REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968

[zzat] ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968

(Act 1)

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REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968

(Act 1)

An Act to provide for the revision and reprinting of laws and subsidiary legislation.

[Date of commencement: 1.1.1969]

as amended by

Revision of Laws (Amendment) Act 1971
This Act may be cited as the Revision of Laws Act 1968, and shall come into force on the first day of January, 1969.

In this Act unless the context otherwise requires -

"Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Law Revision appointed under section 3;

"Committee" means the Law Revision Committee appointed under section 4;

"Enactment" means a law as hereinafter defined or any part of such law;

"Law" means any written law relating to a matter with respect to which Parliament has power to make laws, but, except in sections 14, 15 and 16, does not include this Act;

"reprint" means the reprint edition of any law, or any volume of such laws, prepared and published pursuant to section 3;

"revised law" means the revised edition of any law prepared and published pursuant to section 3.

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"revised law" means the revised edition of any law prepared and published pursuant to section 3.

[definition of "Law" amended by s2(a) of Act A1061]

[definition of "reprint" added by s2(b) of Act A1061]

[definition of "revised law" added by s2(b) of Act A1061]
3. **Appointment of Commissioner**

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong shall appoint a Commissioner of Law Revision and a Deputy Commissioner of Law Revision to prepare and publish revised laws and reprints as the Commissioner deems it expedient.

[s3 amended by s3 of Act A1061]

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 4. **Appointment of Committee**

(1) The Lord President of the Federal Court shall, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint a Law Revision Committee comprising not less than five and not more than seven members from amongst the Judges and other persons who in his opinion are suitably qualified for the purpose of examining copies of revised laws in draft.

(2) A member of the Committee shall hold office for a period of two years and shall be eligible for re-appointment:

Provided that the Lord President may terminate the appointment of a member, and any member may resign, at any time.

(3) The Chief Registrar of the Federal Court shall be the Secretary to the Committee.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 5. **Printing of revised laws**

A revised law shall be printed by the Government Printer, or by such other printer as the Commissioner may in any particular case appoint for the purpose.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 6. **Powers of the Commissioner**

(1) The Commissioner shall have the following powers:

(i) to omit from any revised law -

   (a) any repealing Enactment and any table or list of repealed enactments, whether contained in a schedule or otherwise;
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(aa) any provision, or part of a provision, in any law, which has ceased to have effect;

[subpara(aa) inserted by s4(a) of Act A1061]

(b) any preamble or part of a preamble to a law

(c) any introductory words of Enactment in any law or provision thereof;

(d) any Enactment prescribing the date when a law or part thereof is to come into force or operation:

Provided that the date on which the law or part thereof came into force or operation is inserted by the Commissioner in square brackets immediately following the long title of the revised law;

(e) any amending Enactment where the amendments effected thereby are embodied by the Commissioner in the law to which they relate or have been so embodied in any reprint printed in pursuance of any written law;

(f) any enacting clause;

(g) any part of a law which can more conveniently be included as subsidiary legislation;

(h) any interpretation of any expression which is defined in identical or similar terms to those used in the definition of that term contained in the law applicable for the interpretation of the law after it has been revised;

(i) any provision referring to any matter for which provision is made in identical or similar terms in the law applicable for the interpretation of the law after it has been revised:

Provided that the provisions relating to the construction of amending laws contained in the law applicable for the interpretation of laws shall apply to such omissions in the same way as if the provision omitted has been repealed; and

(j) in the case of a law which refers to matters partly in the Federal List and -

(A) partly in the Concurrent or State List; or

(B) partly in the Concurrent List and partly in the State List,

all provisions other than those which refer to matters in the Federal List:
Provided that the powers contained in this paragraph shall not be exercised except after consultation with the State Attorney-General or the Legal Adviser of the State affected;

(ii) to arrange the sequence of revised laws and to give chapter, serial or other numbers thereto;

(iii) to make such formal alterations to any law as are necessary or expedient for the purpose of securing uniformity of expression; or to bring the law into conformity with the provisions of the law applicable for the interpretation of the law after it has been revised;

(iv) to adopt a convenient standard form in all revised laws for -
   (a) the interpretation section;
   (b) any penal section;
   (c) any section giving power to make subsidiary legislation;

(v) to alter the word Enactment "Ordinance" or "Proclamation" in any law to "Act";

(vi) to add a long title or a short title to any law which may require it, and to alter the long title or short title of any law;

(vii) to supply or alter tables of contents, chronological tables, references and notes;

Provided that such tables of contents, chronological tables, references and notes shall not form any part of the law in which they appear;

[para(vii) amended by s4(b) of Act A1061]

(viii) to consolidate into one law any two or more laws or part thereof in pari materia relating to matters with respect to which Parliament has power to make laws, by whatever legislature those laws were enacted, making such alterations as are thereby rendered necessary in the consolidated Enactment, and making modifications to have effect in particular States where if no such modifications were made it would bring about a substantial change in the law in force in such State and appointing such date for the coming into force thereof as may seem most convenient;

(ix) to divide any law into two or more law and to make such amendments, including the supplying of titles, or the alteration of existing titles, as are thereby rendered necessary;

(x) to add to or omit from any law any provision required to be added or omitted,
or to substitute for any provision of any law any provision required to be substituted, in consequence of any amendment made to that law by any other law or by any authority under powers conferred by law;

(xi) to transfer any provision contained in a law from that law to any other law to which that provision more properly belongs, making any alterations thereby rendered necessary;

(xii) to alter the order of the provisions in any law, and to re-number the provisions of any law;

(xiii) to alter the form or arrangement of any provision of any law by transposing words, by combining it in whole or in part with another provision or other provisions or by dividing it into two or more provisions;

(xiv) to divide any law, whether consolidated or not, into parts or other divisions;

(xv) to correct grammatical, typographical and similar mistakes and for that purpose to make verbal additions, omissions, or alterations not affecting the meaning of any law;

(xvi) to alter, insert or omit punctuation marks in any law;

(xvii) to make such formal alterations as to names, localities, departments, offices, titles and otherwise as may be necessary to bring any law into conformity with the circumstances of the Federation on the date on which the law in its revised form is to come into force;

(xviii) to make such adaptations or amendments in any law as may appear to be necessary or proper as a consequence of any change in the constitution of the Federation or any part thereof or any part of the Commonwealth;

(xix) to correct cross-references including references to the laws of other territories;

(xx) to correct references to repealed laws by substituting for such references references to any laws by which the repealed laws have been replaced, for which purpose it is declared that a law is deemed to be replaced by another law where it is expressly stated in the subsequent law that it replaces the repealed law, or where the subsequent law re-enacts with or without modification any provisions of a repealed law;

(xxα) to update the terminology and spelling in the national language text of any law so that they are consistent with the terminology and spelling approved by the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka;
(xxb) to delete any word, expression, nomenclature or other provision in any law which has become obsolete or has ceased to have effect, including references to repealed laws, and to substitute therefor, where necessary, the appropriate word, expression, nomenclature or provision or references to the appropriate laws.

(xxi) to shorten or simplify the phraseology of any law;

(xxii) to repeal or amend any enactment in consequence of the preparation of a revised law;

(xxiii) to appoint the date on which a revised law shall come into force:

Provided that such date shall not be earlier than the date on which the revised law is published in the Gazette;

(xxiv) to do all other things relating to form and method which may be necessary for the perfecting of a revised law.

[subs. (1) amended by Act A43]

(2) In sub-section (1) "amendment" includes, where it is used in relation to the powers conferred upon the Commissioner, any variation of any law which is necessary for giving effect to any enactment in any other law whereby the scope, effect or construction of any provision of the first mentioned law is varied, modified, enlarged, restricted, qualified or otherwise affected.

(3) The powers conferred on the Commissioner by shall not be taken to imply any power in him to make any alteration or amendment in the substance of any law.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 7. Method of compiling a revised law

A revised law shall be made up in such form as the Commissioner deems expedient and shall contain -

(i) on the front page thereof -

(a) the expression "Laws of Malaysia";
REVISION OF LAWS ACT

(b) the short title and number of the revised law;

(c) the date up to which it has been revised; and

(d) the date appointed under section 6(1)(xxiii) on which the revised law is to come into force;

(ii) a list of the laws by which the law has been amended up to the date of its revision showing the dates on which the amendments came into force;

(iii) a list of the laws or parts thereof which the revised law supersedes or repeals.

(iv) (Deleted).

[s7 amended and para(iv) deleted by Act A43]

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 8. Examination by the Committee

(1) The Commissioner shall transmit ten draft copies of every revised law and of the list of amendments made by him in that edition of the revised law to the Committee for its examination. The Committee shall examine the draft copies and certify to the Commissioner whether in the opinion of the Committee the amendments made by the Commissioner are or are not within the powers conferred upon him by this Act. If the Committee shall fail so to certify within a period of thirty days from the receipt by the Secretary to the Committee of the draft copies the amendments shall be deemed to have been certified as being within the powers of the Commissioner and the Commissioner may proceed in accordance with section 10(1).

[subs(1) amended by Act A43]

(2) The validity of any certificate given by the Committee under sub-section (1) shall not be affected by any vacancy in the membership of the Committee or by the inability of any member thereof to give his opinion by reason of temporary absence, indisposition or any other cause.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 9. Revised law to comply with Committee’s opinion

Where the Committee certifies that an amendment is not within the powers of the
Commissioner the Commissioner shall, before proceeding in accordance with section 10(1), amend the draft of the revised law to comply with the opinion of the Committee.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 10. Publication of revised law

10. Publication of revised law

(1) A revised law containing amendments which have been certified or which are deemed to have been certified by the Committee as being within the powers of the Commissioner shall be published in the Gazette and shall come into force as from the date referred to in section 7(i)(d)

[subs(1) amended by Act A43]

(2) On and after the date from which a revised law comes into force, such revised law shall be deemed to be and shall be without any question whatsoever in all courts and for all purposes whatsoever the sole and only proper law in respect matters included therein and in force on that date.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 11. Completion of revision of pre-1969 laws to be notified in Gazette

11. Completion of revision of pre-1969 laws to be notified in Gazette

So soon as may be, the Commissioner shall, by notification in the Gazette (to be published in the Acts Supplement), certify that the revision of all laws enacted before the first day of January, 1969 (except for such laws as may be specified in the notification), which have not been repealed at the date of the notification, has been completed, and thereupon any such law which has been revised under this Act and which has not been specified in the notification shall be deemed to have been repealed as from the date of publication of the notification.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 12. Saving of existing subsidiary legislation

12. Saving of existing subsidiary legislation

Subsidiary legislation made under any law and in force on the date on which that law as revised comes into force shall continue in force until otherwise provided; and references in any such subsidiary legislation to the law under which it was made, or to any part thereof, or to any other revised law shall be construed as references to the revised law or to that
other law as revised.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 13. Revision of subsidiary legislation

(1) There shall be prepared, so soon as may be convenient, as supplementary to each revised law a revised edition of such subsidiary legislation under such revised law as appears to the Commissioner to be of sufficient importance to be included therein.

(2) The provisions of this Act relating to the preparation and publication of a revised law, but not the provisions relating to examination by the Committee, shall apply with any necessary modifications to the preparation and publication of revised subsidiary legislation.

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 14. Reprint of laws

(1) The Government Printer or such other Printer as the Commissioner may in any particular case appoint for the purpose may, with the authority of the Commissioner, make a reprint of any law, whether revised or not, containing -

(a) amendments affected by any law, and
(b) amendments made by the Commissioner under the powers conferred upon him by subsection (2),

and any copy of a reprint purporting to be printed in accordance with this section shall be deemed, until the contrary is shown, to be the authentic text of the law as in force, except in so far as may be specified in the copy, on such date as may be so specified.

(2) In preparing a reprint the Commissioner shall have the powers contained in paragraphs (vii), (x), (xv), (xvi), (xvii), (xviii), (xix), (xx), (xxa) and (xxb) of section 6(1).

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 14A. Publication volume by volume

(1) The Commissioner may, if he considers it expedient, authorize a reprint to be
prepared and published volume by volume, in any sequence and at such times as he
deeems expedient.

(2) Any volume of a reprint may contain such tables, appendices and other
supplementary matter, including an index, as the Commissioner may consider necessary.

[s14A inserted by s6 of Act A1061]

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF
LAWS ACT 1968 / 14B. Updating of reprints

[zza1s14B]14B. Updating of reprints

The Commissioner may, if he considers it expedient, authorize the preparation and
publication of updates incorporating the latest amendments to a reprint, in any sequence
and at such times as he deems expedient.

[s14B inserted by s6 of Act A1061]

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF
LAWS ACT 1968 / 14C. Delegation of powers

[zza1s14C]14C. Delegation of powers

The Commissioner may delegate any of his powers under sections 14(2), 14A and 14B
to the Deputy Commissioner.

[s14C inserted by s6 of Act A1061]

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF
LAWS ACT 1968 / 15. Rectification of formal errors

[zza1s15]15. Rectification of formal errors

(1) The Commissioner may by order, made in the case of an Act with the approval of
the Committee, rectify any clerical, printing or other error in any law:

Provided that no such rectification shall be inconsistent with the powers conferred upon
the Commissioner by sections 6, and 14(1).

(2) An order made under subsection (1) shall have the force of law with effect from the
date referred to in section 7(i)(d).

[s15 inserted by Act A43]

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF
LAWS ACT 1968 / 16. Reference to number of line in any law

A reference in any law to the number of a line of any provision of any law shall mean that line in the latest official printed copy of that law at the time of the enactment of the law containing the reference.

[s16 amended by Act A43]

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 17. Place of this Act in the Laws of Malaysia series

This Act shall form the first Act of the "Laws of Malaysia" series and shall be numbered as Act 1.

[s17 renumbered by Act A43]

MALAYSIAN STATUTES - ACTS 1 to 661 / Acts 1 to 50 / ACT 1: REVISION OF LAWS ACT 1968 / 18. Repeal

The Reprint of Federal Laws Act, 1965, is hereby repealed and section 48 of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance, 1948, in so far as it is a federal law, shall cease to have any application after the coming into force of this Act.

[s18 renumbered by Act A43]