

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**REGISTRAR'S CIRCULAR NO. 5 OF 2002**

**REVISION OF HEARING FEES AND FILING FEES**

With effect from 16 December 2002, there will be an upward revision in the hearing fees and filing fees in the Supreme Court.

Two-tier hearing fees and special date hearing fees for chamber hearings

2 In order to rationalise the rates of hearing fees to reflect the higher value of claims that are filed in the High Court and to restore the efficacy of hearing fees, the rates of hearing fees will be revised upwards.

3 Further, in order to deal more equitably with cases of higher value and the concomitant higher costs of servicing and disposing of them, a two-tier system of hearing fees will be introduced.

4 Additionally, hearing fees will now be payable for hearings in chambers on special hearing dates before a High Court Judge.

Increase in filing fees: amendments to Appendix B

5 Appendix B of the Rules of Court will be amended to generally effect an increase in filing fees. In particular, the amount of fees payable is determined by the value of the claim. Lower rates of fees are payable where the value of the claim does not exceed \$1 million and correspondingly higher rates of fees are payable where the value of the claim is more than \$1 million. The Registrar may, after determining the value of the claim as awarded by the Court, require the parties to pay the difference in the court fees or refund to the parties the excess court fees paid.

6 The following new items will be added to Appendix B of the Rules of Court:

- (a) new item 1A (on filing of defence and counterclaim);
- (b) new item 1B (on filing of defence); and
- (c) new item 85A (on filing of a bill of costs).

Waiver or deferment of filing fees

7 Provision is made to accommodate cases of genuine hardship by conferring on the Registrar the power to waive or defer in whole or in part the payment of such fees.

8 To cater to the general increase in filing fees, Order 59 Appendix 2, Part II will also be amended by inserting the words "excluding disbursements" as follows:


**"BASIC COSTS**

Costs to be allowed (*excluding disbursements*) in cases under the following subparagraphs of paragraph 1(1) of Part I:"

Transitional provisions

9 The revised fees shall apply to all documents filed on or after 16 December 2002. For proceedings commenced before 16 December 2002, the claim shall be deemed to have a value of up to \$1 million.

Dated the *2nd* day of December 2002.

  
FOO CHEE HOCK  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR  
SUPREME COURT