

Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Act 2007
(No. 55 of 2007)

Table of Contents

Long Title

Enacting Formula

1 Short title and commencement

2 Amendment of section 2

3 Repeal and re-enactment of section 8

4 Amendment of section 9

5 Amendment of section 10

6 New section 10A

7 New Fifth and Sixth Schedules

**8 Consequential and miscellaneous amendments to Singapore Red
Cross Society (Incorporation) Act**

9 Transitional provision

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
GOVERNMENT GAZETTE
ACTS SUPPLEMENT

The following Act was passed by Parliament on 12th November 2007 and assented to by the President on 3rd December 2007:—

GENEVA CONVENTIONS (AMENDMENT) ACT 2007

(No. 55 of 2007)

I assent.

S R NATHAN,
President.
3rd December 2007.

Date of Commencement: 15th January 2008

An Act to amend the Geneva Conventions Act (Chapter 117 of the 1985 Revised Edition) and to make consequential and miscellaneous amendments to the Singapore Red Cross Society (Incorporation) Act (Chapter 304 of the 1985 Revised Edition).

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

Short title and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the Geneva Conventions (Amendment) Act 2007 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 2

2. Section 2 of the Geneva Conventions Act (referred to in this Act as the principal Act) is amended by inserting, immediately after the definition of “Protecting Power”, the following definitions:

“ “red crescent emblem” means the emblem of a red crescent on a white ground as depicted in Part I of the Sixth Schedule;

“red cross emblem” means the emblem of a red cross on a white ground formed by reversing the Federal Colours of Switzerland as depicted in Part II of the Sixth Schedule;

“red crystal emblem” means the emblem of a red crystal composed of a red frame in the shape of a square on edge on a white ground as depicted in Part III of the Sixth Schedule;

“red lion and sun emblem” means the emblem of a red lion and sun on a white ground as depicted in Part IV of the Sixth Schedule;”.

Repeal and re-enactment of section 8

3. Section 8 of the principal Act is repealed and the following section substituted therefor:

“Prohibition of use of emblem without authority

8. No person shall, without the authority of the Minister, use for any purpose in Singapore —

- (a) the red crescent emblem;
- (b) the red cross emblem;
- (c) the red crystal emblem;
- (d) the red lion and sun emblem; or
- (e) the words “Red Cross” or “Geneva Cross”.”.

Amendment of section 9

4. Section 9 of the principal Act is amended —

- (a) by deleting the word “or” at the end of paragraph (b); and
- (b) by deleting paragraph (c) and substituting the following paragraphs:
 - “(c) any design being a colourable imitation of the red crescent emblem, the red cross emblem, the red crystal emblem or the red lion and sun emblem; or
 - (d) any words so nearly resembling the words “Red Cross” or “Geneva Cross” as to be capable of being understood as referring to the red cross emblem.”.

Amendment of section 10

5. Section 10 (1) of the principal Act is amended by deleting “\$1,000” and substituting “\$10,000”.

New section 10A

6. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 10, the following section:

“Inspectors

10A.—(1) The Minister may appoint one or more public officers as inspectors to investigate the commission of an offence under this Part.

(2) For the purposes of an investigation under subsection (1) —

(a) an inspector may —

- (i) require any person to furnish any information that is within his knowledge that the inspector believes on reasonable grounds to be connected with any suspected contravention of this Part;
- (ii) require any person to produce any book, document, paper or other record, or other article, which may be related to the subject-matter of the investigation for inspection by the inspector and for making copies thereof; and
- (iii) examine orally any person supposed to be acquainted with the facts and circumstances relevant to the carrying out of the provisions of this Part; and

(b) an inspector may, without warrant, enter, inspect and search any premises that the inspector has reason to suspect are being used, for or in connection with any purpose that is in contravention of this Part, and may —

- (i) inspect and make copies of and take extracts from, or require the person having the management or control of the premises to provide copies of or extracts from, any book, document, record or electronic material which the inspector reasonably believes to be the subject-matter of, or to be connected with, an investigation under subsection (1);
- (ii) take such photographs or video recordings as he thinks

necessary to record the premises or part thereof, including any apparatus, appliance, equipment, instrument, article, book, document, record or thing found on the premises; and

- (iii) seize and remove from the premises any book, record, document, apparatus, equipment, instrument, material or thing which the inspector reasonably believes to be the subject-matter of, or to be connected with, an investigation under subsection (1).

(3) Any information given by any person under subsection (2)(a)(i) or (iii) —

- (a) shall be reduced to a statement in writing and read over to him; and
- (b) shall, after correction, be signed by him.

(4) Any person who, without lawful excuse —

- (a) refuses to answer any question put to him by an inspector or gives a false answer to such question;
- (b) refuses or fails to comply with any requirement of the inspector under subsection (2); or
- (c) wilfully obstructs an inspector in the exercise of his authority under subsection (2),

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

New Fifth and Sixth Schedules

7. The principal Act is amended by inserting, immediately after the Fourth Schedule, the following Schedules:

“FIFTH SCHEDULE

Section 2

PROTOCOL ADDITIONAL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 12 AUGUST 1949, AND RELATING TO THE ADOPTION OF AN ADDITIONAL DISTINCTIVE EMBLEM