

**Geographical Indications Act 1998  
(No. 44 of 1998)**

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REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE  
GOVERNMENT GAZETTE  
ACTS SUPPLEMENT

*Published by Authority*

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NO. 47] THURSDAY, DECEMBER [1998  
24

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The following Act was passed by Parliament on 26th November 1998 and assented to by the President on 11th December 1998:—

**THE GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATIONS ACT 1998**

**(No. 44 of 1998)**

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I assent.

ONG TENG CHEONG,  
*President.*  
*11th December 1998.*

**Date of Commencement: 15th January 1999**

An Act to provide for the protection of geographical indications in relation to goods.

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

**Short title and commencement**

1. This Act may be cited as the Geographical Indications Act 1998 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

**Interpretation**

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

“Court” means the High Court;

“geographical indication” means any indication used in trade to identify goods as originating from a place, provided that —

- (a) the place is a qualifying country or a region or locality in the qualifying country; and
- (b) a given quality, reputation or other characteristic of the goods is essentially attributable to that place;

“goods” means any natural or agricultural product or any product of handicraft or industry;

“interested party”, in relation to goods identified by a geographical indication, means a producer of the goods, a trader of the goods, or an association of such producers or traders or of such producers and traders;

“Paris Convention” means the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property signed at Paris on March 20, 1883, as revised or amended from time to time;

“place” means a country or territory and includes a region or locality in that country or territory;

“producer” means —

- (a) in relation to agricultural products, a person who produces those products for sale or other commercial purposes;
- (b) in relation to natural products, a person who exploits those products for sale or other commercial purposes; or
- (c) in relation to products of handicraft or industry, a person who manufactures those products for sale or other commercial purposes;

“qualifying country” means any country or territory which is —

- (a) a member of the World Trade Organisation;
- (b) a party to the Paris Convention; or
- (c) prescribed by the Minister as a qualifying country under section 11;

“trade mark” has the same meaning as in the Trade Marks Act 1998;

“trader”, in relation to goods, means any person —

- (a) who sells the goods in Singapore; or
- (b) who supplies the goods in Singapore for the purpose of their being