

**Agency for Science, Technology and Research Act  
(CHAPTER 5A)**

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## **AGENCY FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH ACT**

### **(CHAPTER 5A)**

**(Original Enactment: Act 24 of 1990)**

**REVISED EDITION 2002**

**(31st December 2002)**

An Act to establish the Agency for Science, Technology and Research and for matters connected therewith.

[\[26/2002\]](#)

[11th January 1991]

**Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the Agency for Science, Technology and Research Act.

[26/2002]

## Interpretation

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

“Agency” means the Agency for Science, Technology and Research established under section 3;

“chief executive officer” means the chief executive officer appointed under section 16 and includes any temporary chief executive of the Agency;

“commercial application”, in relation to any knowledge or technology, means the application, utilization or exploitation of such knowledge or technology in the manufacture, production, sale, distribution or provision of goods or services in the course of any trade, business, enterprise or profession, and includes any business or commercial activity that is necessary for or related to the promotion, development or growth of any such trade, business, enterprise or profession;

“financial assistance” includes assistance by way of grant, loan, loan guarantee, the purchase or guarantee of bonds, debentures, notes or other debt obligations or the purchase or acquisition of any stock, shares or other equity securities;

“member” means a member of the Agency and includes the Chairman.

[18/2000; 26/2002]

## Establishment of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research

3.—(1) There is hereby established a body to be known as the Agency for Science, Technology and Research which shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and shall, by that name, be capable of —

- (a) suing and being sued;
- (b) acquiring, owning, holding and developing or disposing of property, both movable and immovable; and
- (c) doing and suffering such other acts or things as bodies corporate may lawfully do and suffer.

[26/2002]

(2) The Agency may perform any of its functions or carry out any of its duties under the business name of A\*STAR, or such other business name as the Minister may from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette*, specify.

[26/2002]

## Common seal

4.—(1) The Agency shall have a common seal and such seal may from time to time be broken, altered or made anew as the Agency thinks fit.

[26/2002]

(2) All deeds and other documents requiring the seal of the Agency shall be sealed with the common seal of the Agency in the presence of —

- (a) the Chairman or a Deputy Chairman of the Agency; and
- (b) an employee of the Agency who is authorised by resolution or otherwise in writing (either generally or specially) to act in that behalf,

and shall be signed by these persons.

[26/2002]

(3) Such signing shall be sufficient evidence that the common seal of the Agency has been duly and properly affixed and that the seal is the lawful common seal of the Agency.

[26/2002]

(4) All courts, judges and persons acting judicially shall take judicial notice of the common seal of the Agency affixed to any document and shall presume that it was duly affixed.

[26/2002]

(5) The Agency may, by resolution or otherwise in writing, appoint an employee of the Agency or any other agent, either generally or specially, to execute or sign on behalf of the Agency any agreement or other instrument not under seal in relation to any matter coming within the powers of the Agency.

[26/2002]

(6) Section 12 of the Registration of Deeds Act (Cap. 269) shall not apply to any instrument purporting to have been executed under subsection (2).

[3A

[26/2002]

## **Constitution of Agency**

5.—(1) The Agency shall consist of —

- (a) a Chairman; and
- (b) not less than 8 and not more than 20 other members.

[18/2000; 26/2002]

(2) The First Schedule shall apply to the Agency, its members and proceedings.

[4

[26/2002]

## **Functions of Agency**

**6.—(1) The functions of the Agency are —**

- (a) to initiate, promote, stimulate, encourage, facilitate and assist in the development of an environment that is conducive —

  - (i) to the creation and development of world class research and development capabilities in science (including biomedicine ), engineering and technology in Singapore;
  - (ii) to the development and nurture of scientific talent and technical capability in scientific and technological knowledge, research and development that is desirable to support the private sector and public sector and to the creation of intellectual capital in Singapore; and
  - (iii) to the commercial application of scientific knowledge or technology in Singapore;
- (b) to support, direct, stimulate and undertake research and development in the areas of science (including biomedicine ), engineering and technology;
- (c) to stimulate, encourage, facilitate, co-ordinate and direct scientific and technological research and development by the Government, educational institutions and research communities within and outside Singapore, and to facilitate co-operation, communication, collaboration and exchange of ideas and knowledge between them;
- (d) to provide financial assistance for research and development in the areas of science (including biomedicine ), engineering and technology;
- (e) to promote manpower training and development in the areas of science (including biomedicine ), engineering and technology;
- (f) to provide advice and guidance to the Government in the formulation of its policies and laws on all aspects of science (including biomedicine ), engineering and technology, and on any matter relating to or affecting the commercial application of scientific knowledge or technology;
- (g) to establish, develop and manage public institutes and research institutes in the areas of science (including biomedicine ), engineering and technology;
- (h) to undertake the promotion of science (including biomedicine ), engineering and technology among youths and to create, foster and encourage public awareness and understanding of the importance of science and technology in Singapore;
- (i) to create, develop, apply for, acquire and hold intellectual property and