

SUMMARY TABLE ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE REGULATION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS ACT

No.	Change	Description and Reason for Change	Amendment to Regulation of Imports and Exports Act	Details of Amendment
1	Clarify and align definitions of trade terms	The Regulation of Imports and Exports Act will be amended to clarify the definitions of “import”, “export”, “transshipment” and “goods in transit” in the Act.	Section 2 [Clause 2]	Clause 2 amends section 2(1) (Interpretation) by deleting the definitions of “import”, “goods in transit”, “export” and “tranship” and substituting new definitions for clarification purpose(s).
2	Clarify that regulations may be made for the registration of persons making declarations under the Act	The Regulation of Imports and Exports Act will be amended to clarify that regulations may be made by Minister for the registration of persons who are making the declarations under the Act.	Section 3 [Clause 3]	Clause 3 makes a technical amendment to section 3(2)(k) (Regulations for registration, regulation and control of importation and exportation, etc.) to clarify that regulations may be made for the registration of persons who are making declarations under the Act or any regulations made thereunder, rather than registration of persons who have made declarations.

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3	Allow disclosure of information collected under the Regulation of Imports and Exports Act to domestic government agencies.	<p>Currently, information furnished by traders under the Regulation of Imports and Exports Act can only be disclosed to public agencies upon trader's consent, or for the investigation, enforcement and prosecution of offences under the Act.</p> <p>The Regulation of Imports and Exports Act will be amended to allow disclosure of information to domestic public agencies for the investigation, enforcement and prosecution of offences under other domestic laws, and to safeguard national security, public health and safety.</p> <p>For legal clarity, the Act will also be amended to allow disclosure of information to domestic public agencies for processing, analysis and publishing of trade statistics.</p> <p>Safeguards will be in place to ensure that traders' information remains well-protected.</p>	Section 31 [Clause 4]	<p>Clause 4 amends section 31(1) (Information not to be published or disclosed) to expand on the circumstances in which the Director-General of Customs may communicate or disclose any particulars, information or document that has been furnished for the purposes of the Act or any regulations made thereunder, to a public agency. In some of these circumstances, the approval of the Minister for Trade and Industry is required. Where the communication or disclosure is being made to enable a public agency to ensure public health and safety, or the security of Singapore, the particulars or information in question may be communicated or disclosed to the public agency through another public agency.</p> <p>Clause 4 also amends section 31(6) by including a new definition for "public agency".</p>

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4	Rationalise the two-tier composition sums	Currently, the reference of “minimum fine” in the two-tier composition sums has no effect as all penalty provisions in the Act made references to offences with maximum and not minimum fines. The amendment will rationalise the two-tier composition sums.	Sections 39 [Clause 5]	Clause 5 amends section 39 (Composition of offences) to substitute “minimum fine” with “maximum fine” as the Act does not prescribe minimum fines.