

Films (Classification — Exempt Films Other than Video Games) Notification 2019

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No. S 338

**FILMS ACT
(CHAPTER 107)**

**FILMS
(CLASSIFICATION — EXEMPT FILMS
OTHER THAN VIDEO GAMES)
NOTIFICATION 2019**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 40(2) of the Films Act, the Minister for Communications and Information makes the following Notification:

Citation and commencement

1. This Notification is the Films (Classification — Exempt Films Other than Video Games) Notification 2019 and comes into operation on 29 April 2019.

General definitions

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

“cause-related event” means an event (whether or not a gathering or meeting and whether or not consisting of any lecture, talk, address, debate or discussion) of individuals the purpose (or one of the purposes) of which is —

- (a) to demonstrate support for or opposition to the views or actions of any person, group of persons or any government;
- (b) to publicise a cause or campaign; or
- (c) to mark or commemorate an event that is not a community-based cultural event and not any National Day celebration or rally, State funeral or other public event of national significance;

“documentary record” means a non-fictional record of actual persons, events or situations, and includes a program the sole or dominant purpose of which is to depict actual, contemporary events, people or situations in an entertaining way or with a heavy emphasis on entertainment value;

“film” does not include any of the following:

- (a) a video game;
- (b) an obscene film;
- (c) a party political film;
- (d) a prohibited film;
- (e) a film that is against national security to be classified;
- (f) a film that contains material prescribed for the purposes of section 16(1)(e) of the Act;

“free-to-air broadcasting service” and “subscription nationwide television service” have the meanings given by the Broadcasting Act (Cap. 28);

“health-related goods or services” means —

- (a) any health product within the meaning given by the Health Products Act (Cap. 122D);
- (b) any service relating to the treatment of any ailment, disease, injury, infirmity or condition affecting the human body, the advertising of which is regulated under the Medicines (Advertisement and Sale) Act (Cap. 177) or any other written law; or
- (c) any tobacco product within the meaning given by the Tobacco (Control of Advertisements and Sale) Act (Cap. 309);

“psychoactive substance” means any opioid, cannabinoid, sedative, hypnotic, cocaine, other psychostimulant, hallucinogen or volatile solvent, but does not include alcohol, coffee and tobacco;

“television series” means 2 or more episodes that are produced wholly or principally for exhibition to the public on television under a single title, that contain a common theme or themes and dramatic elements that form a narrative structure, and that are produced wholly or principally for exhibition together, for one or more markets.

(2) In this Notification, “completed” means —

- (a) for a film that is not a television series or a season of a television series — when it is first in a state where copies of the film can reasonably be regarded as ready to be distributed to the general public;
- (b) for a film that is a television series — the time when the television series is first in a state where it can reasonably be regarded as ready to be distributed, broadcast or exhibited to the general public; or
- (c) for a film that is a season of a television series — the time when the season is first in a state where it can reasonably be regarded as ready to be distributed, broadcast or exhibited to the general public.

Meaning of “exempt film”

3.—(1) In this Notification, an “exempt film” means any of the following films which do not contain any impermissible material referred to in sub-paragraph (2) and, if applicable, sub-paragraph (3):

- (a) a film consisting wholly of a documentary record of —
 - (i) any instrumental music performance, such as but not limited to orchestral or ensemble works and traditional or folk music played using ethnic musical instruments;

- (ii) any performance of choral music, jazz music, folk songs or other music of ethnic origin, such as but not limited to “Dondang Sayang” and “Dikir Barat”;
 - (iii) any performance of any traditional drama, pantomime or puppet show or any folk puppetry or play, such as but not limited to “Bangsawan”, Chinese “cross-talk”, Shakespearean plays and “Wayang Kulit”;
 - (iv) any ballet, ballroom dance, or traditional or folk dance in their original format, such as but not limited to “Bharatanatyam”, Flamenco and “Ronggeng”;
 - (v) any other classical or traditional dance, play, art form or performance; or
 - (vi) any video artwork;
- (b) a film consisting wholly of a documentary record of any horse-riding, athletic activity or performance involving acrobatics or any sporting event, not including any opening ceremony or closing ceremony, parade or similar activity connected therewith;
 - (c) a film consisting wholly of a documentary record of any community-based cultural activity or event, or of any National Day celebration or rally, State funeral or other public event of national significance;
 - (d) a film consisting wholly of news bulletins or reports;
 - (e) a film for use pursuant to a branch of knowledge conducted on objective principles involving the systemised observation of, and experiment with, phenomena;
 - (f) a film of a technical or similar nature for use in the course of a business or trade or of a profession;
 - (g) a film whose main purpose is for training, instruction or reference, as a manual, a lesson, an encyclopedia or a guide;
 - (h) a film consisting wholly of any programme that, before the making of the film, was broadcast in Singapore on a free-to-air broadcasting service provided by a person holding a licence granted under section 8 of the Broadcasting Act;
 - (i) a film consisting wholly of one or more episodes of a television series, or from a season of a television series, being a television series or season