

THE ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS ACT

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

1. Short title.

PART I. *Preliminary*

2. Interpretation.
3. Objects.
4. Exclusions.
5. Agreement required.

PART II. *Application of legal requirements to
electronic transactions*

6. Validity of electronic transactions.
7. Requirements to give information in writing.
8. Requirements for signature.
9. Requirements for attestation, etc., of documents.
10. Requirements to produce a document for inspection or in original form.
11. Requirements for keeping information.
12. Admissibility and evidential weight of information in electronic form.
13. Information required to be served or delivered.
14. Electronic alternative to prescribed forms.
15. Electronic payment.
16. Formation and validity of contracts.

General provisions relating to electronic transactions

17. Attribution of electronic documents.
18. Effect of change or error.
19. Acknowledgment of receipt of electronic document.
20. Time and place of dispatch and receipt of electronic documents.

*ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS**PART III. Conduct of parties in relation to electronic communications and signatures*

21. Conduct of relying party.
22. Conduct of signatory.
23. Conduct of certification service provider.
24. Use and disclosure of pseudonyms.
25. Liability of intermediaries

PART IV. Obligations in relation to electronic transactions for the supply of goods, services or facilities

26. Interpretation and application of Part IV.
27. Obligations of supplier in the conduct of electronic transactions.
28. Cooling-off period.
29. Unsolicited commercial communications.
30. Supply of goods, services or facilities pursuant to transactions conducted electronically.
31. Provisions of this Part not excluded by agreement.
32. Complaints to Consumer Affairs Commission.

PART V. The Certifying Authority

33. Certifying Authority.

PART VI. General

34. Penalties.
35. Offences by bodies corporate.
36. Act binds Crown.
37. Regulations.
38. Minister may by order amend penalty or Schedules.

SCHEDULES

THE ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS ACT

Acts
15 of 2006,
17 of 2014
S. 27.

[2nd April, 2007.]

1. This Act may be cited as the *Electronic Transactions Act*. Short title.

PART I. Preliminary

- 2.—(1) In this Act—

Inter-
pretation.

“addressee” means a person who the originator of an electronic document intends to receive the document, but does not include a person acting as an intermediary with respect to that document;

“automated communications device” means a computer program or an electronic or other automated device used to initiate or respond to electronic communications in whole or in part, without review or action by an individual;

“certificate” means any record that—

- (a) identifies the entity that issues it;
- (b) names or otherwise identifies the signatory or a device (including an automated communications device) under the control of the signatory;
- (c) specifies its operational period;
- (d) is digitally signed by the entity that issues it;
- (e) contains a public key that corresponds to a private key under the control of the originator of the electronic document to which the certificate relates; and
- (f) specifies any other matter required to be specified under regulations made pursuant to section 37;

“certification service provider” means a person who issues certificates for the purposes of electronic signatures

or provides to the public other services related to electronic signatures;

“Certifying Authority” means the Certifying Authority established under section 33;

“data” includes—

- (a) material in whatever form stored in an electronic communications system;
- (b) the whole or part of a computer program; and
- (c) a representation suitable for processing in an electronic communications system;

“electronic” means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic or similar capabilities, and references to carrying out any act “electronically” shall be similarly construed;

“electronic communication system” means a system for creating, generating, sending, receiving, storing, displaying or otherwise processing electronic documents or data;

“electronic document” means information that is created, generated, communicated, stored, displayed or processed by electronic means;

“electronic signature” means information that—

- (a) is contained in, attached to or logically associated with, an electronic document; and
- (b) is used by a signatory to indicate his adoption of the content of that document,

but does not include any signature produced by a facsimile machine or by an electronic scanning device;

“encrypted signature” means an electronic signature that is encrypted by means of a private key or other encrypted signature creation device;

“encrypted signature creation device” means unique data, including codes or private cryptographic keys, or a uniquely configured physical device, used by a signatory in creating an encrypted signature;

“information” includes data, text, images, sounds, codes, computer programmes, software and databases;

“information technology requirements” includes software requirements;

“originator” in relation to an electronic document, means a person by whom, or on whose behalf, the document purports to have been sent or generated prior to storage, but does not include a person acting as an intermediary with respect to that document;

“signatory” means a person who by means of an encrypted signature creation device has (whether acting himself or through another person, or an automated communications device, acting on his behalf) affixed his encrypted signature to an electronic document;

“traffic data” means information about the communication of data using an electronic communications system, including the—

- (a) number and kind of communications;
- (b) origin of the communication;
- (c) destination of the communication;
- (d) time when the communication was sent; and
- (e) time when the communication was received.

3.—(1) The objects of this Act are to—

Objects.

- (a) facilitate electronic transactions by means of reliable electronic documents;
- (b) promote the development of the legal and business infrastructure necessary to implement secure electronic commerce;