

Bretton Woods Agreements (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. 16/2023.

Read the first time on 8 May 2023.

A BILL

intituled

An Act to amend the Bretton Woods Agreements Act 1966.

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. This Act is the Bretton Woods Agreements (Amendment) Act 2023 and comes into operation on a date that the Minister appoints by notification in the *Gazette*.

5 Amendment of section 5

2. In the Bretton Woods Agreements Act 1966, in section 5(2), replace “buy or sell” with “buy, sell or otherwise deal with”.

Amendment of section 6A

3. In the Bretton Woods Agreements Act 1966, in section 6A —

10 (a) after subsection (3), insert —

“(3A) Subsections (2) and (3) do not apply to an agreement to finance the operations and the carrying out of the functions of an office of the Fund in Singapore.”; and

15 (b) after subsection (4), insert —

“(5) Subsection (4) does not apply if —

(a) the agreement is in a standard form provided by the Fund, which cannot be unilaterally amended by the Monetary Authority of Singapore; or

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(b) the Fund arrangement or Fund program cannot be suspended or prematurely terminated.”.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to amend the Bretton Woods Agreements Act 1966.

Clause 1 relates to the short title and commencement.

Clause 2 makes a technical amendment to section 5 to align the drafting of subsection (2) with subsection (1), so that both subsections expressly allow the

Monetary Authority of Singapore (called the MAS) to “deal” with special drawing rights.

Clause 3(a) amends section 6A to exempt from subsections (2) and (3) an agreement to finance the operations and functions of offices of the International Monetary Fund in Singapore. Subsection (2) provides that the MAS may enter into an agreement to provide financial assistance to support a Fund arrangement or Fund program only on the conditions set out in that provision. Subsection (3) provides that the MAS may not give any amount of grant under any agreement in excess of the maximum amount fixed by Parliament for that agreement.

Clause 3(b) amends section 6A to exempt from subsection (4) standard form agreements, and agreements to finance a Fund arrangement or Fund program that cannot be suspended or prematurely terminated. Subsection (4) provides that an agreement to lend or give other financial assistance to support a Fund arrangement or Fund program must provide for the MAS to require early repayment or early recovery of moneys in the event of the suspension or premature termination of the Fund arrangement or Fund program.

EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY

This Bill will not involve the Government in any extra financial expenditure.
