of the office.

Clause 41 empowers the Agency to appoint and employ such employees as may be necessary for the effective performance of its functions.

Clause 42 provides that the Chief Executive, all members, employees (including individuals on secondment to the Agency) and delegates of the Agency, and all members of the committees of the Agency, are deemed to be public servants for the purposes of the Penal Code (Cap. 224) and public officers for the purposes of the Government Contracts Act (Cap. 118).

If any of these individuals will be involved in the administration, assessment, collection or enforcement of payment of any composition sum under the Bill or any Act administered by the Agency, or in the undertaking of any procurement or the execution or management of any agreement on behalf of the Government, that individual will also be treated as a public officer for the purposes of the Financial Procedure Act (Cap. 109), and section 20 of the Financial Procedure Act (disciplinary punishment for loss of public moneys, etc.) will apply to that individual. This is because the compositions sums have to be accounted for in the Consolidated Fund, and procurements and agreements on behalf of the Government concern public moneys and Government property.

Clause 43 makes it an offence for the Chief Executive, a member, an employee (including an individual on secondment to the Agency) or a delegate of the Agency, or a member of a committee of the Agency, who has information in that capacity that would not otherwise be available to him or her, to disclose that information to any person (unless any of the exceptions in the clause apply).

Clause 44 provides for the protection, from liability, of any person performing the functions or exercising the powers of the Agency in good faith and with reasonable care.

PART 6

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Clause 45 prescribes the financial year of the Agency.

Clause 46 sets out the revenue and property of the Agency.

Clause 47 requires all sums collected for the composition of an offence under the Bill or any Act administered by the Agency to be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

Clause 48 requires the Agency to open and maintain one or more bank accounts to be operated only by persons authorised by the Agency.

Clause 49 further requires the Agency to keep proper accounts and records of its transactions and affairs, and to do all things necessary to ensure that all payments out of its moneys are correctly made and properly authorised, and that adequate control is maintained over the funds and property of, or in the custody of, the Agency, and over the expenditure incurred by the Agency.

Clause 50 concerns budgeting. The clause requires the Agency to prepare annual estimates of income and expenditure in respect of each financial year and supplementary estimates wherever necessary.

Clause 51 confers on the Agency the standard power of investment of moneys as defined in section 33A of the Interpretation Act (Cap. 1).

Clause 52 requires the Agency to issue shares to the Minister for Finance where required, as a consequence of the vesting of any property, right or liability in the Agency under the Bill or any capital injection or other investment by the Government in the Agency.

Clause 53 sets out the borrowing powers of the Agency.

Clause 54 provides that the accounts of the Agency are to be audited by the Auditor-General or another auditor who is appointed annually by the Minister in consultation with the Auditor-General.

Clause 55 outlines the standard powers of auditors of statutory boards.

Clause 56 deals with the auditor's report.

Clause 57 requires the Agency to, as soon as its accounts and financial statements have been audited, send to the Minister a copy of the audited financial statements, signed by the Chairperson, together with a copy of the auditor's report. The Minister must thereafter cause a copy of the audited statements and of the auditor's report to be presented to Parliament.

Where the auditor is not the Auditor-General, the auditor must give the Auditor-General a copy of the audited financial statements and of the auditor's report.

Clause 58 further requires the Agency to, as soon as practicable after the end of each financial year, cause to be prepared and transmitted to the Minister a report dealing generally with the activities of the Agency during the preceding financial year and containing such information relating to the proceedings and policy of the Agency as the Minister may, from time to time, direct. The Minister must, as soon as practicable, cause a copy of every such report to be presented to Parliament.

PART 7

SECURITY AND RELIABILITY OF SYSTEMS AND SERVICES — PUBLIC SECTOR

Clause 59 describes the purpose of this Part. This Part is concerned with the security and reliability of info-communications technology and related engineering systems and services in the public sector.

Clause 60 provides the Agency with the powers to develop and issue directives, codes, standards or guidelines for the public sector in relation to the architecture or

use of info-communications technology or related engineering systems or services in the public sector.

Clause 61 provides the Agency with the powers to monitor compliance with its directives, codes, standards or guidelines. The Agency may also monitor compliance with the directives, codes, standards or guidelines of any relevant public sector body with that public sector body's authorisation.

The Agency may report to a public sector body or any other person in the public sector on that public sector body's non-compliance with any of these directives, codes, standards or guidelines. For the purposes of the clause, the Agency may carry out, or authorise any person to carry out, audits of a public sector body's architecture or use of any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service.

Clause 62 allows the Agency to implement, or direct the implementation of measures required to safeguard or restore the security or reliability of any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service in the public sector. This includes the ability to direct the deployment of resources such as personnel of the responsible public sector body to implement the required measures.

Clause 63 provides the Agency with the powers to (a) obtain information or documents relating to any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service; (b) gain access to the info-communications technology or related engineering system or service; and (c) gain access to premises that contain that information or document, or that info-communications technology or related engineering system or service.

PART 8

SECURITY AND RELIABILITY OF SYSTEMS AND SERVICES — PUBLIC ENTITIES

Clause 64 contains definitions of terms used in this Part.

Clause 65 provides for a responsible Minister (defined in clause 64) to request the Agency to assist a public entity (defined in clause 2) to ensure the security or reliability of any info-communications technology or related engineering system or service of that public entity. A public entity (as defined in clause 2) refers to a body corporate in the private sector that supplies an essential service to the public (or a section of the public) and receives funding, or other facilities or support, from the Government for the purpose of supplying the essential service.

The responsible Minister may make the request if (a) the security or reliability of the system or service of the public entity is at significant risk or has been significantly compromised; and (b) it is in the public interest, or in the interest of public safety or security of Singapore, to request the Agency's assistance.

Clause 66 explains what happens after the responsible Minister, under clause 65, makes a request to the Agency. The Minister charged with the responsibility for the Agency may thereafter direct the Agency to establish arrangements with the public entity referred to in clause 65 on the steps that the Agency may take under clause 67. These arrangements, and any subsequent variations to the arrangements, must be approved by the responsible Minister. After the responsible Minister has approved the arrangements, the Minister charged with the responsibility for the Agency may declare the public entity to be a designated public entity and specify the date on which the arrangements will take effect.

Clause 67 specifies the Agency's powers in relation to the designated public entity. The Agency's powers are subject to the arrangements with the designated public entity established and approved under clause 66.

PART 9

ADMINISTRATION

Clause 68 provides for offences under the Bill (that are prescribed to be compoundable) to be compounded.

Clause 69 deals with corporate offenders and attributes criminal liability to officers of corporate entities for offences committed by those entities. Corporations like companies can be held directly liable for, and can be found guilty of and punished for, the commission of an offence. As a separate legal entity, liability for the offence is imposed on the corporation itself and is not generally attributed to its officers and employees unless there is a provision like the clause. This standard provision in many laws has been redrafted here consistent with the modern Singapore drafting style to make it easier to read and understand. The substance and meaning of the provision is unchanged.

Clause 70 deals with unincorporated entities like partnerships and associations and attributes criminal liability to officers of unincorporated entities for offences committed by those bodies. The clause also provides clarity where the offence by the unincorporated entity requires a mental element to be established.

Clause 71 deals with the service of documents as required or allowed under the Bill.

Clause 72 gives the Minister the power to exclude a public authority from the application of any provision in the Bill where the application of that provision to that public authority would be inappropriate. The Minister is to do this by written notice to the public authority and the Agency.

Clause 73 gives the Agency the power to make regulations, with the approval of the Minister.

PART 10

TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS AND PERSONNEL TO AGENCY

Clause 74 contains definitions of terms used in this Part. In particular, it describes the various undertakings to be transferred to the Agency by this Part.

Clause 75 provides for the transfer, on the transfer date (which is the operative date of Part 2), to the Agency of all assets and liabilities of the IDA to the extent that they relate, directly or indirectly, to the Government Technology Agency Designate Wing of the IDA.

The clause also contains a series of saving and transitional provisions, the general purpose of which is to put the Agency in the same legal position as the IDA.

Clause 76 provides for the transfer of certain employees of the IDA to the employment of the Agency on the transfer date.

Clause 77 declares that the transfer of employees does not affect remuneration, leave rights or continuity of service and does not constitute a retrenchment or redundancy. It further declares that such a transfer is not to give rise to any right to damages or compensation.

Clause 78 provides for the transfer of records from the IDA (to the extent that they relate to its assets, liabilities and employees being transferred) to the Agency.

PART 11

SAVING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Clause 79 contains definitions of terms used in this Part.

Clause 80 explains the application of this Part, which applies in respect of the IDA (to the extent of its assets, liabilities and employees being transferred to the Agency).

Clause 81 provides for saving and transitional arrangements and also gives the Minister the power to make regulations for this purpose.

PART 12

CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS

Clause 82 makes consequential amendments to several other Acts.

EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY

This Bill will not involve the Government in any extra financial expenditure.
