

International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (World Health Organisation) Order

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Legislative History

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES) ACT (CHAPTER 145, SECTION 2)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES) (WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION) ORDER ¹

¹ The Government of the Republic of Singapore succeeded the World Health Organisation on 18th March 1966.

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1. This Order may be cited as the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (World Health Organisation) Order.

A. THE ORGANISATION

2. The World Health Organisation is an organisation of which the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the governments of foreign sovereign Powers are members.

3. The World Health Organisation shall have the legal capacities of a body corporate and, except in so far as in any particular case it has expressly waived its immunity, immunity from suit and legal process. No waiver of immunity shall be deemed to extend

to any measure of execution.

4. The World Health Organisation shall have the like inviolability of official archives and premises occupied as offices as is accorded in respect of official archives and premises of an envoy of a foreign sovereign Power accredited to the Republic of Singapore.

5. The World Health Organisation shall have the like exemption or relief from taxes and rates, other than taxes on the importation of goods, as is accorded to a foreign sovereign Power.

6. The World Health Organisation shall have exemption from taxes on the importation of goods directly imported by the Organisation for its official use in Singapore or for exportation, or on the importation of any of the publications of the Organisation directly imported by it, such exemption to be subject to compliance with such conditions as the Director-General of Customs and Excise may prescribe for the protection of the revenue.

7. The World Health Organisation shall have exemption from prohibitions and restrictions on the importation or exportation in the case of goods directly imported or exported by the Organisation for its official use and in the case of any publications of the Organisation directly imported or exported by it.

8. The World Health Organisation shall have the right to avail itself, for telegraphic communications sent by it and containing only matter intended for publication by the press or for broadcasting (including communications addressed to or despatched from places outside Singapore), of any reduced rates applicable for the corresponding service in the case of press telegrams.

B. REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBERS AND OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

9.—(1) Except in so far as in any particular case any privilege or immunity is waived, in the case of representatives of member governments, by the member governments whom they represent, and in the case of persons designated to serve on the Executive Board of the World Health Organisation and their alternates and advisers, by the Executive Board, representatives of member governments and persons designated to serve on the Executive Board of the Organisation and their alternates and advisers —

- (a) shall enjoy, while exercising their functions as such, and during their journey to and from the place of meeting, immunity from personal arrest or detention and from seizure of their personal baggage and inviolability for all papers and documents;
- (b) shall enjoy immunity from legal process of every kind in respect of words spoken or written and all acts done by them in their capacity as