

International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Commonwealth Secretariat) Order 2008

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No. S 262

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES) ACT
(CHAPTER 145)**

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES)
(COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT) ORDER 2008**

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 2(2) of the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) Act, the President hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Commonwealth Secretariat) Order 2008 and shall come into operation on 1st

June 2008.

Definitions

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

“Commonwealth” means the association of sovereign states known as the Commonwealth of Nations, and includes the Commonwealth Secretariat;

“envoy” means an envoy of a foreign sovereign Power accredited to the President;

“high officer”, in relation to the Commonwealth Secretariat, means —

- (a) the Secretary-General;
- (b) any Deputy Secretary-General of the Commonwealth; or
- (c) any Director of the Commonwealth Secretariat;

“member of the staff”, in relation to the Commonwealth Secretariat, means any officer (not being a high officer) or employee of the Commonwealth Secretariat, and includes the president or any member of the Commonwealth Secretariat Arbitral Tribunal;

“Secretary-General” means the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth.

Status of the Commonwealth

3. The Commonwealth is an organisation of which the Government and the governments of foreign sovereign Powers are members.

Immunities and privileges of high officers

4.—(1) Subject to paragraph 7, a high officer of the Commonwealth Secretariat (not being a citizen or permanent resident of Singapore) shall have —

- (a) immunity from suit and legal process (including immunity from personal arrest or detention and from seizure of his personal baggage) in respect of all words spoken or written and all acts done by him while present in Singapore on any Commonwealth mission; and
- (b) when present in Singapore on any Commonwealth mission, the like inviolability of residence as is accorded to an envoy.

(2) Subject to paragraph 7, a high officer of the Commonwealth Secretariat (being a citizen or permanent resident of Singapore) shall have immunity from suit and legal process (including immunity from personal arrest or detention and from seizure of his personal baggage) in respect of all words spoken or written and all acts done by him in the course of the performance of his official duties while present in Singapore on any