



**THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF  
COMMONWEALTH JUDGMENTS  
ACT 1921**

**2020 REVISED EDITION**

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# Reciprocal Enforcement of Commonwealth Judgments Act 1921

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

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An Act to facilitate the reciprocal enforcement of judgments and awards in Singapore and other parts of the Commonwealth.

[6 January 1922]

### **Short title**

1. This Act is the Reciprocal Enforcement of Commonwealth Judgments Act 1921.

### **Interpretation**

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

“judgment” means any judgment or order given or made by a court in any civil proceedings, whether before or after the passing of this Act, whereby any sum of money is made payable, and includes an award in proceedings on an arbitration if the award has, in pursuance of the law in force in the place where it was made, become enforceable in the same manner as a judgment given by a court in that place;

“judgment creditor” means the person by whom the judgment was obtained, and includes the successors and assigns of that person;

“judgment debtor” means the person against whom the judgment was given, and includes any person against whom the judgment is enforceable in the place where it was given;

“original court”, in relation to any judgment, means the court by which the judgment was given;

“registering court”, in relation to any judgment, means the court to which application to register a judgment is made or by which a judgment has been registered.

(2) Subject to the Rules of Court mentioned in section 6 and the Family Justice Rules mentioned in section 7, any of the powers conferred by this Act on any court may be exercised by a judge of the court.

*[16/2016]*

### **Application**

**2A.** This Act does not apply to any judgment which may be recognised or enforced in Singapore under the Choice of Court Agreements Act 2016.

*[14/2016]*

### **Registration in Singapore of judgments obtained in superior courts in the United Kingdom**

3.—(1) Where a judgment has been obtained in a superior court of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland the judgment creditor may apply to the General Division of the High Court at any time within 12 months after the date of the judgment, or such longer period as may be allowed by the General Division of the High Court, to have the judgment registered in the General Division of the High Court, and on any such application the General Division of the High Court may, if in all the circumstances of the case it thinks it is just and convenient that the judgment should be enforced in Singapore, and subject to this section, order the judgment to be registered accordingly.

[40/2019]

### **Restrictions on registration**

(2) No judgment shall be ordered to be registered under this section if —

- (a) the original court acted without jurisdiction;
- (b) the judgment debtor, being a person who was neither carrying on business nor ordinarily resident within the jurisdiction of the original court, did not voluntarily appear or otherwise submit or agree to submit to the jurisdiction of that court;
- (c) the judgment debtor, being the defendant in the proceedings, was not duly served with the process of the original court and did not appear, notwithstanding that he was ordinarily resident or was carrying on business within the jurisdiction of that court or agreed to submit to the jurisdiction of that court;
- (d) the judgment was obtained by fraud;
- (e) the judgment debtor satisfies the registering court either that an appeal is pending, or that he is entitled and intends to appeal, against the judgment; or