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INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
(IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES) ACT 1948
(SECTION 2)

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
(IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES)
(SOUTHEAST ASIAN MINISTERS OF
EDUCATION ORGANIZATION) ORDER 1971

ARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS

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[3 December 1971]

Citation

1. This Order is the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization) Order 1971.

Status of Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization

2.—(1) The Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (called in this Order the Organization) is an organisation of which the Government and the governments of foreign sovereign Powers are members.

(2) The Organization has the legal capacities of a body corporate.

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Immunities and privileges of the Organization

3.—(1) The property and assets of the Organization enjoy immunity from legal process, except insofar as in any particular case the Organization has expressly waived its immunity.

(2) The Organization has the like inviolability of its official archives as is accorded in respect of the official archives of an envoy of a foreign sovereign Power accredited to the Government.

(3) The Organization has the like exemption or relief from taxes and rates, other than taxes on the importation of goods, as is accorded to a foreign sovereign Power.

(4) The Organization has exemption from taxes on the importation of —

- (a) goods directly imported by the Organization for its official use in Singapore or for exportation; and
- (b) any of the publications of the Organization directly imported by it,

subject to compliance with any condition that the Director-General of Customs may prescribe for the protection of the revenue.

(5) The Organization has exemption from prohibitions and restrictions on importation or exportation —

- (a) in the case of goods directly imported or exported by the Organization for its official use; and
- (b) in the case of any publication of the Organization directly imported or exported by it.

(6) The Organization has the right to avail itself —

- (a) for telegraphic communications sent by it and containing only matter intended for publication by the press; or
- (b) for broadcasting (including communication addressed to or despatched from places outside Singapore),

of any reduced rate applicable for the corresponding service in the case of press telegrams.

Immunities and privileges of representatives of members

4.—(1) Except insofar as in any particular case any privilege or immunity is waived by the member governments whom they represent, representatives of member governments to the Council of the Organization enjoy —

- (a) while exercising their functions as such, and during their journeys to and from the place of meeting — immunity from personal arrest or detention and from seizure of their personal baggage and inviolability of all papers and documents; and
- (b) immunity from legal process of every kind in respect of words spoken or written and all acts done by them in their capacity as representatives.

(2) In this Order, “representatives of member governments” includes the members of their official staff accompanying them as such representatives, who are —

- (a) delegates;
- (b) deputy delegates;
- (c) advisers;
- (d) technical experts; or
- (e) secretaries of delegations.

(3) Sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) do not confer any immunity or privilege on any person —

- (a) as the representative of the Government;
- (b) as a member of the staff of a representative mentioned in sub-paragraph (a); or
- (c) who is a citizen of Singapore.

Immunities and privileges of Director of Secretariat of the Organization

5. Except insofar as in any particular case any privilege or immunity is waived by the Organization, the Director of the

Secretariat of the Organization is accorded in respect of himself or herself —

- (a) the like immunity from suit and legal process; and
- (b) the like exemption or relief from taxes,

as are accorded to an envoy of a foreign sovereign Power accredited to the Government.

Immunities and privileges of officials of the Organization

6.—(1) Officials of the Organization who are part of the International Staff of the Organization and whose names are communicated to and approved by the Government enjoy exemption from income tax in respect of emoluments received by them as officials of the Organization.

(2) In this Order, “officials of the Organization” includes experts and consultants performing missions for the Organization.

COMPARATIVE TABLE
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
(IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES)
(SOUTHEAST ASIAN MINISTERS OF
EDUCATION ORGANIZATION) ORDER 1971

This subsidiary legislation has undergone renumbering in the 2026 Revised Edition. This Comparative Table is provided to help readers locate the corresponding provisions in the previous version.

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