

**Animals and Birds Act**  
**(CHAPTER 7)**

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# **ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT**

## **(CHAPTER 7)**

(Original Enactment: Ordinance 3 of 1965)

REVISED EDITION 2002

(31st December 2002)

An Act for preventing the introduction into, and the spreading within, Singapore of diseases of animals, birds or fish; for the control of the movement of animals, birds or fish into, within and from Singapore; for the prevention of cruelty to animals, birds or fish; for measures pertaining to the general welfare and improvement of animals, birds or fish in Singapore and for purposes incidental thereto.

[\[10/2002\]](#)

[22nd October 1965]

### **PART I**

#### **PRELIMINARY**

##### **Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Animals and Birds Act.

##### **Interpretation**

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

“aircraft” includes any kind of craft which may be used for the conveyance of animals or birds by air;

“animal” means any mammal (other than man) or fish and includes any other living creature that is prescribed as an animal for the purposes of this Act or that falls within a class of animals that is prescribed for those purposes;

“animal quarantine station” means a quarantine station established under section 57;

“authorised examiner” means any authorised officer and includes any person who has been designated as an authorised examiner by the Director-General under section 4;

“authorised officer” means any person appointed by the Director-General to be an authorised officer under section 3(2);

“Authority” means the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority established under section 3 of the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority Act (Cap. 5);

“bird” includes domestic fowls, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea fowls and pigeons of any age or sex and the eggs thereof;

“building” includes any house, hut, shed, stable or enclosure, whether roofed or not, used for sheltering or confining any animal or bird and any pen, cage, wall, gate, pillar, post, paling, frame, boarding, fence, platform, roadway, path, steps, staging, slip, wharf, dock, piles, jetty, landing stage or bridge, or any structure connected with the foregoing;

“bull” means a male of any species of cattle;

“carcase” means the dead body of an animal or bird and includes any part thereof and the meat, bones (whether whole, broken or ground), offal, hide, skin, wool, hair, feathers, hoof, horns or other part of an animal or bird, separately or otherwise, or any portion thereof;

“cat” means a domesticated cat of any breed or sex;

“cattle” means bulls, cows, oxen, heifers, and calves and includes buffaloes of any age or sex;

“contact” means any animal or bird which has by contact direct or indirect with a diseased animal or bird been exposed to the risk of contracting a disease;

“Director-General” means the Director-General, Agri-Food and Veterinary Services appointed under section 3(1);

“disease” means any disease that is infectious or contagious amongst animals or birds and includes any other disease which the Minister may, from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette*, declare to be a disease for the purposes of this Act;

“dog” means a domesticated dog of any breed or sex;

“examine”, in relation to any animal or bird or the carcase thereof, means to carry out in respect of such animal, bird or carcase, such manner of inspection, examination and test as may be necessary for the purposes of determining whether the animal, bird or carcase thereof is infected with any disease;

“fish” includes any of the varieties of marine, brackish water or fresh water fishes,



crustacea, aquatic mollusca, turtles, marine sponges, trepang and any other form of aquatic life and the young and eggs thereof;

“fodder” means any substance used for food of animals or birds;

“genetically modified organism” means any organism (other than a human being or a plant), whether living or dead, or parts of any such organism, containing genetic material or protein or both which have been derived or modified as a result of manipulation or experimentation of genetic material, or any means other than by natural process;

“goods in transit” means goods that are brought into Singapore solely for the purpose of taking them out of Singapore and that remain at all times on the vehicle, aircraft or ship that brought them into Singapore;

“horse” includes any mare, gelding, pony, foal, colt, filly, ass or mule;

“import” includes the importation into Singapore of goods in transit and goods which are to be transhipped;

“infected” means infected with any disease;

“licence” means any licence issued by the Director-General;

“litter” means any substance used for bedding or otherwise for or about animals or birds;

“master” means the captain of any ship or aircraft and includes any person for the time being in charge of any ship (other than a pilot) or aircraft;

“officer of customs” has the same meaning as is assigned to it in the Customs Act (Cap.70);

“owner” includes any person for the time being in charge of any animal or bird and any person for the time being in occupation of any building;

“permit” means a permit issued by the Director-General;

“port” has the same meaning as is assigned to it in the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act (Cap. 170A);

“public place” means any place or premises to which at the material time the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of

right or by virtue of express or implied permission;

“quarantine” means the compulsory detention in isolation of any animal, bird or thing;

“quarantine station” means any building or place where quarantine is carried out, and includes an examination station or hulk;

“ship” includes every description of vessel or craft, however propelled, which may be used in the water;

“tranship” means to remove any goods imported into Singapore from the vehicle, aircraft or ship in which they were imported and either return them to the same vehicle, aircraft or ship or transfer them to another vehicle, aircraft or ship before being exported, whether such goods are to be transferred directly between such vehicles, aircraft or ships or whether they are to be landed in Singapore after their importation and kept at any place pending exportation;

“veterinary biologics” means any viruses, serums, toxins, and analogous products of natural or synthetic origin, including genetically modified organisms, diagnostics, antitoxins, vaccines, live micro-organisms, killed micro-organisms, and the antigenic or immunizing component of micro-organisms intended for use in the diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of diseases of animals and birds, or for purposes of research in animals or birds;

“veterinary centre” means any premises used for the purpose of providing any of the following services to members of the public:

- (a) the diagnosis of disease in, and injuries to, animals or birds, including tests performed for diagnostic purposes;
- (b) the treatment, vaccination or inoculation of animals or birds.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(2) Nothing in this Act affects a police officer’s powers or duties under the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68).

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

### **Appointment of Director-General, etc.**

3.—(1) The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint any person to be the Director-General, Agri-Food and Veterinary Services who shall be responsible for the administration of this Act and any other written law.

*[16/2000]*

(2) The Director-General may in writing appoint any public officer or any officer of the Authority or of any other statutory authority to be an authorised officer for the purposes of this Act.

[16/2000]

(3) The Director-General may delegate all or any of the powers conferred or duties imposed upon him by this Act to any authorised officer.

[16/2000]

### **Designation of authorised examiners**

4. The Director-General may, subject to any general or special directions of the Minister, in writing designate any suitably qualified person as an authorised examiner to carry out, at any appointed place, any examination, treatment or certification and any other similar, related or ancillary functions which are required by this Act to be carried out.

[3A

[10/2002]

### **Public servants**

5. All authorised officers shall be deemed to be public servants for the purposes of the Penal Code (Cap. 224).

[4

[10/2002]

### **Identification card to be produced**

6.—(1) Every authorised officer, officer of customs or police officer when exercising any powers under this Act shall —

- (a) if not in uniform, declare his office; and
- (b) on demand, produce to any person affected by the exercise of those powers such identification card as the Director-General, the Director-General of Customs or the Commissioner of Police respectively may direct to be carried by the authorised officers, officers of customs or police officers.

[16/2000]

[4/2003 wef 01/04/2003]

(2) It shall not be an offence for any person to refuse to comply with any request, demand or order made or given by any authorised officer, officer of customs or police officer not in uniform, who fails to declare his office and refuses to produce his identification card on demand being made by that person.

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## PART II

### IMPORTATION, TRANSHIPMENT, EXPORTATION OF ANIMALS AND BIRDS AND POSSESSION OF NOXIOUS INSECTS, ETC.

#### *Importation*

#### **Power to make orders with regard to importation, etc.**

7.—(1) The Minister may make orders —

- (a) specifying the countries or the parts of any country from which animals and birds, or any specified kinds of animals or birds, may be imported or transhipped either with or without restriction; or
- (b) prohibiting, either absolutely or conditionally, the import and transhipment from any specified country or any specified part of a country of any carcase, semen, fodder, litter, dung or any product of animals or birds or any article or substance that is likely to convey or spread any disease.

(2) Any person who contravenes the provisions of any order made under subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[6

[\[10/2002\]](#)

#### **No person to import or tranship any animal, bird or veterinary biologics without licence**

8.—(1) Except as provided in any order made under section 7(1), no person shall import or tranship any animal, bird or veterinary biologics, except in accordance with a licence issued in that behalf by the Director-General and in accordance with the conditions (if any) of that licence and such other conditions as may be prescribed.

[\[16/2000\]](#)

(2) A licence to import or tranship any animal, bird or veterinary biologics under this Act may be obtained on an application made in the prescribed form to the Director-General and upon the payment of such fees as may be prescribed.

[\[16/2000\]](#)

(3) Any person importing or transshipping an animal, bird or veterinary biologics in contravention of subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[7

[\[10/2002\]](#)

### **Importation or possession of noxious insects, pests or genetically modified organisms, etc.**

9.—(1) No person shall knowingly import into Singapore or shall have in his possession any living noxious insect, or any living pest, or any living disease germ or virus or any bacterial culture, of a nature harmful or dangerous to animals or birds, or any genetically modified organism without the prior written consent of the Director-General.

[16/2000; 10/2002]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[67  
[10/2002]

### **Examination of imported animals and birds**

10.—(1) Any person who has imported any animal or bird shall, if so directed by the Director-General or an authorised officer, immediately upon the arrival of the animal or bird in Singapore, at his own expense arrange for the animal or bird to be examined by an authorised examiner.

[10/2002]

(2) For the purpose of carrying out the examination of any animal or bird under subsection (1), an authorised examiner may detain the animal or bird at a quarantine station or such other place as may be approved by the Director-General or an authorised officer until the completion of the examination.

[10/2002]

(3) If any animal or bird, upon being examined by an authorised examiner under subsection (1), is certified by the authorised examiner to be suffering from —

(a) any disease or injury which, in the opinion of the authorised examiner, cannot be treated or relieved; or

(b) any disease which is likely to spread unless the animal or bird is destroyed,

the person who imported the animal or bird shall, at his own expense, cause that animal or bird to be destroyed at once and the carcase thereof to be disposed of in such manner as may be specified by the Director-General or an authorised officer.

[10/2002]

(4) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (1) or (3) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

### **Arrival of animal or bird to be reported**

**11.**—(1) The master of any ship or aircraft and the guard of any train on which there is any animal or bird, whether that animal or bird is intended to be landed in Singapore or not, shall immediately on the first arrival of the ship, aircraft or train at a port, airfield or station in Singapore report the fact to a port officer or the officer in charge of the airfield or the station master, as the case may be, who shall without delay inform the authorised officer.

[16/2000]

(2) An authorised officer may —

- (a) board any ship, aircraft or train for the purpose of examining any animal or bird therein; or
- (b) direct the master of the ship or aircraft or the guard of the train to arrange, at his own expense, for the animal or bird to be examined by an authorised examiner.

[10/2002]

(3) Notwithstanding the fact that —

- (a) a licence has been issued for the importation or transhipment of an animal or bird under section 8; or
- (b) any animal or bird comes from a country or part of a country which has been specified in an order made under section 7(1)(a),

the port officer or officer in charge of an airfield or station master shall not permit that animal or bird to be landed from the ship or removed from the aircraft or the train, as the case may be, until he has personally satisfied himself that the authorised officer has granted a permit for the landing or removal of that animal or bird from the ship, aircraft or train.

[16/2000]

(4) Any person who —

- (a) fails to make a report as is required under subsection (1);
- (b) fails to comply with any direction given to him by an authorised officer under subsection (2); or
- (c) permits an animal or bird to be landed or removed from any ship, aircraft or train in contravention of subsection (3),

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[9  
[10/2002]

### **Power to deal with diseased animals and birds being imported into Singapore**

**12.**—(1) Where the Director-General or an authorised officer has reasonable grounds for suspecting that there is on board any vehicle, aircraft or ship that has entered or that is about to enter Singapore any animal or bird that is infected with any disease, the Director-General or authorised officer may direct the person who is or who appears to be in command or charge of the vehicle, aircraft or ship to take all or any of the following measures at his own expense:

- (a) ensure that any animal or bird on board the vehicle, aircraft or ship is not (as the case requires) removed from the vehicle, aircraft or ship or brought into Singapore;
- (b) arrange for any animal or bird on board the vehicle, aircraft or ship to be examined by an authorised examiner;
- (c) cause any animal or bird on board the vehicle, aircraft or ship which is infected or reasonably suspected to be infected with any disease and any other animal or bird on board the vehicle, aircraft or ship which has or may have come into contact with such animal or bird to be —
  - (i) destroyed and disposed of in such manner as the Director-General or authorised officer may specify;
  - (ii) removed from Singapore;
  - (iii) treated in such manner as may be specified in the direction or by the authorised examiner who examined the animal or bird; or
  - (iv) quarantined in such manner, at such place and for such period as the Director-General or authorised officer may specify;
- (d) ensure that the vehicle, aircraft or ship does not enter Singapore or remove the vehicle, aircraft or ship from Singapore (as the case requires), if the Director-General is satisfied that such measure is necessary for the prevention of the introduction or spread of any disease in Singapore.

[10/2002]

- (2) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird which is

required to be destroyed under subsection (1)(c)(i).

[10/2002]

(3) Any person who fails to comply with any direction given to him by the Director-General or an authorised officer under subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

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[10/2002]

### **Animals and birds on board ship**

**13.**—(1) Any animal or bird imported or transhipped by sea shall, unless an authorised officer has authorised its landing, at all times while on board the ship in any port be confined in an enclosed part of the ship or in a cage or kennel.

[16/2000; 10/2002]

(2) If any animal or bird dies or is lost from a ship while in the port, the master of the ship shall immediately notify the authorised officer of the death or loss.

[16/2000; 10/2002]

(3) The master of any ship, in any case —

- (a) in which any animal or bird imported or transhipped by sea in that ship has, in contravention of subsection (1), not been confined while on board the ship in the port; or
- (b) where he fails without reasonable cause to notify the death or loss of any animal or bird while the ship is in the port,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[11

[10/2002]

### **Permission to land carcasses**

**14.**—(1) No person shall land from any ship or remove from any aircraft, train or vehicle the carcase of any animal or bird without the written permission of an authorised officer who may give directions in writing as to the manner of its disposal.

[16/2000]

(2) Any person —

- (a) landing or removing the carcase of an animal or bird in contravention of subsection (1); or



- (b) who fails to comply with the directions in writing of an authorised officer given under subsection (1),

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 12 months or to both.

[13

[\[16/2000; 10/2002\]](#)

### **Destruction or disinfection of certain articles**

**15.**—(1) Where an authorised officer is of the opinion that any bedding, litter, fodder or other material imported by land, sea or air may convey or spread any animal disease, he may —

- (a) seize and detain; and

- (b) in his discretion order the destruction or disinfection of,

that bedding, litter, fodder or other material.

[\[16/2000\]](#)

(2) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any bedding, litter, fodder or other material that is destroyed under subsection (1).

[14

[\[10/2002\]](#)

### *Exportation*

### **No person to export any animal or bird without licence**

**16.**—(1) No person shall export any animal or bird or the carcase of any animal or bird except in accordance with —

- (a) a licence in that behalf issued by the Director-General;

- (b) the conditions of that licence (if any); and

- (c) such other conditions as may be prescribed.

[\[16/2000\]](#)

(2) A licence to export any animal or bird or the carcase of any animal or bird may be issued upon an application made in the prescribed form to the Director-General and upon the payment of such fees as may be prescribed.

[\[16/2000\]](#)

(3) Any person exporting any animal or bird or the carcase of any animal or bird in contravention of subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[15  
[10/2002]

### **Examination and treatment of animals and birds before exportation**

**17.**—(1) Any person who intends to export any animal or bird from Singapore shall, if so directed by the Director-General or an authorised officer, arrange, at his own expense, for the animal or bird to be examined and, if necessary, treated by an authorised examiner before exporting the animal or bird.

[10/2002]

(2) For the purpose of carrying out the examination or treatment of any animal or bird under subsection (1), an authorised examiner may detain the animal or bird at a quarantine station or such other place as may be approved by the Director-General or an authorised officer until the completion of the examination or treatment.

[10/2002]

(3) If any animal or bird, upon being examined by an authorised examiner under subsection (1), is certified by the authorised examiner to be infected with any disease —

- (a) the person intending to export the animal or bird shall not export the animal or bird without the prior approval of the Director-General or an authorised officer; and
- (b) the Director-General or an authorised officer may direct the person intending to export the animal or bird to treat or destroy the animal or bird at his own expense in such manner as may be specified by the Director-General or authorised officer.

[10/2002]

(4) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (1) or (3)(a) or with any direction given to him by the Director-General or an authorised officer under subsection (3)(b) 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Certificate of freedom from disease**

**18.**—(1) Any person intending to export any animal or bird or the carcase thereof or any product derived from such animal, bird or carcase may apply to an authorised examiner —

- (a) for a certificate certifying that Singapore is free from such disease as may be specified in the certificate; or

- (b) for the animal, bird, carcase or product, as the case may be, to be examined and thereafter certified as to whether it is free from any disease or other condition.

[10/2002]

- (2) An application under subsection (1) shall be accompanied by the prescribed fee.

[66

[10/2002]

### PART III

#### PREVENTION OF SPREAD OF DISEASE

##### *General*

##### **Examination of animal or bird suspected of disease**

**19.—**(1) If the Director-General or an authorised officer has reason to believe that any animal or bird may be infected with any disease, he may subject that animal or bird and any article or substance which has been in contact therewith to an examination.

[10/2002]

- (2) For the purpose of this section —

- (a) the Director-General or authorised officer may —

- (i) seize the animal or bird as well as the whole or any sample of any article or substance which has been in contact therewith and take them to the place of examination; or

- (ii) in writing direct the owner or person in charge of the animal or bird to deliver the animal or bird as well as the whole or any sample of any article or substance which has been in contact therewith to an authorised examiner at a specified place and time; and

- (b) the authorised examiner carrying out the examination may take any substance from the animal or bird or destroy the animal or bird and conduct a post-mortem examination on its carcase, if that is the appropriate method by which he may, in accordance with accepted veterinary practice, determine whether the animal or bird has been infected with any particular disease.

[10/2002]

(3) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird which has been destroyed under subsection (2)(b).

[10/2002]

(4) Any person who —

- (a) fails without lawful excuse to comply with any written direction given to him under subsection (2)(a)(ii); or
- (b) without the permission of the Director-General or an authorised officer removes any animal or bird from the place to which it has been delivered under subsection (2)(a)(ii),

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Isolation or destruction of diseased animal or bird**

**20.**—(1) The Director-General or an authorised officer may require the immediate isolation or destruction of any animal or bird if —

- (a) the animal or bird is certified by an authorised examiner, upon any examination carried out under section 19, to be infected with disease;
- (b) the Director-General or authorised officer has other reasonable cause for believing that the animal or bird is infected with disease; or
- (c) the Director-General or authorised officer has reasonable cause for believing that the animal or bird —
  - (i) may have been in contact with another animal or bird which is infected with disease;
  - (ii) may have been exposed to disease; or
  - (iii) may perpetuate any disease.

[10/2002]

(2) Any person who refuses or fails without lawful excuse to isolate or destroy any animal or bird when required to do so by the Director-General or an authorised officer under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Compensation for any animal or bird destroyed**

**21.**—(1) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird which has been destroyed under section 20.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the Minister may in his discretion authorise the payment of such sum as he may determine as compensation in respect of any animal or bird which has been destroyed.

### **Post-mortem examination**

**22.**—(1) The Director-General or an authorised officer may cause the carcase of any animal or bird to be subject to a post-mortem examination.

*[10/2002]*

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Director-General or authorised officer may give written directions —

- (a) for the carcase, if already buried, to be exhumed for the purpose of a post-mortem examination; and
- (b) for the carcase to be delivered to an authorised examiner at a specified place and time.

*[10/2002]*

(3) Any person who —

- (a) fails without lawful excuse to comply with any written direction given to him under subsection (2); or
- (b) without the permission of the Director-General or an authorised officer removes the carcase from the place to which it has been delivered under subsection (2)(b),

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

*[10/2002]*

### **Animal or bird exposed to infection**

**23.**—(1) If an authorised officer considers that any animal or bird has been exposed to infection to any disease, he may give written directions for that animal or bird to be subjected to such treatment as he may consider necessary, including vaccine or serum therapy or a combination of such therapy.

*[16/2000]*

(2) Any person who fails, without lawful excuse, to comply with any written direction given to him under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6

months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Disinfection of building**

**24.**—(1) An authorised officer may give written directions for —

- (a) the disinfection in such manner as he may determine of any building in which an infected animal or bird has been found or kept;
- (b) prohibiting the use of any such building until the building has been disinfected in accordance with such directions as may have been given under paragraph (a).

[16/2000]

(2) Any person who fails, without lawful excuse, to comply with any written direction given to him under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Destruction of building**

**25.**—(1) If an authorised officer is of the opinion that any building which has been occupied by an infected animal cannot be effectively disinfected, he may give written directions, with the approval of the Minister, to the owner or occupier thereof to destroy the building and to burn the materials thereof within such time as may be specified in the order.

[16/2000]

(2) If an order made under subsection (1) is not complied with within the time specified in the order, the authorised officer may cause the building and the materials thereof to be destroyed.

[16/2000]

(3) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any building which has been destroyed by the owner or occupier thereof in compliance with written directions or by an authorised officer under subsection (1) or (2), as the case may be.

[16/2000]

(4) Notwithstanding subsection (3), the Minister may in his discretion authorise the payment of such sum as he may determine as compensation in respect of any building referred to in subsection (3).

[16/2000]

(5) Any person who fails, without lawful excuse, to comply with any written direction given to him under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on

conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

*[10/2002]*

### **Disinfection or destruction of articles**

**26.**—(1) An authorised officer may give written directions for the disinfection or destruction of any bedding, clothing, harness, fitting, buckets, pails or utensils whatsoever used in connection with any infected animal or bird.

*[16/2000]*

(2) No compensation is payable in respect of any bedding, clothing, harness, fitting, buckets, pails or utensils destroyed under subsection (1).

(3) Any person who fails, without lawful excuse, to comply with any written direction given to him under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

*[10/2002]*

### **Disinfection of person and clothing**

**27.**—(1) An authorised officer may require the disinfection of the body and clothing of any person who has been in contact with or in charge of or attended upon any animal or bird infected with or in the opinion of the authorised officer infected with disease.

*[16/2000]*

(2) Any person who fails, without lawful excuse, to comply with any requirement under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

*[10/2002]*

### **Disinfection of vehicles**

**28.**—(1) An authorised officer may require the disinfection of any vehicle or conveyance —

- (a) entering or leaving an area declared to be an infected area, under section 35; or
- (b) which has been used in the transport of any animal or bird infected with or in the opinion of the authorised officer infected with disease.

*[16/2000]*

(2) Any person who fails, without lawful excuse, to comply with any requirement

under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Disposal of infected animal, bird or carcase**

**29.**—(1) No person shall knowingly cast or cause or permit to be cast into any drain, ditch, water channel, street or open space, or otherwise expose any animal or bird or the carcase of any animal or bird which is or has been infected with disease or any fodder, litter, dung or thing which has been used in connection with any infected animal or bird.

(2) Any person who acts in contravention of subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Owner of diseased or dead animal or bird to report**

**30.**—(1) Every owner or person in charge of any animal or bird infected with or reasonably suspected to be infected with disease shall —

- (a) immediately make a report to an authorised officer or to the nearest police station; and
- (b) at once cause that animal or bird and all other animals or birds which have been in contact with it to be confined and isolated until the arrival of an authorised officer.

[16/2000]

(2) Every owner or person in charge of any animal or bird reasonably suspected to have died of disease shall immediately report its death to the authorised officer or the nearest police station and, in the case of an animal, the carcase shall not be moved without written permission from the authorised officer.

[16/2000]

(3) It shall not be an offence to bury the carcase of the animal, if no instructions have been received within 24 hours of making the report referred to in subsection (2).

[16/2000]

(4) Where the officer in charge of a police station has communicated the contents of a report by telephone to an authorised officer, he shall as soon as possible transmit the report to the authorised officer.

[16/2000]

(5) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to make a report as required



under subsection (1) or (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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

(6) Any person who without reasonable excuse —

- (a) fails to cause any animal or bird to be confined and isolated as is required by subsection (1); or
- (b) permits the carcase of an animal or bird to be moved in contravention of 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

*Special provisions relating to animals (other than dogs and cats) and birds*

## **Application**

**31.** Sections 32 to 36 shall not apply to dogs and cats.

## **Disposal of dead animal or bird**

**32.—**(1) The owner or person in charge of any animal or bird that has died from disease or has been destroyed by order of an authorised officer shall burn or otherwise dispose of the carcase thereof in accordance with the written directions of the authorised officer.

[16/2000]

(2) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any written directions given to him by an authorised officer under subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[16/2000; 10/2002]

## **Moving or disposal of diseased or suspected animal or bird**

**33.—**(1) No person shall move or dispose, whether by sale or otherwise, of any animal or bird diseased or reasonably suspected of being diseased or of being a contact of any diseased animal or bird or of the carcase of such an animal or bird, or of the milk, dung or blood of such an animal, except with the written consent of an authorised officer.

[16/2000]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Removal of articles from infected premises**

**34.—**(1) An authorised officer may give written directions prohibiting the removal of milk, manure, fodder, litter or other articles likely to carry or convey infection, from premises on which there is or recently has been, any animal or bird infected with disease.

[16/2000]

(2) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any written directions given to him under subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Infected areas**

**35.—**(1) Whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that any disease exists amongst any animals or birds in any part of Singapore, the Minister may by order declare that part to be an infected area and may in the order —

- (a) prohibit, either absolutely or conditionally, the removal of any animal or bird or any specified kind of animal or bird into or out of that area; and
- (b) restrict the movement of persons and vehicles, aircraft and ships into, within or out of that area.

[10/2002]

(2) When an area has been declared to be an infected area under subsection (1), the Director-General or an authorised officer may give the owner or person in charge of any animal or bird in that area such written directions as the Director-General or authorised officer may consider necessary to control and check the spread of the disease.

[10/2002]

(3) Directions issued under subsection (2) may —

- (a) regulate the tying-up, isolation, segregation, movement or slaughter of animals or birds in the infected area; and
- (b) require the taking of any measure as may be specified by the Director-General or authorised officer.

[10/2002]

(4) Any animal or bird allowed to stray within an infected area, in contravention of any written direction given under subsection (2), may —

- (a) be destroyed immediately by an authorised officer or any person acting under his direction; or
- (b) be seized and detained until its forfeiture has been declared under the provisions of this Act.

[16/2000; 10/2002]

(5) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird so destroyed or seized under subsection (4).

(6) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any order given to him under subsection (1) or with any written directions given to him 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

### **Special permission**

**36.** The authorised officer may grant, subject to such conditions as he may impose, written permission to the owner of any animal or bird to remove it into or out of any infected area.

[16/2000]

### *Special provisions relating to dogs and cats in connection with rabies*

### **Rabies infected areas**

**37.—**(1) The Minister may at any time as a precaution against rabies by order declare Singapore or any part thereof to be a rabies-infected area.

(2) No person shall take any dog out of a rabies-infected area or out of Singapore when any part thereof is a rabies-infected area, except in accordance with a written permit issued by an authorised officer.

[16/2000]

(3) The owner or person in charge of any dog within a rabies-infected area shall cause the dog to be kept under effective control —

- (a) by confining it within an enclosed area from which it would be impossible for the dog to escape;
- (b) by tying it up securely; or
- (c) by leading it with a chain or lead of strong cord or leather properly secured to a collar or harness worn by the dog.

(4) If the authorised officer is satisfied that any dog or class of dogs, whether by reason of prophylactic treatment or otherwise, is immune from infection by rabies, he may exempt that dog or class of dogs from the requirements of subsection (3), subject to such conditions as may be imposed by him.

[16/2000]

(5) Any dog found within a rabies-infected area which is not under effective control under subsection (3) may be destroyed by any person authorised in writing in that behalf by the authorised officer.

[16/2000]

(6) Any person authorised under subsection (5) —

- (a) may enter any land, building or premises for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of that subsection;
- (b) shall not enter into any dwelling-house for that purpose specified under that subsection, except during the day; and
- (c) shall, if required, produce and show his written authority to the owner, occupier or person for the time being in charge of the land, building or premises.

[16/2000]

(7) Any person who acts in contravention of 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

(8) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with subsection (3) 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 12 months or to both.

[38

[10/2002]

### **Destruction or detention of animal suspected to be infected with rabies**

**38.**—(1) Where an authorised officer reasonably suspects that any animal may be infected with rabies or has been exposed to rabies infection he may, in his discretion, either —

- (a) cause the animal to be destroyed immediately; or
- (b) give written directions to the owner or person in charge of the animal requiring that owner or person to take it immediately to any animal quarantine station for detention and observation.

[16/2000]

(2) If the owner or person in charge of the animal fails to comply with the written directions given under subsection (1), the authorised officer may either cause the animal to be destroyed immediately or take possession of the animal and remove it to an animal quarantine station.

[16/2000]

(3) The authorised officer may either destroy the animal in the animal quarantine station or may detain it until he is satisfied that it is free from disease.

[16/2000]

(4) The authorised officer may take possession of the body of any animal that has died or has been destroyed and which is reasonably suspected to have been infected with rabies and may dispose of it in such manner as he may think fit.

[16/2000]

(5) No compensation shall be payable to any person in respect of the destruction of any animal under subsection (1), (2) or (3).

(6) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any written directions given to him under subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

(7) In this section, “animal” means any four-footed beast in captivity or under control.

[39]

### **Detention of any dog that has bitten a person**

**39.**—(1) An authorised officer or police officer may give directions requiring the owner or person in charge of any dog that has or is reasonably believed to have bitten any person to produce the dog at such place and time as he may determine.

[16/2000]

(2) If the owner or person in charge of the dog fails to comply with the directions given to him under subsection (1), the authorised officer or police officer may immediately take possession of the dog and remove it to an animal quarantine station.

[16/2000]

(3) Any person who fails, without lawful excuse, to comply with the directions given to him under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000.

[40]

[10/2002]

### **Anti-rabies vaccination of dogs**

**40.**—(1) The Minister may make an order requiring that all dogs within Singapore or any part thereof specified in the order shall be submitted to anti-rabies vaccination.

(2) Where an order has been made under subsection (1) the authorised officer may specify periods of time within which, and the place at which, dogs or groups of dogs, shall be produced for the purpose of such vaccination.

[16/2000]

(3) All such arrangements for vaccination of dogs shall be published in such manner as the authorised officer may determine.

[16/2000]

(4) The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, require that every dog which has been vaccinated in accordance with the order shall, after such date as may be specified in the notification, at all times during the continuance in force of the order and within the area to which the order applies, carry upon it a serially numbered badge, mark, tag or other evidence of vaccination.

(5) Any dog within the area after the date specified in the notification made under subsection (4), whether the dog is at large or not, which does not carry the proper evidence of vaccination may be destroyed.

(6) The authorised officer may authorise in writing any person to destroy dogs to give effect to subsection (5).

[16/2000]

(7) Any person so authorised may enter any land, building or premises for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of subsection (6).

(8) The person so authorised shall not enter into any dwelling for that purpose, except during the hours of daylight and shall, if required, produce and show his written authority to the owner, occupier or person for the time being in charge of the land, building or premises.

(9) If any person in charge of a dog fails to comply with any order or requirement under subsection (1) or (4), as the case may be, the authorised officer may immediately destroy that dog.

[16/2000]

(10) Any owner of or person in charge of a dog who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with an order made under subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

(11) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with a requirement contained in a notification made under subsection (4) 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 12 months or to both.

[10/2002]

(12) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any dog that is destroyed under this section.

[41

[10/2002]

## PART IV

### ANIMAL WELFARE AND PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

#### Interpretation of this Part

**41.** In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires —

“animal” includes any beast, bird, fish or reptile, whether wild or tame;

“animal-related business” means —

(a) the operation of any place or establishment for the purpose of —

(i) using or holding animals for display, sport, entertainment, sale, breeding or conservation; or

(ii) the care, boarding, grooming, treatment, vaccination, inoculation, training or destruction of animals, for reward;

(b) the provision of any service relating to the care, boarding, grooming, treatment, vaccination, inoculation, training, transportation, capture or destruction of animals, for reward; or

(c) the operation of any animal rescue or welfare organisation or facility,

but does not include any business in respect of animals intended for consumption;

“code of animal welfare” means any code of animal welfare issued, adopted or amended by the Director-General and in force under section 41A;

“owner”, in relation to an animal, includes a person in charge of the animal;

“person in charge”, in relation to an animal, means a person who has, whether permanently or on a temporary basis, the animal in the person’s possession,

custody or control, or under the person's care or supervision, and includes an individual who has the animal in such a manner in the course of the individual's employment;

“reward” means any payment or other benefit (whether monetary or otherwise).

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

## **Codes of animal welfare**

**41A.**—(1) The Director-General may, from time to time, for the purposes of this Part —

- (a) issue one or more codes of animal welfare;
- (b) adopt as a code of animal welfare, with or without any modification, any document (or any part of such document) prepared by any person in or outside Singapore; or
- (c) amend or revoke any code of animal welfare issued or adopted under this subsection,

with respect to the standards of care to be provided or observed in respect of any animal or class of animals.

(2) Upon issuing, adopting, amending or revoking a code of animal welfare under subsection (1), the Director-General must —

- (a) publish a notice of the issue, adoption, amendment or revocation, as the case may be, in such manner as will secure adequate publicity for such issue, adoption, amendment or revocation;
- (b) specify the date of the issue, adoption, amendment or revocation, as the case may be, in the notice; and
- (c) ensure that the code of animal welfare (including any amendment made to the code of animal welfare) remains available for access or inspection without charge by the public.

(3) Any issue, adoption, amendment or revocation of a code of animal welfare under subsection (1) does not have any force or effect until the notice relating to it has been published in accordance with subsection (2)(a) and (b).

(4) If any provision of any code of animal welfare in force under this section is inconsistent with any provision of this Act or any rule made under this Act, the provision in the code of animal welfare does not, to the extent of the inconsistency, have effect.



(5) The Director-General may, either generally or for such time as the Director-General may specify, waive the application of any code of animal welfare (or any part of such code) issued, adopted or amended under this section to any animal owner or class of animal owners, or in respect of any animal or class of animals.

(6) Any code of animal welfare issued under this section shall be deemed not to be subsidiary legislation.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

### **Use of codes of animal welfare in proceedings**

**41B.**—(1) A person shall not be liable to any criminal proceedings by reason only that the person has failed to observe any provision of a code of animal welfare.

(2) In any criminal proceedings, any party to the proceedings may rely upon —

- (a) the failure of a person to comply with a provision of a code of animal welfare which applies to that person; or
- (b) that person's compliance with that provision,

as tending to establish or negate any liability which is in question in the proceedings.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

### **Duty of care of animal owners**

**41C.**—(1) Every owner of an animal —

- (a) must take reasonable steps to ensure that —
  - (i) the animal is provided with adequate and suitable food and water, taking into account its dietary needs;
  - (ii) the animal is provided with adequate shelter;
  - (iii) the animal is not kept in confinement, conveyed, lifted, carried or handled in a manner or position that subjects the animal to unreasonable or unnecessary pain or suffering; and
  - (iv) the animal is protected from, and rapidly diagnosed of, any significant injury or disease;
- (b) must not abandon the animal, or cause or permit the animal to be abandoned, whether permanently or temporarily, without reasonable cause or excuse;
- (c) in the case where the animal is missing, must make reasonable efforts to

recover the animal; and

- (d) must take reasonable steps to ensure that the animal is cared for in accordance with the codes of animal welfare applicable to the animal.

(2) Any person who fails to comply with subsection (1)(a), (b) or (c) shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) A person who is guilty of an offence under subsection (2) shall be liable on conviction —

- (a) in the case where the person commits the offence in the course of carrying on, or employment or purported employment with, an animal-related business —

- (i) for a first offence, to a fine not exceeding \$40,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both; and
  - (ii) for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both; and

- (b) in any other case —

- (i) for a first offence, to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both; and
  - (ii) for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

(4) For the purpose of subsection (3), a person is a repeat offender if the person who is convicted, or found guilty, of an offence under subsection (2) has (whether before, on or after the date of commencement of section 4 of the Animals and Birds (Amendment) Act 2014) been convicted or found guilty on at least one other earlier occasion of an offence under section 42(1)(f) in force immediately before that date.

(5) In this section, “employment”, in relation to an animal-related business, includes the holding of the office, or purporting to act in the capacity, of a director, manager, partner, secretary or other analogous position in the animal-related business.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

## **Cruelty to animals**

**42.—**(1) Any person who —

- (a) cruelly beats, kicks, ill-treats, over-rides, over-drives, over-loads, tortures, infuriates or terrifies any animal;
- (b) causes or procures or, being the owner, permits any animal to be so used;
- (c) *[Deleted by Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*
- (d) by wantonly or unreasonably doing or omitting to do any act, causes any unnecessary pain or suffering or, being the owner, permits any unnecessary pain or suffering to any animal;
- (e) *[Deleted by Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*
- (f) *[Deleted by Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*
- (g) employs or causes or procures or, being the owner, permits to be employed in any work of labour, any animal which in consequence of any disease, infirmity, wound or sore, or otherwise is unfit to be so employed; or
- (h) causes, procures or assists at the fighting or baiting of any animal, or keeps, uses, manages, or acts or assists in the management of any premises or place for the purpose, or partly for the purpose, of fighting or baiting any animal, or permits any premises or place to be so kept, managed or used, or receives or causes or procures any person to receive money for the admission of any person to the premises or place,

shall be guilty of an offence.

*[10/2002]  
[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), an owner shall be deemed to have permitted cruelty to an animal, if he has failed to exercise reasonable care and supervision in respect of the animal.

(3) Nothing in this section applies to the commission or omission of any act in the course of the destruction, or the preparation for destruction of any animal as food, unless that destruction or preparation was accompanied by the infliction of unnecessary suffering.

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(4) A person who is guilty of an offence under subsection (1) shall be liable on conviction —

- (a) in the case where the person commits the offence in the course of carrying on, or employment or purported employment with, an animal-related business —

- (i) for a first offence, to a fine not exceeding \$40,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both; and
  - (ii) for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both; and
- (b) in any other case —
  - (i) for a first offence, to a fine not exceeding \$15,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 18 months or to both; and
  - (ii) for a second or subsequent offence, to a fine not exceeding \$30,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(5) In this section, “employment”, in relation to an animal-related business, includes the holding of the office, or purporting to act in the capacity, of a director, manager, partner, secretary or other analogous position in the animal-related business.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

### **Prescribed activities and services to be performed by qualified individuals**

**43.**—(1) A person carrying on any prescribed animal-related business must not employ or engage any individual to perform any prescribed activity or service, or prescribed class of activities or services, relating to the ownership of an animal or class of animals unless the individual holds such qualifications or has completed such training as the Director-General may specify.

(2) The Director-General must publish on a prescribed website the Director-General’s specifications on qualifications and training under subsection (1).

(3) Any person carrying on a prescribed animal-related business who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

### **Power to issue directions**

**43A.**—(1) The Director-General may in any particular case issue to the owner of an animal such directions as the Director-General considers necessary to ensure that —

- (a) the welfare of the animal is safeguarded; or
- (b) the provisions of this Part are complied with,

and the owner must comply with the directions.

(2) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any direction issued to the person under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction —

- (a) in the case where the person commits the offence in the course of carrying on, or employment or purported employment with, an animal-related business, to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both; and
- (b) in any other case, to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

(3) In this section, “employment”, in relation to an animal-related business, includes the holding of the office, or purporting to act in the capacity, of a director, manager, partner, secretary or other analogous position in the animal-related business.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

### **Disqualification orders**

**43B.**—(1) Where a person is convicted of an offence under section 41C(2), 42(1) or 43(3), the court before which the person is convicted of that offence may, in addition to the punishment provided for that offence —

- (a) in the case where the person commits the offence in the course of carrying on, or employment or purported employment with, an animal-related business, disqualify the person from —
  - (i) carrying on any animal-related business or class of animal-related businesses; or
  - (ii) being a person in charge of any animal or class of animals in the course of any employment with any animal-related business; and
- (b) in any other case, disqualify the person from owning any animal or any class of animals,

for a period not exceeding 12 months starting on such date as the court may specify.

(2) Where a court makes a disqualification order against a person under subsection (1), the court may make such order as it thinks fit for the disposal of any animal owned by the person at the time of the making or start of the disqualification order.

(3) Any person who contravenes a disqualification order made against the person under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(4) Any person carrying on the business of an animal-related business who, knowingly or with reckless disregard, employs any individual in any capacity that is prohibited by a disqualification order made against that individual under subsection (1)(a)(ii) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(5) In this section, “employment”, in relation to an animal-related business, includes the holding of the office, or purporting to act in the capacity, of a director, manager, partner, secretary or other analogous position in the animal-related business.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

### **Orders by Magistrate when an offence has been committed**

**44.—**(1) When any person has been convicted of an offence under this Part, the court may order —

- (a) that the animal in respect of which the offence was committed be taken to a veterinary centre or such other place as the court may specify and there detained and treated for any period stated in the order, or until released by further order of a Magistrate or until an authorised officer has certified in writing that it may properly be released;
- (b) that the animal be treated by an authorised officer or by a person licensed under section 53 to treat animals and not used during such period as may be stated in the order or until permission to use it has been given by a Magistrate or an authorised officer; or
- (c) if satisfied that the animal is incurably diseased or injured, that it be destroyed immediately by or under the direction of a police officer or an authorised officer and that the cost of burying or otherwise disposing of the carcase be borne by the person convicted.

*[16/2000; 10/2002]*

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(2) Where the court makes an order under subsection (1)(a), the person who has been convicted of an offence in respect of the animal shall be liable to pay the costs and expenses for its maintenance and treatment until it is declared fit for release or use.

*[10/2002]*

(3) Without prejudice to subsection (1), where the owner of any animal is convicted of an offence under this Part, the court may, upon convicting him, if it thinks fit, in

addition to any other punishment, deprive him of the ownership of the animal and make such order as to the disposal of the animal as the court thinks fit.

[10/2002]

[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

(4) The court shall not make an order under subsection (3) unless it is satisfied by evidence as to a previous conviction, or as to the character of the owner or otherwise, that the animal, if left with the owner, is likely to be exposed to cruelty.

[10/2002]

(5) Any person who acts in contravention of the provisions of an order made under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[45]

[10/2002]

### **Power to order destruction of animals**

**45.—**(1) An authorised officer or a police officer who has satisfied himself by personal inspection or otherwise —

- (a) that an animal is diseased or injured and that the disease or injury from which the animal is suffering is incurable or that it is cruel to keep the animal alive; or
- (b) that an animal is so diseased or so severely injured or in such a physical condition that, in his opinion, having regard to the means available for removing the animal there is no possibility of removing it without cruelty and that it is cruel to keep it alive,

may give written directions requiring the animal to be destroyed and those directions may immediately be carried out by or under the supervision of that authorised officer or police officer or any other person authorised in that behalf by the authorised officer or police officer.

[21/93; 16/2000; 10/2002]

(2) If the animal so diseased or injured is in any house, stable, shed, or enclosure proper for that animal and not in a public thoroughfare, market or place, no written directions shall be given until the owner of the animal (if known) has been duly notified of the state of the animal.

[21/73]

[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

(3) If any animal is destroyed under written directions given under subsection (1), the expenses of the removal and burial of the carcase of the animal shall be paid by the owner thereof and the amount thereof may be recovered from that owner in a summary manner before a Magistrate.

**No compensation for destruction of an animal incurably diseased or injured or destroyed at request of professed owner**

46. No compensation shall in any case be payable to any person in respect of the destruction of any animal —

- (a) under an order made under section 44(1)(c);
- (b) under written directions given under section 45(1); or
- (c) in compliance with a request in writing to an authorised officer or a person in charge of a veterinary centre or such other place as provided for in section 44(1) by any person professing to be the owner of the animal.

[47]

**Award to informer**

47. The court before which any person is convicted of an offence under this Part may direct any fine or portion of any fine imposed and levied under this Act to be paid to the informer.

[48]

**Animals and birds not to be kept in captivity for sale, export or exhibition without licence**

48.—(1) No person shall keep in captivity for sale, export or exhibition any animal or bird in any place which has not been licensed in that behalf under this Act.

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[49]

*[10/2002]*

**PART V**

**CONTROL OF LIVESTOCK**

**Movement or slaughter of animals and birds may be prohibited**

49.—(1) The Minister may by order —

- (a) prohibit for such period as may be specified in the order the movement of



any animals and birds from one part of Singapore to another except under a licence;

- (b) prohibit during such period or periods as may be specified in the order the slaughter of any animal or bird except under a licence.

(2) A licence issued in accordance with an order made under subsection (1) shall be subject to such conditions as may be contained in the order or the licence.

(3) Any person who contravenes the provisions of an order made under this section 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 12 months or to both.

[50  
[10/2002]

## PART VI

### ENFORCEMENT POWERS

#### **Powers of search, etc.**

**50.**—(1) For the purpose of ascertaining whether any animal or bird is suffering from disease or for the purpose of ascertaining whether any offence under this Act has been or is being committed —

- (a) any authorised officer or police officer may enter and examine any land, building or premises on or in which he suspects any animal or bird is being kept for the purpose of examining the animal, bird, land, building or premises and the owner of the land, building, premises, animal or bird shall render the authorised officer or police officer all necessary assistance and furnish such information as may be required of him; and
- (b) any authorised officer, police officer or officer of customs may stop, enter and examine any conveyance used for carrying animals.

[16/2000]

(2) Any authorised officer, police officer or officer of customs acting under subsection (1) may, if the circumstances so warrant, with such assistance as he thinks necessary, remove anything obstructing his entry to the premises or conveyance or break open any door, window, lock, fastener, hold, compartment, box, container or any other thing.

[10/2002]

(2A) Any authorised officer, police officer or officer of customs acting under subsection (1) may take such photographs or audio or video recordings as necessary of

any premises or conveyance referred to in that subsection (including anything in the premises or conveyance).

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(2B) Any authorised officer, police officer or officer of customs may stop and examine in any street or public place any animal in respect of which the officer has reason to believe that an offence under this Act has been or is being committed.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(3) No compensation shall be payable to any person in respect of any damage to his property caused or occasioned by any act authorised by subsection (2).

*[10/2002]*

(4) Any person in charge of a conveyance who does not stop when he is required to do so by any authorised officer, police officer or officer of customs under subsection (1)(b) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

*[51]*

*[10/2002]*

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

## **Powers of seizure**

**51.**—(1) Where any authorised officer or police officer has reason to believe that any offence under this Act has been or is being committed or where any officer of customs has reason to believe that an offence under this Act relating to importation or exportation has been or is being committed, the authorised officer, officer of customs or police officer may —

(a) seize any animal, bird, carcase or article, the subject-matter of such an offence;

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(aa) seize any article or conveyance with which or by means of which, the offence is reasonably suspected to have been committed; and

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(b) remove that animal, bird, carcase, article or conveyance to any compound, enclosure or other place selected by the authorised officer and there detain it.

*[16/2000]*

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

(2) Where any animal, bird, carcase, article or conveyance has been seized and detained under subsection (1), the authorised officer, officer of customs or police officer shall report the same to a Magistrate and the Magistrate may make such order for the further detention or release of the animal, bird, carcase, article or conveyance as he may

think fit.

[16/2000]  
[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

(3) The owner of the animal, bird, carcase, article or conveyance shall pay such sum as the Magistrate may consider reasonable to cover the expenses connected with its removal to a place of detention and unless that sum is paid within a specified time the animal, bird, carcase, article or conveyance shall be forfeited.

[52]  
[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]  
[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

## **Powers of arrest**

**52.**—(1) An authorised officer, a police officer or an officer of customs may arrest without warrant any person whom the officer reasonably suspects of committing or attempting to commit an offence under this Act.

[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

(1A) The officer making an arrest under this section must not restrain the person arrested more than is necessary to prevent the person's escape.

[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

(2) Any authorised officer, officer of customs or police officer making an arrest without warrant shall, subject to subsection (3), without unnecessary delay bring the person arrested before a Magistrate's Court.

[16/2000]

(2A) A person who is arrested under this section must not be detained in custody for a period longer than is reasonable under the circumstances of the case, and such period must not exceed 48 hours (excluding the time necessary for the journey to a Magistrate's Court).

[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

(3) No person who has been arrested by any authorised officer, officer of customs or police officer shall be released, except on his own bond or on bail or on the special order in writing of the Magistrate or the Director-General.

[53]  
[16/2000]

## **Powers of investigation**

**52A.**—(1) For the purposes of investigating any offence under this Act, an authorised officer, a police officer or an officer of customs may do all or any of the following:

- (a) examine orally any person who appears to be material to the investigation —

- (i) whether before or after that person or anyone else is charged with an offence in connection with the case; and
  - (ii) whether or not the person is to be called as a witness in any inquiry, trial or other proceeding in connection with the case;
- (b) issue a written notice requiring any person within the limits of Singapore, who appears to be material to the investigation, to attend before the officer;
- (c) require any person who is reasonably believed to have —
  - (i) any information; or
  - (ii) any document or article in the person's possession, custody or control,relevant to the investigation, to furnish that information, or produce that document or article.

(2) Any person examined under this section shall be bound to state truly what the person knows of the facts and circumstances of the case, except that the person need not say anything that might expose the person to a criminal charge, penalty or forfeiture.

(3) A statement made by any person examined under this section must —

- (a) be reduced to writing;
- (b) be read over to the person;
- (c) if the person does not understand English, be interpreted for the person in a language that the person understands; and
- (d) after correction (if necessary), be signed by the person.

(4) If any person fails to comply with a written notice issued to the person by an authorised officer, a police officer or an officer of customs under subsection (1)(b), the officer may report such failure to a Magistrate who may then, in the Magistrate's discretion, issue a warrant ordering the person to comply with the written notice.

(5) Subject to subsection (6), an authorised officer, a police officer or an officer of customs may take possession of, or any extract from or copy of, any document or article produced under subsection (1)(c) for further investigation.

(6) Any thing taken possession of by an authorised officer, a police officer or an officer of customs under subsection (5) —

- (a) must be placed in safe custody by the officer; and

- (b) unless ordered otherwise by a court, may be retained by the officer until the completion of any proceedings (including proceedings on appeal) in which it may be evidence.

(7) Any person who, without reasonable excuse, refuses or fails to comply with any notice issued to the person under subsection (1)(b) or with any requirement made of the person under subsection (1)(c) 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.

*[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]*

## PART VII

### LICENSING OF VETERINARY CENTRE, VETERINARY BIOLOGICS AND KEEPING, BREEDING, ETC., OF ANIMAL OR BIRD

#### **Licence to treat, vaccinate and inoculate animal or bird**

**53.**—(1) No person other than an authorised officer shall treat, vaccinate or inoculate any animal or bird except under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued by the Director-General.

*[10/2002]*

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[68

*[10/2002]*

#### **Veterinary centres to be licensed**

**54.**—(1) No person shall use or permit any premises to be used as a veterinary centre except under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued by the Director-General.

*[10/2002]*

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[65

*[10/2002]*

#### **Licence to possess or inoculate veterinary biologics**

**55.**—(1) No person other than an authorised officer shall —

- (a) have in his possession any veterinary biologics; or
- (b) inoculate any animal or bird with any veterinary biologics,

except under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued by the Director-General.

[10/2002]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) 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 12 months or to both.

[69

[10/2002]

### **Brands or other identification marks may be applied to animals and birds**

**56.**—(1) The Director-General or an authorised officer may give directions to the owner or person in charge of any animal or bird to have that animal or bird branded, labelled or otherwise marked, either permanently or temporarily, for the purpose of identification.

[10/2002]

(2) The branding, labelling or marking of any animal or bird under subsection (1) shall be carried out by a person designated by the Director-General under subsection (3) and the costs thereof shall be borne by the owner or person in charge of the animal or bird.

[10/2002]

(3) The Director-General may designate any person to carry out the branding, labelling or marking of animals and birds for the purpose of this section.

[10/2002]

(4) Any person who —

- (a) fails to comply with any direction given to him under subsection (1); or
- (b) counterfeits, copies, alters, defaces or erases, any brand, label or mark applied on any animal or bird under this section,

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 12 months or to both.

[62

[10/2002]

## **PART VIII**

## QUARANTINE

### Quarantine stations

**57.**—(1) The Director-General may establish or designate such number of quarantine stations as he thinks necessary for the purposes of this Act.

[10/2002]

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the Director-General may engage the service of any suitably qualified person to provide such number of quarantine stations as he thinks necessary and to manage any quarantine station established by him under subsection (1).

[63

[10/2002]

### Prohibition against use of premises as unauthorised quarantine stations

**58.**—(1) No person shall use or permit any premises to be used as a quarantine station for animals or birds unless such premises have been designated by the Director-General as a quarantine station under section 57.

[10/2002]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) 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 12 months.

[64

[10/2002]

### Regulation and control of keeping, breeding or feeding of animals and birds

**59.**—(1) The Minister may make rules for the following purposes:

- (a) to prohibit, either absolutely or subject to such conditions as may be prescribed, the keeping, breeding or feeding in any private or public place of any animal or bird or type thereof;
- (b) to regulate the keeping, breeding or feeding in any private or public place of any animal or bird or type thereof; and
- (c) to provide for the impounding of stray cats or dogs found in any public place.

[10/2002]

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), rules made under that subsection may —

- (a) require any person intending to keep or breed any animal or bird or type

thereof in any private or public place to obtain a licence from the Director-General and to comply with the conditions of such licence;

- (b) provide for the licence to be issued in respect of either or both —
  - (i) the animal or bird to be kept or bred; and
  - (ii) the place at which the animal or bird is to be kept or bred; and
- (c) empower the Director-General or an authorised officer to remove or destroy or cause the removal or destruction of any animal or bird in connection with which any contravention of any rule made under this section has been committed.

[\[10/2002\]](#)

(3) No compensation shall be payable in respect of any animal or bird which is required by any rules made under subsection (2)(c) to be destroyed.

[\[10/2002\]](#)

(4) Section 80(3) shall apply in respect of rules made under this section.

[53A

[\[10/2002\]](#)

## PART IX

### OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

#### **Obstructing officers in execution of their duties**

**60.** Any person who without lawful excuse obstructs or impedes or assists in obstructing or impeding any authorised officer, officer of customs or police officer in the exercise of his duties under this Act or any rule or order made thereunder 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 12 months or to both.

[54

[\[16/2000; 10/2002\]](#)

#### **Altering licences**

**61.** Any person who without lawful authority alters any licence or permit issued under this Act or knowingly makes use of any licence or permit so altered 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 12 months or to both.

[55

[\[10/2002\]](#)



## **Suspension and revocation of licences and permits**

**62.**—(1) The Director-General may suspend or revoke a licence or permit if he is satisfied that —

- (a) the issue of the licence or permit has been obtained by fraud or misrepresentation;
- (b) the person to whom the licence or permit has been issued is contravening or has contravened or has failed to comply with —
  - (i) any of the provisions of this Act;
  - (ii) any condition of his licence or permit; or
  - (iii) any direction given to him by the Director-General or an authorised officer under this Act or by the Authority under Part IIA of the Sale of Food Act (Cap. 283); or
- (c) it is in the public interest to suspend or revoke the licence or permit.

*[Act 48 of 2017 wef 01/02/2018]*

*[10/2002]*

(2) The Director-General shall, before suspending or revoking the licence or permit under subsection (1) —

- (a) give the holder of the licence or permit notice in writing of his intention to do so; and
- (b) in such notice call upon the holder of the licence or permit to show cause within such time as may be specified in the notice as to why his licence or permit should not be suspended or revoked.

*[10/2002]*

(3) If the holder of the licence or permit —

- (a) fails to show cause within the period of time given to him to do so or such extended period of time as the Director-General may allow; or
- (b) fails to show sufficient cause,

the Director-General shall give notice in writing to the holder of the licence or permit of the date from which the suspension or revocation of his licence or permit is to take effect.

*[10/2002]*

(4) Any person who is aggrieved by the suspension or revocation of his licence or permit may, within 7 days from the date of receipt of the notice informing him of the

suspension or revocation, appeal in writing to the Minister whose decision shall be final.  
[10/2002]

(5) Notwithstanding that any appeal under subsection (4) is pending, the suspension or revocation of a licence or permit under subsection (3) shall take effect from the date specified by the Director-General therefor, unless the Minister otherwise orders.

[69A  
[10/2002]

### **Penalties for offences for which no expressed penalty is provided**

**63.** Any person guilty of an offence under this Act, or any rule or order made thereunder for which no expressed penalty is provided shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[56  
[10/2002]

### **Forfeiture**

**64.—**(1) The court before which any person is tried for an offence under this Act may make an order for the forfeiture of any item which has been seized under the provisions of this Act if —

- (a) the court is satisfied that —
  - (i) an offence under this Act has been committed; and
  - (ii) the item seized was the subject-matter, or was used in the commission, of the offence; and
- (b) having regard to the circumstances of the case, the court thinks it fit to order the forfeiture of the item.

[10/2002]

(2) Where no party raises the question of forfeiture under subsection (1), the court shall consider the question on its own motion.

[10/2002]

(3) The court may make an order under subsection (1) for the forfeiture of any item which has been seized under the provisions of this Act notwithstanding that no person may have been convicted of an offence.

[10/2002]

(4) If the court, having regard to the circumstances of the case, does not think it fit to order the forfeiture of any item which has been seized under the provisions of this Act, the court shall order that the item be released to the owner thereof or to the person

entitled thereto.

[10/2002]

(5) In the absence of any prosecution with regard to any item which has been seized under the provisions of this Act, the Director-General shall give the person from whom the item was seized or the owner of the item notice in writing that the item shall, on the expiration of 7 days from the date specified in the notice, be deemed to be forfeited unless a claim thereto is made before then in accordance with subsection (6).

[10/2002]

(6) A person asserting —

(a) that he is the owner of, or that he is entitled to, any item which has been seized under the provisions of this Act; and

(b) that the item is not liable to forfeiture,

may, personally or by his agent authorised in writing, give written notice to the Director-General that he claims the item.

[10/2002]

(7) On receipt of a notice under subsection (6), the Director-General may direct that the item be released to the person who has given the notice or may refer the matter to a court for decision.

[10/2002]

(8) Where no claim is received on the expiration of 7 days from the date specified in the notice referred to in subsection (5), the item to which the notice relates shall be deemed to be forfeited.

[10/2002]

(9) Where the owner of any item seized under the provisions of this Act consents to its disposal, the item shall thereupon be deemed to be forfeited.

[10/2002]

(10) Any item forfeited or deemed to be forfeited under this section shall be delivered to an authorised officer and shall be disposed of in such manner as the Director-General thinks fit.

[10/2002]

(11) In this section, “item” means any animal, bird, carcase or any other article.

[57

[10/2002]

## Presumptions

**65.—**(1) Where the owner or person in charge of a diseased animal or bird is charged with an offence under this Act in respect of the disease, he shall be presumed to have

known of the existence of the disease in the animal or bird until he shows to the satisfaction of the court before which he is charged that he had no such knowledge and could not with reasonable diligence have obtained such knowledge.

(2) Where there is any doubt regarding the ownership of any animal or bird, the person found in possession of the animal or bird, or the occupier of the premises frequented by it may be presumed to be the owner thereof until the contrary is proved.

[58]

### **Offences committed by bodies corporate and by agents and servants**

**66.**—(1) Where an offence under this Act has been committed by a body corporate, a partnership or an unincorporated association of persons, any person who at the time of the commission of the offence was a director, manager, partner, secretary or other similar officer thereof, or was purporting to act in any such capacity shall be guilty of that offence unless he proves that —

- (a) the offence was committed without his consent or connivance; and
- (b) he had exercised all such diligence to prevent the commission of the offence as he ought to have exercised having regard to the nature of his functions in that capacity and to all the circumstances.

[10/2002]

(2) Where an offence under this Act is committed by any person acting as an agent or servant of another person, or being otherwise subject to the supervision or instruction of another person for the purposes of any employment in the course of which the offence was committed, that other person shall, without prejudice to the liability of the first-mentioned person, be liable under this Act in the same manner and to the same extent as if he had personally committed the offence if it is proved that the act which constituted the offence was committed with his consent or connivance or that it was attributable to any neglect on his part.

[69D]

[10/2002]

### **Jurisdiction of court**

**67.**—(1) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68), a District Court and a Magistrate's Court shall have jurisdiction to try any offence under this Act and shall have power to impose the full penalty or punishment in respect of any offence under this Act.

[10/2002]

(2) For the purpose of section 151 of the Criminal Procedure Code 2010, on receiving the complaint in writing and signed by the Director-General or an authorised officer, the

Magistrate must proceed to issue a summons or warrant in accordance with section 153 of the Criminal Procedure Code 2010.

[15/2010 wef 02/01/2011]

## Evidence

68.—(1) Subject to subsection (3) —

- (a) a document or certificate purporting to be a report under the hand of the Director-General or an authorised officer upon any matter or thing in connection with the administration or enforcement of this Act or with any investigation carried out under this Act shall be admissible as evidence in any proceedings under this Act and shall be prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein; and
- (b) a certificate of an authorised examiner stating that he has examined any animal or bird or any other matter and stating the result of his examination shall be admissible as evidence in any proceedings for an offence under this Act and shall be prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein and of the correctness of the result of the examination.

[10/2002]

(2) For the purposes of this section, a document purporting to be a certificate referred to in subsection (1) on its production by the prosecution shall, unless the contrary is proved, be presumed to be such a certificate.

[10/2002]

(3) A certificate referred to in subsection (1) shall not be received in evidence in pursuance of that subsection unless the person charged has been given —

- (a) a copy of the certificate; and
- (b) notice of the intention of the prosecution to produce the certificate as evidence in the proceedings,

not less than 10 clear days before the date of commencement of the proceedings.

[10/2002]

(4) Where a certificate of the Director-General, an authorised officer or an authorised examiner is admitted in evidence under subsection (1), the person charged may require the Director-General, authorised officer or authorised examiner to be called as a witness for the prosecution and be cross-examined as if he had given evidence of the matters stated in the certificate.

[69J]

[10/2002]

## **Composition of offences**

**69.**—(1) The Director-General or any officer authorised in writing in that behalf by the Authority may, in his discretion, compound any offence under this Act which is prescribed as a compoundable offence by collecting from a person reasonably suspected of having committed the offence a sum not exceeding \$1,000.

[\[10/2002\]](#)

(2) On payment of such sum, no further proceedings shall be taken against such person in respect of the offence.

[\[69K](#)

[\[10/2002\]](#)

## **PART X**

### **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

#### **Fees, etc., payable to Authority**

**70.** All fees, charges, composition fines and moneys collected under this Act shall be paid to the Authority.

[\[59A](#)

[\[16/2000\]](#)

#### **Expenses**

**71.** Any expense incurred by an authorised officer or other officer in the exercise of the powers conferred on him by this Act or any rule, order or direction made or given thereunder shall be charged against the owner, consignor, consignee or importer, as the case may be, of the animal, bird, carcase, article, building or conveyance concerned and may be recovered as a civil debt.

[\[60](#)

[\[16/2000\]](#)

#### **Action to be at risk and expense of owner**

**72.**—(1) Any action taken under the provisions of this Act or of any rule, order or direction made or given thereunder in respect of any animal, bird, carcase, article, building or conveyance shall be at the risk of the owner thereof.

(2) No liability shall attach to the Authority or to any officer thereof in respect of any expense, loss, damage or delay arising in or from the lawful exercise of the powers under this Act.

[\[61](#)

[\[16/2000\]](#)

## **Powers of Director-General and authorised officer in cases of non-compliance with Act or any direction or order**

**73.**—(1) If a person to whom any of the provisions of this Act applies or to whom any direction or order is given under this Act fails to comply with such provision, direction or order, then, without prejudice to any proceedings that may be instituted against such person for such non-compliance, the Director-General or an authorised officer may perform any act or take any measure as is required by the provision, direction or order to be performed or taken and recover any costs and expenses reasonably incurred by him from that person.

[10/2002]

(2) In exercising the powers conferred by subsection (1), the Director-General or authorised officer may, without warrant, enter any premises, vehicle, ship or aircraft and, if the circumstances so warrant, may use such force as may be necessary to effect such entry.

[69B

[10/2002]

## **Power to require production of documents, etc.**

**74.**—(1) For the purpose of discharging his functions and duties under this Act, the Director-General or an authorised officer may at any time require any person —

- (a) to produce to the Director-General or authorised officer for inspection or for the purpose of obtaining copies or extracts, or to provide the Director-General or authorised officer with copies or extracts of, any book, shipping bill, bill of lading or other document or record that the Director-General or authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds to contain any information relevant to the administration or enforcement of this Act; or
- (b) to furnish any information as the Director-General or authorised officer may reasonably require.

[10/2002]

(2) The Director-General or an authorised officer may record any information furnished by any person under subsection (1)(b) as a statement which shall be admissible as evidence in any proceedings in connection with any offence under this Act.

[10/2002]

(3) Any person who fails to comply with any requirement made by the Director-General or an authorised officer under subsection (1)(a) or (b) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[69C

[10/2002]

## **Form and authentication of notices, orders and other documents**

**75.**—(1) All notices, orders and other documents of whatsoever nature which the Director-General is empowered to give by this Act may be in such form as the Director-General may determine, and may be given by any authorised officer.

[10/2002]

(2) Where any such notice, order or document requires authentication —

- (a) the signature of the Director-General or an authorised officer; or
- (b) an official facsimile of such signature,

appended thereto shall be sufficient authentication.

[69E

[10/2002]

## **Inaccuracies in documents**

**76.**—(1) No misnomer or inaccurate description of any person, animal, bird, premises, building, street, place, vehicle, aircraft, ship or other conveyance named or described in any notice, order or document prepared, issued or served under or for the purposes of this Act shall in any way affect the operation of this Act as respects that person, animal, bird, premises, building, street, place, vehicle, aircraft, ship or other conveyance if that person, animal, bird, premises, building, street, place, vehicle, aircraft, ship or other conveyance is so designated in the notice, order or document as to be identifiable.

[10/2002]

(2) No proceedings taken under or by virtue of this Act shall be invalid for want of form.

[69F

[10/2002]

## **Service of documents**

**77.**—(1) Any notice, order or document required or authorised by this Act to be served on any person, and any summons issued by a court against any person in connection with any offence under this Act may be served on the person —

- (a) by delivering it to the person or to some adult member or employee of his family or household at his usual or last known place of residence;
- (b) by leaving it at his usual or last known place of residence or business in an envelope addressed to the person;
- (c) by sending it by registered post addressed to the person at his usual or last



known place of residence or business; or

- (d) in the case of an incorporated company, a partnership or a body of persons —
  - (i) by delivering it to the secretary or other like officer of the company, partnership or body of persons at its registered office or principal place of business; or
  - (ii) by sending it by registered post addressed to the company, partnership or body of persons at its registered office or principal place of business.

[10/2002]

(2) Any notice, order, document or summons sent by registered post to any person in accordance with subsection (1) shall be deemed to be duly served on the person at the time when the notice, order, document or summons, as the case may be, would in the ordinary course of post be delivered and, in proving service of the notice, order, document or summons, it shall be sufficient to prove that the envelope containing the same was properly addressed, stamped and posted by registered post.

[10/2002]

(3) Any notice, order or document required or authorised by this Act to be served on the owner or occupier of any premises or any summons issued by a court against any such owner or occupier in connection with any offence under this Act may be served by delivering it or a true copy thereof to some adult person on the premises or, if there is no such person on the premises to whom it can with reasonable diligence be delivered, by affixing the notice, order, document or summons to some conspicuous part of the premises.

[10/2002]

(4) Any notice, order or document required or authorised by this Act to be served on the owner or occupier of any premises or any summons issued by a court against any such owner or occupier in connection with any offence under this Act shall be deemed to be properly addressed if addressed by the description of the owner or occupier of the premises without further name or description.

[69G

[10/2002]

### **Protection from liability**

**78.** No suit or other legal proceedings shall lie against the Authority, the Director-General or any authorised officer, police officer, officer of customs or any other person acting under the direction of the Authority or Director-General for anything which is in good faith done in the execution or purported execution of this Act.

## Exemption

**79.** The Director-General may, subject to any general or special directions of the Minister, exempt any person, premises, animal or bird or any class of persons, premises, animals or birds from any of the provisions of this Act.

## Rules

**80.—**(1) The Minister may make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act and for any matter which is required under this Act to be prescribed.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Minister may make rules —

- (a) to provide for the designation of an authorised examiner, the conditions to be complied with by an authorised examiner and the suspension or revocation of any such designation;
- (b) to provide for the manner in which the quarantining, examination, treatment and certification of animals and birds are to be carried out;
- (c) to regulate the import, export and transshipment of animals, birds or carcasses;
- (d) to provide for the prevention of the introduction and spread and for the control and eradication of diseases of animals and birds;
- (e) to provide for the cleansing or disinfection of buildings, vehicles, aircraft or ships in which diseased animals, birds or carcasses have been kept or carried;
- (f) to provide for the disinfection of persons and the disinfection and treatment of animals, birds or articles that have been in contact with diseased animals, birds or carcasses;
- (g) to regulate and control the sale, marketing and distribution of animals and birds and their products;
- (h) to provide for the licensing, control, supervision and inspection of places in which animals or birds are or may be kept in captivity for sale, export, exhibition, production, or any other purpose;

- (ha) to provide for the licensing, control, supervision and inspection of places and establishments where animals (as defined in section 41) are or may be boarded for reward;

[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

- (i) to provide for the inspection of premises subject to this Act and of vehicles, aircraft or ships used for the carriage of animals and birds;
- (j) to provide for the control of pollution caused by animals and the imposition of fees and charges for the purpose of such control together with the time, place and manner of collection;
- (k) to provide for the control and improvement of animal or bird production in respect of breeding, nutrition, health, management, husbandry and method of production;
- (l) to provide for the supply, collection and compilation of information and statistics of animals and birds and their products;
- (m) to provide for the establishment and designation of quarantine stations;
- (n) to regulate the management and maintenance of quarantine stations and veterinary centres;
- (o) to prescribe the fees to be charged for the purposes of this Act;
- (p) to prescribe the offences which may be compounded under section 69 and the method and procedure by which such offences may be compounded; and

[10/2002]

[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

- (q) to provide for matters relating to the employment or engagement of qualified or trained individuals by persons carrying on animal-related businesses.

[Act 46 of 2014 wef 16/01/2015]

(3) The Minister may, in making any rules, provide that any contravention of, or failure or neglect to comply with, any provision of the rules or any directive issued by the Director-General pursuant to the rules shall be an offence punishable with a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or with both.

[10/2002]

(4) All rules made under this Act shall be presented to Parliament as soon as possible after publication in the *Gazette*.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY  
ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT  
(CHAPTER 7)

This Legislative History is provided for the convenience of users of the Animals and Birds Act. It is not part of the Act.

**1. Ordinance 3 of 1965—Animals and Birds Ordinance 1965**

Date of First Reading	:	19 November 1964 (Bill No. 39/64 published on 12 December 1964)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	16 June 1965
Date of commencement	:	22 October 1965 (except section 71)

**2. Ordinance 3 of 1965—Animals and Birds Ordinance 1965**

Date of First Reading	:	19 November 1964 (Bill No. 39/64 published on 12 December 1964)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	16 June 1965
Date of commencement	:	20 May 1966 (section 71)

**3. 1970 Revised Edition—Animals and Birds Act (Cap. 289)**

Date of operation	:	31 August 1971
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**4. Act 21 of 1973—Republic of Singapore (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1973**

Date of First Reading	:	7 March 1973 (Bill No. 16/73 published on 9 March 1973)
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Date of Second and Third Readings : 20 March 1973

Date of commencement : 6 April 1973

**5. G. N. No. S 259/1979—Animals and Birds (Amendment of Schedule) Notification 1979**

Date of commencement : 1 January 1980

**6. 1985 Revised Edition—Animals and Birds Act**

Date of operation : 30 March 1987

**7. Act 7 of 1996—Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996**

(Consequential Amendments made by)

Date of First Reading : 5 December 1995  
(Bill No. 46/95 published on 6 December 1995)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 18 January 1996

Date of commencement : 2 February 1996

**8. Act 7 of 1997—Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1997**

Date of First Reading : 11 July 1997  
(Bill No. 6/97 published on 12 July 1997)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 25 August 1997

Date of commencement : 1 October 1997

**9. Act 16 of 2000—Agri-food and Veterinary Authority Act 2000**

(Consequential Amendments made by)

Date of First Reading : 21 February 2000  
(Bill No. 11/2000 published on 22 February 2000)

Date of Second and Third Readings : 17 March 2000

Date of commencement : 1 April 2000

**10. Act 10 of 2002—Animals and Birds (Amendment) Act 2002**

Date of First Reading	: 3 April 2002 (Bill No. 2/2002 published on 4 April 2002)
Date of Second and Third Readings	: 8 July 2002
Date of commencement	: 15 September 2002

#### **11. 2002 Revised Edition—Animals and Birds Act**

Date of operation	: 31 December 2002
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#### **12. Act 4 of 2003—Customs (Amendment) Act 2003**

Date of First Reading	: 10 March 2003 (Bill No. 6/2003 published on 11 March 2003)
Date of Second and Third Readings	: 21 March 2003
Date of commencement	: 1 April 2003

#### **13. Act 15 of 2010—Criminal Procedure Code 2010**

(Consequential amendments made to Act by)

Date of First Reading	: 26 April 2010 (Bill No. 11/2010 published on 26 April 2010)
Date of Second and Third Readings	: 19 May 2010
Date of commencement	: 2 January 2011

#### **14. Act 46 of 2014—Animals and Birds (Amendment) Act 2014**

Date of First Reading	: 7 October 2014 (Bill No. 40/2014 published on 7 October 2014)
Date of Second and Third Readings	: 5 November 2014
Date of commencement	: 16 January 2015

#### **15. Act 48 of 2017—Sale of Food (Amendment) Act 2017**

Date of First Reading	: 2 October 2017 (Bill No. 42/2017 published on 2 October 2017)
Date of Second and Third Readings	: 7 November 2017
Date of commencement	: 1 February 2018

## COMPARATIVE TABLE

### ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT (CHAPTER 7)

The following provisions in the 1985 Revised Edition of the Animals and Birds Act have been renumbered by the Law Revision Commissioners in this 2002 Revised Edition.

This Comparative Table is provided for the convenience of users. It is not part of the Animals and Birds Act.

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—	<b>18</b> ( <i>Repealed by Act 10/2002</i> )
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(2) and (3)	(2)
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