Part I: Capital Markets

Key Definitions

Securities and Futures Act (Chapter 289) (‘SFA’)

Companies Act (Chapter 50) (‘CA’)

Business Trusts Act (Chapter 31A) (‘BTA’)


Code on Collective Investment Schemes (‘CIS’)

A. REGULATOR, EXCHANGE AND CLEARING

(a) Supervisory, interpretative and enforcement powers of the Monetary Authority of Singapore under Part I, Part II, Part III, Part IV and Part XV of the SFA

• Approved exchanges and recognised market operators
• Clearing facilities and designated clearing houses
• Capital market services licence holders

(b) Role of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited

• Providing a fair, orderly and transparent market for trading of securities
• Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Listing Manual

(c) Role of The Central Depository (Pte) Limited

• Clearing of securities
• Division 7A of the CA
• Companies (Central Depository System) Regulations
• Securities and Futures (Clearing Facilities Regulations) 2005
B. LICENSING REGIME AND MARKET MISCONDUCT RESTRICTIONS

(a) Licensing regime for financial institutions and intermediaries as holders of capital market services licence or financial advisers
- Part I and Part IV of the SFA
- Part I and Part II of the Financial Advisers Act (Chapter 110)

(b) Market misconduct restrictions under the SFA
- Part XII of the SFA

C. TYPES OF SECURITIES

(a) Shares, debentures, collective investment schemes (including real estate investment trusts) and business trusts
- Shares or debentures issued by companies incorporated under the CA
- Shares or debentures issued by entities not incorporated under the CA
- Trust units in collective investment schemes
- Trust units in business trusts

(b) Part XIII of the SFA, Part III and Part IV of the CA, CIS, BTA and subsidiary legislations

D. PROSPECTUS

(a) Prospectus requirements under the SFA
- Concept of offer to the public has been abolished
- All offerings will require a prospectus unless expressly exempted under the SFA

(b) Types of prospectus under Part XIII of the SFA
- Preliminary document
- Final prospectus
- Supplementary prospectus
- Replacement prospectus
- Profile statement
- Offer information statement
- Base prospectus
- Pricing statement

(c) Power of the Monetary Authority of Singapore to refuse to register a prospectus or to serve a stop order under Part XIII of the SFA

(d) Contents of a prospectus required by Part XIII of the SFA and subsidiary legislations and the Listing Manual
• Reasonable investor test
• Checklist prescribed by the Monetary of Singapore - for example, the Fifth Schedule to the Securities and Futures Act (Offers of Investments) (Shares and Debentures) Regulations 2005
• Specific contents requirements pursuant to the listing process

(e) **Obligation and liability with respect to false or misleading statements or omissions in a prospectus under Part XIII of the SFA**
• Lodgment of supplementary or replacement document
• Obligation to inform about deficiencies in a prospectus
• Criminal liability
• Civil liability
• Defences (due diligence, reasonable reliance, new circumstance or public withdrawal of consent)
• Other potential liabilities on a prospectus (common law, CA, Misrepresentation Act and foreign securities laws)

(f) **Restrictions on publicity and marketing efforts under Part XIII of the SFA**
• Restrictions on advertisements and publicity
• Roadshow and pre-marketing activities
• Distribution of pre-deal research

(g) **Securities hawking under Section 309 of the SFA**

E. **OFFERING AND LISTING PROCESS**

Initial public offering, secondary offering (such as rights issue and placements) and listing process under Part XIII of the SFA and subsidiary legislations and Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 8 of the Listing Manual

F. **RELATED ISSUES**

Related legal, regulatory, governance and tax issues commonly encountered in a fund raising exercise

(a) **Code of Corporate Governance**
(b) **Interested person transactions**
(c) **Substantial shareholding or unitholding notifications**
(d) **Tax incentives for debt capital market fundraising and Islamic financing**
Reading List

A. LEGISLATION
• The legislations and subsidiary legislations mentioned above.

B. BOOKS AND ARTICLES:
• Hans Tjio, Principles and Practice of Securities Regulation in Singapore
• Walter Woon, Company Law
• Baxt, Ford and Black, Securities and Financial Services Law
• Philip Wood, Law and Practice of International Finance
• Hans Tjio “The Regulation of Unit Trusts and Trustees’ Powers to Invest in Them” [1999] SJLS 148
• Speeches, policy statements, guidelines and consultation papers available on the websites of the Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited
• Guidelines on Due Diligence in the Context of an Initial Public Offering in Singapore issued by the Singapore Investment Banking Association

C. CASES:
• New Zealand Stock Exchange v Listed Companies [1984] 1 NZLR 699
• Theresa Chong v Kin Khoon & Co [1976] 2 MLJ 253
• Choo Pit Hong v Public Prosecutor [1995] 2 SLR 255
• FAI Insurance v Pioneer Concrete [1986] 10 ACLR 801
• Corporate Affairs Commission (SA) v Australian Central Credit Union [1985] 10 ACLR 59
• Public Prosecutor v Huang Sheng Chang [1983] 2 MLJ xcvi
• Winston Chen Chung Ying [1989] 1 MLJ 340
• Ikumene v Leong Chee Leng [1992] 2 SLR 890
• Lim & Tan Securities v Sunbird [1992] 1 SLR 258
• * Daly v Sydney Stock Exchange * [1986] 4 ACLC 283
• * Lum Chang Securities v Liam Beng Hian * [1993] 3 SLR 187
• * Associated Asian Securities v Lee Kam Wah * [1993] 1 SLR 585
• * Chien Chung Ming v Kay Hian & Co * [1992] 1 SLR 242
• * Brunninghausen v Glavanics * [1999] 32 ACSR 294
• * Tai Kim San v Lim Cher Kia * [2001] 1 SLR 607
• * RT v Public Prosecutor * [2007] SGDC 73
• * Auston International Group Ltd v Public Prosecutor * [2008] 1 SLR(R) 882; [2007] SGHC 219
• * RU v PP * [2007] SGDC 70
• * Yeo Poh Siah v Public Prosecutor MA34/2007
• * Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp Ltd v Asia Pacific Links and another * [2011] 1 SLR 906

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Part II: Banking

Primary and Secondary Materials

Relevant reading material and/or texts include the following:

- Peter Ellinger et al, Ellinger’s Modern Banking Law 5ed (Oxford University Press, 2011)
- Poh Chu Chai, Banking Law (LexisNexis, 2007)
- Andrew McKnight The Law of International Finance 2008 (Chapter 2)
- Daniel K Tarullo Banking on Basel, 2008
- Poh Chu Chai, Negotiable Instruments (6th ed. 2007)
- Chitty on Contracts, (28th ed. 2002, Chapter 34.)
- Cranston, Principles of Banking Law, (2002), ch’s 8 – 10, esp ch 8
- Hapgood, Paget’s Law of Banking, (2007), ch’s 16 - 17
- Proctor, Goode on Payment Obligations in Commercial & Financial Transactions (2009), ch IV
- Commentary on UCP 600

A. THE REGULATION OF BANKING

(a) Mandatory introductory reading

- Basel Committee for Banking Supervision, Core Principles for Effective Banking Regulation -Sep 1997 (available from http://www.bis.org/publ/bcbsc002.htm)

(b) Other reference materials

- The Monetary Authority of Singapore Act, Cap 186, ss 3, 4, 28
- Banking Act, Cap 19
- Banking Regulations 2004 (as amended)
- MAS Notices, Guidelines & Circulars, available at www.mas.gov.sg, including:
  - MAS, Objectives and Principles of Financial Supervision in Singapore – April 2004
  - Classification of Instruments Issued by MAS, March 2007
B. BASIC PRINCIPLES OF BANKING LAW

(a) The notion of a bank and of banking business

- Common law definitions
  - Commissioners of State Savings Bank of Victoria v Permewan, Wright & Co (1915) 19 CLR 457
  - United Dominion Trust Ltd v Kirkwood [1966] 2 QB 431
  - Re Roe’s Legal Charge [1982] 2 Lloyd’s Rep 370
  - Libyan Arab Foreign Bank v Bankers Trust Co [1988] 1 Lloyd’s Rep 259

- Statutory definitions
  - s 2 Banking Act: Vernes Asia Ltd v Trendale Investment Pte Ltd [1988] 1 MLJ 357
  - s 2 Bills of Exchange Act

(b) Who is a customer?

- Significance of an account: Great Western Railway Co v London & County Banking Co [1901] AC 414
- Duration of the account: Cmrs of Taxation v English Scottish & Australian Bank Ltd [1920] AC 683

(c) The banker-customer relationship

- Legal nature of the relationship: Foley v Hill (1848) 2 HL Cas 28
- Features of the relationship: Joachimson v Swiss Bank Corporation [1921] 3 KB 110
(d) The 2008 financial crisis

- ‘Wall Street Meets Main Street: Understanding the Financial Crisis’ Eamonn K Moran
  13 N C Banking Institute 5 (available on LexisNexis)

(e) The Singapore Banking Act

- Licensing
  - CP 3 ‘Licensing criteria’
  - ss 4, 7, 8, 20, 21 Banking Act
    - Vernes Asia Ltd v Trendale Investment Pte Ltd
  - MAS ‘Admission Criteria’
  - Commercial bank licenses: Full; Wholesale; Offshore; Representative office
- Use of word ‘bank’; use of bank name
  - CP 2 ‘Permissible activities’
  - ss 5, 5A Banking Act
- Deposit –taking
  - CP 2 ‘Permissible activities’
  - ss 4A, 4B Banking Act: the notion of a deposit, deposit-taking business, exemptions and exclusions
  - SCF Finance Ltd v Masri (No. 2) [1987] 1 QB 1002
  - Morgan Grenfell & Co Ltd v Welwyn Hatfield DC [1995] 1 All ER 1
- Capital requirements
  - CP 6 ‘Capital adequacy’, CP 7 ‘Risk management process’
  - ss 9, 9A, 10 Banking Act
  - Basel I & II
- Segregation of financial and non-financial businesses/ Prohibited Business
  - Part V, Banking Act
  - CP 13 ‘Market risks’
  - ss 30, 31, 32 Banking Act; (compare Finance Companies Act, ss. 25 -26)
- Lending/exposure limits
  - CP 8 ‘Credit risk’ – CP 12 ‘Country and transfer risks’
  - s 29 Banking Act (compare Finance Companies Act, s 23(1)(d-f))
  - MAS Notice 639
  - MAS Notice 632
- Liquidity
  - CP 14 ‘Liquidity risk’
  - ss 38, 39 Banking Act
  - MAS Notice to Banks No. 613 ‘Minimum Liquid Assets’
• Accounts and audits
  ▪ CP 17 ‘Internal control and audit’, 22 ‘Accounting and disclosure’
  ▪ ss 25, 58 Banking Act
• Banking secrecy
  ▪ Section 47, Banking Act and Banking (Professional Relationship) Notification
  ▪ MAS Notice No 634 on Banking Secrecy - Conditions for Outsourcing
    (19 Feb 2003; Last update: 25 May 2004)
  ▪ See generally, “Banking Secrecy - The Singapore Position”, Asia Business Law
    Review No 18, October 1997 at page 25-34
  ▪ Third schedule of Banking Act
• Depositor protection
  ▪ ss 61, 62 Banking Act
  ▪ Deposit Insurance Act, Cap 77A
  ▪ Government guarantee of deposits
• Securitisation
  ▪ MAS Notice No 628 on Securitisation (14 Dec 2007)
  ▪ MAS Circular FSG 43/2000: MAS Notice 628 - Asset Securitisation by Banks
(f) Regulation under MAS Act
• Merchant Banks
  ▪ MAS Act, s. 28
  ▪ MAS Guidelines for Operation of Merchant Banks
• Moneylaundering
  ▪ Corruption, Drug Trafficking and other Serious Crimes (Confiscation of Benefits) Act
  ▪ See generally, “Money Laundering - Legal Implications of the Drug Trafficking
    (Confiscation of Benefits) Act”, Asia Business Law Review No 4, April 1994 at
    page 35
  ▪ CP 18 ‘Abuse of financial services’
  ▪ MAS Act, s 27B
  ▪ Notice to Banks 626 on Prevention of Moneylaundering, and Guidelines
    a. Client due diligence
    b. Suspicious transactions
    c. Reporting

C. NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS
(a) Concept of negotiability
• Assignment of Choses in Action
- Section 4(8), Civil Law Act, Cap. 43 (1999).

- Attributes of Negotiability
  - Section 31 and 38; Bills of Exchange Act, Cap. 23 (1999).
  - *Miller v. Race* (1758) 1 Burr. 452; 1 Smith L.C. (13th ed.)

- Non-Negotiable Instruments
  - Sections 8, 35, 81 and 81A; Bills of Exchange Act.

(b) Classification of negotiable instruments
- Bills of Exchange
  - Section 3, Bills of Exchange Act.
- Cheques
  - Section 73, Bills of Exchange Act.
- Promissory Notes/ Standby letters of credit
  - Section 88, Bills of Exchange Act.
  - Uniform Customs and Practices for Documentary Credits 2007 Revision, International Chamber of Commerce Publication No. 600 ("UCP 600")
  - International Standby Practices ("ISP 98")

(c) Bills of exchange
- Parties to bill
- Unconditional Order
  (a) Section 3, Bills of Exchange Act.
  (b) *Little v. Slackford* (1828) 1 Mood. & M. 171.
- Time of Payment
  (a) Section 11, Bills of Exchange Act.
- Signing Bill
  - Section 23, Bills of Exchange Act.
- Dates, Sums and Figures
  - Sections 3, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 64, Bills of Exchange Act.
• Acceptance of Bills of Exchange
  ▪ Sections 17, 18, 19, 39, 40, 41-44 and 54, Bills of Exchange Act.
• Transfer and Negotiation
  ▪ Sections 31-37, 55 and 56, Bills of Exchange Act.
  ▪ Requisites of indorsement: BEA, s. 32;
  ▪ Blank and special: BEA, s. 34;
  ▪ Conditional and restrictive indorsements: BEA, ss. 33, 35
  ▪ Negotiation to party already liable: BEA, s. 37.
• Dishonour by Non-payment
• Suing on a Negotiable Instrument
  ▪ Sections 14, 45 and 46, Bills of Exchange Act.
  ▪ Cheng Song Chuan (trading as Trade Sources Enterprise) v. Chin Ivan [2008] SGHC 39

(d) Cheques
• Definition
  ▪ Sections 3 and 73, Bills of Exchange Act.
• Post-dated Cheques
  ▪ Section 13, Bills of Exchange Act.
• Crossed Cheques
  ▪ Sections 76, 77, 78, 81 and 81A Bills of Exchange Act.
• "Marking" of Cheques

(e) Promissory notes/ standby letters of credit
• Definition
• Acknowledgement of Debt Not a Promissory Note

(f) Reading materials
• Raymond Jack, Documentary Credits
• ICC: Users’ Handbook for Documentary Credit under UCP 600

(g) Rights of parties
• Holder
  ▪ Sections 2 and 38, Bills of Exchange Act.
  ▪ Good v. Walker (1892) 61 L.J.Q.B. 736.
• Holder for Value
  ▪ Sections 27 and 83, Bills of Exchange Act.
  ▪ MK International Development Co. Ltd. v. The Housing Bank, Financial Times, January 22, 1991
• Holder in Due Course
  ▪ Sections 29, 30 and 38, Bills of Exchange Act.
• Illegal Consideration
  • *Star City Pty. Ltd. v. Tan Hong Woon* [2002] 2 S.L.R. 22.
  • *Ritz Hotel Casino Ltd. & Anor. v. Datu Seri Osu Hj Sukam* [2005] 3 C.L.J. 390

D. BANKER-CUSTOMER

(a) Bank and its customer
  • Nature of relationship
    • Debtor-creditor relationship
    • *Foley v Hill* (1848) 2 HL Cas 28
    • Demand for repayment
    • *Joachimson v Swiss Bank Corporation* [1921] 3 KB 110
    • *Bank of America NTSA v Herman Iskandar* [1998] 2 SLR 265
    • *Damayanti Kantilal Doshi v. Indian Bank* [1999] 2 SLR 306 (H.C.); [1999] 4 SLR 1 (C.A.)

(b) Bank’s duty of care – Conventional banking transactions
  • Fiduciary obligations?
    • *Woods v Martins Bank*
  • Duty to exercise reasonable care and skill
    • *Selangor United Rubber Estates Ltd v Cradock (No. 3)* [1968] 1 WLR 1555
    • *Lipkin Gorman v Karpnale & Co* [1989] 1 WLR 1340, CA
    • *Bank of Credit and Commerce International (Overseas) Ltd. v. Akindele* [2001] Ch. 437.
    • *Abou-Rahmah v. Abacha* [2007] 1 All E.R. (Comm.) 827.

(c) Banking secrecy
  • Duty implied at common law
    • *Tournier v National Provincial & Union Bank* [1924] 1 KB 461
    • *Robertson v Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce* [1994] 1 WLR 1493
    • *Jackson v. Royal Bank of Scotland* [2005] 1 All E.R. (Comm.) 337.
• Exceptions to common law duty
  ▪ Disclosure in the public interest
  ▪ Disclosure in the bank’s interest
  ▪ Disclosure in compliance with the law
  ▪ Express/implied consent

• Statutory obligation of secrecy in Singapore
  ▪ s 47(1) Banking Act

• Exceptions to the statutory obligation
  ▪ Third Schedule Part I exceptions
  ▪ Third Schedule Part II exceptions – further disclosure prohibited

• Relationship between statutory obligation and common law duty
  ▪ s 47(8) Banking Act

• Cross-border banking and intervention of foreign courts

(d) Combination of accounts
• Nature of right
  ▪ *Re European Bank, Agra Bank Claims* (1872) LR 8 Ch App 41
  ▪ *National Westminster Bank Ltd v Halesowen Presswork & Assemblies Ltd* [1972] AC 785

• When accounts may be combined
  ▪ *Garnett v M’Kewan* (1872) LR 8 Ex 10
  ▪ *Greenwood Teale v William, Williams, Brown & Co* (1894) 11 TLR 56

(e) Credit and security - General overview
• Types of borrowing and financing / loan documentation
  ▪ Bilateral / syndicated
  ▪ Revolving / term
  ▪ Lending to a company
  ▪ Lending to a REIT / business trust

• Recommended reading material
  ▪ Philip Wood, 2008 "Law and Practice of International Finance", University Edition, Chapters 7 to 9
- Eilis Ferran, 2008 "Principles of Corporate Finance Law", Chapter 11
- Ravi Tennekoon, 1991 "Law and Regulation of International Finance", Chapters 3 to 5
- Tan Cheng Han (ed.) 2009 "Walter Woon on Company Law", Chapter 12
- Sample of LMA Single Currency Revolving Facility Agreement
- LMA’s Users Guide to Investment Grade Primary Documentation
- LMA’s Guide to Syndicated Loan
- Tolley’s Commercial Loan Agreements
- Code on Collective Investment Schemes, in particular, the Property Funds Appendix
- Business Trusts Act

(f) Security / Undertakings

- Types of security / undertakings
  - Mortgages / charges / assignments / debentures
  - Quasi-securities e.g. reservation of title / set-off arrangements
  - Subordination
- Conflict of law issues on taking security interests
- Statutory versus common law assignment
- Perfection of security

(g) Recommended reading materials

- Roy Goode, "Legal Problems of Credit and Security"
- Philip Wood, "Comparative Law of Security Interests and Title Finance"
- *MacMillan Inc. v Bishopsgate Investment Trust plc & Ors* (No. 3)
- Section 4(8), Civil Law Act
- *Re SSSL Realisations*

(h) Guarantees

- Recommended reading material
  - James O’Donovan, "The Modern Contract of Guarantee"
  - Philip Wood, "Comparative Law of Security and Guarantees"

(i) Enforcement of security

- Insolvency-related issues e.g. undervalue transaction, unfair preference
- Moratorium on security enforcement
- Anti-deprivation principle
- Recommended reading material
  - Sections 227, 328, 329 and 330 of the Companies Act
• Companies (Application of Bankruptcy Act Provisions) Regulations
• Sections 98 and 99 of the Bankruptcy Act
• British Eagle International Air Lines Ltd v Cie Nationale Air France
• Sections 21, 24 and 25 of the Conveyancing and Law Property Act

(j) Financial assistance
• Section 76 of the Companies Act
• Recommended reading material:
  ▪ Walter Woon, "Company Law"

(k) Security over shares
• Scrip-based shares
• Scripless shares
  ▪ Section 130 of the Companies Act
  ▪ Central Depository System

(l) Charges
• Fixed versus floating charges
• Registration of charges
  ▪ Sections 131 to 141 of the Companies Act

(m) Recommended reading material
• National Westminster Bank plc v Spectrum Plus Limited and others and others
• Rayford Homes Ltd v Bank of Scotland plc
• In re SSSL Realisations (2002) Ltd (in liquidation) and In re Save Group plc (in liquidation)
• Walter Woon, "Company Law"
• W.J. Gough, "Company Charges"

(n) Disclosure of interest
• Section 156 of the Companies Act

(o) Prohibition of loans / securities
• Section 163 of the Companies Act

(p) Ultra vires doctrine
• Section 25 of the Companies Act

(q) Commercial benefit
• Rolled Steel Products (Holdings) Ltd v British Steel Corp
(r) Execution of Documents

- Stamp Duties Act
- Sections 23, 25 and 41 Companies Act
- *R (on the application of Mercury Tax Group Ltd and another) v HMRC & Others*
Part III: Alternative Business Structures

A. **Sole proprietorship**

Business Registration Act (Cap 32)

B. **Partnership**

Partnership Act (Cap 391)

C. **Company**

Companies Act (Cap 50)

D. **Limited Partnership**

Limited Partnership Act (Cap 163B)

E. **Limited Liability Partnership**

Limited Liability Partnership Act (Cap 163A)

F. **Business Trust**

Business Trusts Act (Cap 31A)

G. **Real Estate Investment Trust**

Securities and Futures Act (Cap 289)
Code on Collective Investment Schemes (in particular Appendix 6 – Investment: Property Funds)

H. **Other relevant legislation**

Subsidiary legislation of the above which relate to establishment, registration and governance of these business structures.