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**BUSINESS NAMES REGISTRATION ACT 2014
(ACT 29 OF 2014)**

**BUSINESS NAMES REGISTRATION (IDENTICAL NAMES)
REGULATIONS 2015**

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

Regulation

1. Citation and commencement
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In exercise of the powers conferred by section 43 of the Business Names Registration Act 2014, the Minister for Finance makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Business Names Registration (Identical Names) Regulations 2015 and come into operation on 3 January 2016.

Identical names

2.—(1) This regulation sets out the rules for determining whether a business name is identical to —

- (a) any other registered business name, or the name of any corporation or limited partnership referred to in section 17(1)(b) of the Act;
- (b) any name reserved under any of the provisions referred to in section 17(1)(c) of the Act;
- (c) any business name, or name of a company, foreign company, limited liability partnership or limited partnership, referred to in section 17(2) of the Act; and
- (d) any name of a foreign company, or name of a limited partnership, referred to in section 17(3) of the Act.

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- (2) Subject to paragraph (4), the following are to be disregarded:
- (a) “The”, where it is the first word of a name;
 - (b) the following words where they appear at the end of a name:
 - (i) “Berhad” or “Bhd”;
 - (ii) “Limited” or “Ltd”;
 - (iii) “Limited Liability Partnership” or “LLP”;
 - (iv) “Limited Partnership” or “LP”;
 - (v) “Private” or “Pte”;
 - (vi) “Public Accounting Corporation” or “PAC”;
 - (vii) “Sendirian” or “Sdn”;
 - (c) the following words or expressions where they appear at the end of a name:
 - (i) “Asia”;
 - (ii) “Asia Pacific”;
 - (iii) “Associates”;
 - (iv) “company” or “and company”;
 - (v) “corporation”;
 - (vi) “Group”;
 - (vii) “Holding” or “Holdings”;
 - (viii) “Incorporated”;
 - (ix) “International”;
 - (x) “Partner” or “Partners”;
 - (xi) “Partnership” or “Partnerships”;
 - (xii) “Singapore”;
 - (xiii) “South Asia”;
 - (xiv) “South East Asia”;
 - (xv) “Trading”;
 - (xvi) “Worldwide”;
 - (xvii) “.co”;
 - (xviii) “.com”;
 - (xix) “.edu”;
 - (xx) “.gov”;
 - (xxi) “.net”;

- (xxii) “.org”;
- (xxiii) “.sg”;
- (d) any word or expression which, in the opinion of the Registrar, is intended to represent any word or expression in —
 - (i) sub-paragraph (a) or (b); or
 - (ii) sub-paragraph (c);
- (e) the plural version of any name;
- (f) the type and case of letters, accents, spacing between letters, brackets, parentheses and punctuation marks.

(3) The symbol “&” is to be treated as having the same meaning as the word “and”.

(4) Paragraph (2)(c) and (d)(ii) does not apply if the person applying to register or change the business name is the corporation carrying on business or operating under the relevant name.

(5) In paragraph (4), “relevant name” means a name which would be identical to a proposed business name after the application of the rules set out in paragraphs (2) and (3).

Revocation

3. The Business Registration (Identical Names) Regulations 2009 (G.N. No. S 186/2009) are revoked.

Made on 21 December 2015.

LIM SOO HOON
Permanent Secretary
(Finance) (Performance),
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