

CONSTITUTION OF THE
MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY
OF SINGAPORE

1. NAME
The Society shall be known as the Medico-Legal Society of Singapore

2. PLACE OF BUSINESS
The Society's place of business shall be the Dept of Forensic Medicine, ISFM Blk 9, S'pore General Hospital Outnam Road S'pore (169608)

3. OBJECT
 - (a) To promote medico-legal knowledge in all its aspects;
 - (b) To sustain and foster interdisciplinary co-operation between medical and legal professions in the administration of Justice;
 - (c) To conduct talks and teaching seminars from time to time in the continuing education of legal medicine and related matters.
 - (d) To liaise with other national bodies in legal medicine and forensic sciences for the advancement of medico-legal knowledge;
 - (e) To publish the proceedings of the Society and other materials relating to legal medicine;

- (f) To assist other national medico-legal bodies in the organisation of international and regional conferences in legal medicine and related matters;
- (g) To maintain and promote high standards of medico-legal practice in Singapore;
- (h) To do all such acts and things as are incidental or subsidiary to all or any of the above.

4. COUNCIL

- (a) There shall be a council consisting of the President, Two Vice-President, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary General Secretary, Honorary Assistant General Secretary and six other ordinary members. Council members shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) All members of the Council are eligible for re-election except the Hon. Treasurer who shall not be re-elected to the same post for a second consecutive term.

5. MANAGEMENT OF AFFAIRS

The affairs of the Society shall be managed by the Council.

6. VACANCIES

Casual vacancies in the Council may be filled by nomination by the Council but any person so nominated must retire on the date on which his predecessor would have retired had he still remained in office.

7. CO-OPTION

The Council may co-opt members to the Council

and sub-committees. Only co-opted members to Council shall have voting rights.

8. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Ordinary
Qualified members of the Medical and Legal Professions and other associated professions in Singapore may be admitted to the Society as Ordinary Members. No persons of above-mentioned qualifications shall be an Ordinary Member unless he is nominated and seconded by two Ordinary Members in writing and so accepted as a member by the Council.
- (b) Life
Life members shall be those ordinary members who have served 10 consecutive years as members or have paid 10 years subscription in advance.
- (c) Honorary
The Council may nominate honorary members by reason of their exceptional and meritorious contributions to the objects of the Society or for such other reason as the Council may deem sufficient. Honorary members shall enjoy no voting rights.
- (d) Associate
Associate members shall be those persons who, whilst not eligible for appointment as Ordinary Members, are actively engaged or interested in Medico-Legal work. Associate members shall not enjoy voting rights.

- (e) Corporate
Corporate Membership shall be opened to Companies which are engaged in either legal or medical work and are registered in Singapore. Companies shall be represented in the Society by its Managing-Director, Director, Managing-Partner with Secretary and shall be entitled to one vote only.

9. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) The Minimum Subscription which, in the case of Ordinary, Associate and Corporate members shall be paid annually and, in the case of Life Members once only, shall be such sum as the Council may from time to time decide.
- b) Annual Subscriptions shall be payable on the 1st day of January of each year.

10. Any member who fails to pay his/her Annual Subscription within a period of one year from the date on which it falls due shall cease to be a member of the Society.

11. FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year of the Society shall run from the 1st of January in any year to the 31st December of the same year.

12. ACCOUNTS

The accounts of the Society shall be audited by two ordinary members of the Society who are not mem-

bers of the Council and who shall be nominated and approved of at each Annual General Meeting.

13. The Treasurer shall be permitted to use two hundred dollars towards petty expenses at any time provided the Treasurer shall report to the Council at Council Meetings.
14. The Society's funds shall be deposited with a bank approved by the Council and any two of the following four officers shall be permitted to sign cheques in order to withdraw funds at any time:
(a) President (b) Vice-President (c) Hon. Treasurer (d) Hon. General Secretary.
15. **EXPULSION**
Any member who shall be found in the opinion of the Council to be no longer a fit and proper person to continue as a member of the Society shall, subject to notice and a right of appeal to Council, be removed from the list of members in accordance with procedure determined by the Council.
16. **RESIGNATION**
Resignation of membership shall be signified in writing to the General Secretary of the Society and the member so resigning shall be liable for the payment of his subscription for the current year together with any arrears up to the date of tendering his resignation.
17. **MEETINGS**
 - (a) **Annual General Meeting**
The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held not later than the month of Febru-

ary for the purpose of conducting the business of the Society including the consideration and if found to be satisfactory, the adoption of the annual accounts of the Society duly audited for the preceding year and the election of the members of the Council for the next term.

- (b) **Extra-Ordinary General Meeting**
An extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the President or by the President at the request of not less than 25 or more voting members or by the Council members.
- (c) The meetings of the Society are private and proceedings may not be communicated to the press without the consent of the Council.

18. **QUORUM AT MEETINGS**

- (a) The quorum for Annual General Meetings and the Extraordinary General Meeting shall not be less than 25 voting members.
- (b) The quorum for any meeting of the Council shall be not less than half of the members of the Council. The Council shall meet at least once in eight weeks or at such times as the President may think fit, provided that the Secretary shall give notice to Council members at least three clear days before the date of the Meeting.
- (c) The President shall chair all Meetings or in his absence the Vice-President shall act for him or in the absence of both any other member of the Council duly elected at the meeting shall chair

the meeting.

- (c) In the event of there being insufficient members to form the quorum at the time, date and place fixed for a general meeting, the meeting shall automatically be adjourned to the same time, place and day the following week and should the number of members then present be still insufficient to form a quorum those voting members present shall form the quorum. But such meeting shall have no power to alter, amend or make additions to this Constitution or any resolutions affecting the same.

19. NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- (a) Notice of an Annual General Meeting setting forth the business to be transacted at such meeting shall be sent to each member of the Society at least 14 clear days before the date of the Meeting, and shall be deemed to have been duly received by the Member if posted by ordinary post to such Member at his/her last known address as kept in the Society's records, at least 16 clear days before the date of such Meeting.
- (b) Notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting setting forth the business to be transacted at such meeting shall be sent to each member of the Society at least 7 clear days before the date of the Meeting, and shall be deemed to have been duly received by the Member if posted by Ordinary Post to such member at his/her last known address as kept in the Society's records,

at least 9 clear days before the date of such meeting.

20. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be amended by a resolution duly carried by two-thirds of those voting members present at any regularly convened Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society provided that notice of each proposed amendment shall be despatched by ordinary post to the last known address of all members at least 14 days prior to the meeting at which the resolution embodying such amendment is to be taken. No amendments to the Constitution shall be enforced or applied without the prior written approval of the Registrar of Societies.

21. DISSOLUTION

- (a) The Society shall not be dissolved except with the consent of not less than three-fifths of all the voting members of the Society for the time being resident in Singapore expressed either in person or by proxy at a General Meeting convened for that purpose or by postal vote, the latter to be received by the Honorary Secretary one clear day before the date of such Meeting. Any postal note of a member received after this stipulated time will not be accepted for the purposes of the said meeting.
- (b) In the event of the Society being dissolved all debts and liabilities legally incurred by or on behalf of the Society shall be fully discharged and the remaining funds and the property of

the Society shall be distributed to a similar Association or Institution of a public character approved by the President of the Society.

- (c) Notice of dissolution of the Society shall be given to the Registrar of Societies within 7 days of such dissolution.

22. PROHIBITIONS

- (a) Gambling of any kind such as the playing of paikow or mahjong, whether for stakes or not, are forbidden on the society's premises. The introduction of materials for gambling or opium smoking and of bad characters into the premises is prohibited.
- (b) The funds of the Society shall not be used to pay the fines of members who have been convicted in court.
- (c) The Society shall not attempt to restrict or in any other manner interfere with trade or prices or engage in any Trade Union activity as defined in any written law relating to trade unions for the time being in force in Singapore.
- (d) The Society shall not hold any lottery, whether confined to its members or not, in the name of the Society or its office-bearers, committees or members.
- (e) The Society shall not indulge in any political activity or allow its funds and/or premises to be used for political purposes.