

**Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Act 1990**  
**(No. 18 of 1990)**

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ACTS SUPPLEMENT**

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The following Act was passed by Parliament on 30th August 1990 and assented to by the President on 28th September 1990:—

**PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA ACT 1990**

(No. 18 of 1990)

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I assent.

WEE KIM WEE  
*President.*  
28th September 1990.

**Date of Commencement: 1st February 1991**

An Act to enable effect to be given to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 as modified and added to by the Protocol of 1978 and to make provisions generally for preventing the pollution of Singapore waters and for matters related thereto, and to repeal the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Act (Chapter 243 of the 1985 Revised Edition).

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

PART I

PRELIMINARY

**Short title and commencement**

1. This Act may be cited as the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Act 1990 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

**Interpretation**

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

“appointed authority” means the Director of Marine, the Port of Singapore Authority and any person appointed by the Minister for the purposes of this Act or any regulations made thereunder;

“Convention” means the Convention of 1973 as modified and added to by the Protocol of 1978;

“Convention of 1973” means the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (including its protocols, annexes and appendices) which

constitutes attachment 1 to the final act of the International Conference on Marine Pollution signed in London on 2nd November 1973;

“Director” means the Director of Marine appointed under section 6 of the Merchant Shipping Act (Cap. 179) and includes the Deputy Director of Marine appointed under that section;

“discharge”, in relation to harmful substances or effluents containing such substances, means any release howsoever caused from a ship, place or thing and includes any escape, disposal, spilling, leaking, pumping, emitting or emptying but does not include —

- (a) release of harmful substances directly arising from the exploration, exploitation and associated off-shore processing of sea-bed mineral resources; or
- (b) release of harmful substances for purposes of legitimate scientific research into pollution abatement or control;

“garbage” means all kinds of victual, domestic and operational waste excluding fresh fish and parts thereof, generated during the normal operation of the ship and liable to be disposed of continuously or periodically except sewage originating from ships;

“harmful substance” means any substance which, if introduced into the sea, is liable to create hazards to human health, to harm living resources and marine life, to damage amenities or to interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea, and includes any substance subject to control under this Act;

“inspector” means a person who —

- (a) is a surveyor of ships; or
- (b) is appointed in writing by the Director to be an inspector for the purposes of this Act or any regulations made thereunder;

“in packaged form” means in an individual package or receptacle including a freight container or a portable tank or tank container or tank vehicle or shipborne barge or other cargo unit containing harmful substances for shipment;

“marine pollutant” means a substance which is identified as a marine pollutant in the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code published by the International Maritime Organisation, as amended from time to time;

“MARPOL” refers to the Convention;