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**LEGAL PROFESSION ACT
(CHAPTER 161)**

**LEGAL PROFESSION (QUALIFIED PERSONS)
(AMENDMENT) RULES 2015**

In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 2(2), 12(6) and 14(4) of the Legal Profession Act, the Minister for Law, after consulting the Board of Directors of the Singapore Institute of Legal Education, makes the following Rules:

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These Rules may be cited as the Legal Profession (Qualified Persons) (Amendment) Rules 2015 and, with the exception of rule 3(*d*), come into operation on 17 August 2015.

(2) Rule 3(*d*) is deemed to have come into operation on 16 March 2015.

Amendment of rule 1

2. Rule 1(2) of the Legal Profession (Qualified Persons) Rules (R 15) (referred to in these Rules as the principal Rules) is amended —

(*a*) by inserting, at the end of sub-paragraph (*a*), the word “and”;

(*b*) by deleting sub-paragraph (*b*) and substituting the following sub-paragraph:

“(b) provide for the matters referred to in section 14(4) of the Act.”; and

(*c*) by deleting sub-paragraphs (*c*) and (*d*).

Amendment of rule 2**3. Rule 2 of the principal Rules is amended —**

(a) by inserting, immediately after sub-paragraph (A) of paragraph (a)(i) of the definition of “approved twinning programme”, the following sub-paragraph:

“(AA) any degree specified in the Second Schedule which is conferred on or after 1 January 1997 but before 1 January 2025;”;

(b) by deleting sub-paragraphs (A) to (E) of paragraph (a)(ii) of the definition of “approved twinning programme” and substituting the following sub-paragraphs:

“(A) if that degree is conferred on or after 1 January 1997 but before 28 July 2003, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First and Second Schedules and the National University of Singapore;

(B) if that degree is conferred on or after 28 July 2003 but before 1 January 2004, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First, Second and Third Schedules and the National University of Singapore;

(C) if that degree is conferred on or after 1 January 2004 but before 1 August 2005, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in

the First, Second, Third and Fifth Schedules and the National University of Singapore;

- (D) if that degree is conferred on or after 1 August 2005 but before 1 April 2008, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Schedules and the National University of Singapore;
 - (E) if that degree is conferred on or after 1 April 2008 but before 1 January 2025, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First, Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Schedules, the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University; or
 - (F) if that degree is conferred on or after 1 January 2025, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First, Third, Fourth and Fifth Schedules, the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University; and”;
- (c) by deleting the definitions of “Diploma in Singapore Law” and “Legal Service Officer”;

- (d) by deleting the definition of “relevant legal officer”; and
- (e) by inserting, immediately after the word “First,” in the definition of “relevant non-law degree”, the word “Second,”.

Deletion of rules 6 and 7

4. Rules 6 and 7 of the principal Rules are deleted.

Deletion and substitution of rule 8

5. Rule 8 of the principal Rules is deleted and the following rule substituted therefor:

“Persons conferred degrees of Bachelor of Laws by institutions in United Kingdom

8.—(1) Subject to rules 10 and 11, a person who is conferred a degree of Bachelor of Laws by an institution of higher learning in the United Kingdom will be a qualified person if —

- (a) that person is a citizen or permanent resident of Singapore;
- (b) that institution of higher learning is an institution of higher learning in the United Kingdom specified in the First Schedule;
- (c) that degree is a degree of Bachelor of Laws specified for that institution of higher learning in the First Schedule;
- (d) that person is conferred that degree on or after 1 January 1997;
- (e) that person has attained at least lower second class honours or the equivalent thereof in relation to that degree;
- (f) that person has passed Part A of the Singapore Bar Examinations; and
- (g) after that person has passed the final examination for that degree, for a period of not less than 6 months within a continuous period of 8 months, that person has received relevant legal training, has been engaged in relevant legal practice or work, or has received relevant legal

training and been engaged in relevant legal practice or work.

(2) Subject to rules 10 and 11, a person who is conferred a degree of Bachelor of Laws by an institution of higher learning in the United Kingdom will be a qualified person if —

- (a) that person is a citizen or permanent resident of Singapore;
- (b) that institution of higher learning is an institution of higher learning specified in the Second Schedule;
- (c) that degree is a degree of Bachelor of Laws specified for that institution of higher learning in the Second Schedule;
- (d) that person is admitted before 1 October 2015 as a candidate for that degree;
- (e) that person is conferred that degree on or after 1 January 1997 but before 1 January 2025;
- (f) that person has attained at least lower second class honours or the equivalent thereof in relation to that degree;
- (g) that person has passed Part A of the Singapore Bar Examinations; and
- (h) after that person has passed the final examination for that degree, for a period of not less than 6 months within a continuous period of 8 months, that person has received relevant legal training, has been engaged in relevant legal practice or work, or has received relevant legal training and been engaged in relevant legal practice or work.”.

Amendment of rule 9

6. Rule 9 of the principal Rules is amended —

- (a) by deleting paragraphs (1), (2) and (2A) and substituting the following paragraphs: