

**Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Act  
(CHAPTER 243)**

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## **PREVENTION OF POLLUTION OF THE SEA ACT**

### **(CHAPTER 243)**

**(Original Enactment: Act 18 of 1990)**

**REVISED EDITION 1999**

**(30th December 1999)**

An Act to give effect to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 as modified and added to by the Protocol of 1978, and to other international agreements relating to the prevention, reduction and control of pollution of the sea and pollution from ships; to make provisions generally for the protection of the marine environment and for the prevention, reduction and control of pollution of the sea and

pollution from ships, and for matters related thereto.

[1st February 1991]

## PART I

### PRELIMINARY

#### Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea Act.

#### Interpretation

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

“appointed authority” means the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore established under the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act (Cap. 170A) and any person appointed by the Minister for the purposes of this Act or any regulations made thereunder;

“Authority” means the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore established under the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act;

“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 4 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;

“MARPOL surveyor” means a surveyor appointed or registered by the Director or by or on behalf of the government of a state party to the Convention;

“master” includes every person, except a pilot, having command or charge of any ship;

“noxious liquid substance” means any substance which is prescribed by regulations as being a noxious liquid substance and which is subject to the provisions of Annex II of the Convention;

“occupier”, in relation to any place on land if it has no actual occupier, means the owner thereof and, in relation to a railway wagon or road vehicle, means the person in charge of the wagon or vehicle and not the occupier of the land on which the wagon or vehicle stands;

“oil” means petroleum in any form including crude oil, fuel oil, sludge, oil refuse