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**PRESS RELEASE
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**Revisions to the Mandatory Death Penalty Regime –
Follow-Up Actions by the Attorney-General's Chambers**

1. Earlier today, Parliament passed legislation which revised Singapore's mandatory death penalty regime. When the legislative amendments take effect, the Attorney-General's Chambers (AGC) will work with defence counsel for affected persons to manage their cases under the revised regime.
2. Under the revised regime, where an accused is convicted of murder but is **not** found to have intended to cause death, the Courts would have the discretion to sentence him to death or to life imprisonment with caning. However, where an accused is convicted of murder and is found to have intended to cause death, he would continue to face the mandatory death penalty.
3. Where an accused is convicted of trafficking, importing or exporting drugs above the quantity that attracts the mandatory death penalty, the Courts would have the discretion to sentence him to death or to life imprisonment (with caning in certain circumstances) if the following two conditions are met:
 - (i) the accused is found to be only a drug courier, **and**
 - (ii) **either** the Public Prosecutor certifies that the accused has substantively assisted the Central Narcotics Bureau ("CNB") to disrupt drug trafficking activities within or outside Singapore, **or** the accused proves that he was suffering from such abnormality of mind that it substantially impaired his mental responsibility for committing the offence.

4. All thirty-four persons who have been sentenced to death for murder or drug offences can apply to be re-sentenced under the new regime. AGC will meet defence counsel to discuss how the legislative amendments affect their clients' cases.
5. AGC will also invite defence counsel for persons who have been sentenced to death for drug offences to indicate whether their clients wish to assist CNB in disrupting drug trafficking activities or to undergo psychiatric evaluation, in order to determine whether they qualify for the discretionary death penalty.
6. Moving forward, AGC will be working closely with our partner agencies to explain the legislative amendments to members of the Singapore Bar, so that all defence counsel in future cases will understand the revised regime.

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