

In your legal system: (Singapore)

1. What national laws and regulations govern cross-border trade and foreign investment?

Please indicate as follows, as fully as possible:

Names of laws and regulations and the relevant webpages where these may be found in English (where available):

Singapore does not have a specific law that governs cross-border trade and foreign investment. A non-exhaustive list of relevant trade and investment laws are indicated below. A copy of these Acts can be found online at <http://statutes.agc.gov.sg>.

Legal Obligations By Business Structure

- Business Registration Act
- Partnership Act
- Limited Liability Partnerships Act
- Limited Partnerships Act
- Companies Act

Business Premises

- Workplace Safety and Health Act
- Building Control Act

Employment

- Employment Act
- Employment of Foreign Manpower Act
- Retirement and Re-employment Act

Taxation

- Income Tax Act
- Goods and Services Tax Act
- Stamp Duties Act
- Property Tax Act

Data Protection

- Personal Data Protection Act

2. What free trade agreements has your country entered into?

Singapore has 20 FTAs in force. The details of the FTAs can be found in the web portal www.fta.gov.sg.

FTAs	Weblink
ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA (AANZFTA) ASEAN-China (ACFTA) ASEAN-India (AIFTA) ASEAN-Japan (AJCEP) ASEAN-Korea (AKFTA) Australia (SAFTA) China (CSFTA) Costa Rica (SCRFTA) GCC (GSFTA) Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (SJFTA) India (CECA) Japan (JSEPA) Korea (KSFTA) New Zealand (ANZSCEP) Panama (PSFTA) Peru (PeSFTA) Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland (ESFTA) Trans-Pacific SEP (Brunei, New Zealand, Chile, Singapore) United States (USSFTA)	www.fta.gov.sg

3. What bilateral or regional investment agreements (other than those of ASEAN as a group) has your country entered into?

Singapore has 40 investment agreements (excluding the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement and the FTA investment chapters) in force.

Investment Agreements	Weblink
Bahrain	https://www.mti.gov.sg/MTIInsights/Pages/IGAs.aspx
Bangladesh	
Belarus	
Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union	
Bulgaria	
Cambodia	
Canada	
Czech Republic	
Egypt	
France	
Germany	
Hungary	
Indonesia	
Jordan	
Kuwait	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	
Latvia	
Libya	
Mauritius	
Mexico	
Mongolia	
Netherlands	
North Korea	
Oman	
Pakistan	
People's Republic of China	
Poland	
Russia	
Saudi Arabia	
Slovak Republic	
Slovenia	
Sri Lanka	
Switzerland	
Turkey	
United Arab Emirates	
Ukraine	
United Kingdom	
United States of America	
Uzbekistan	
Vietnam	

4. If an investor obtains a money judgment in another ASEAN country, can the judgment be enforced in your country?

Yes

If yes –

- a) What is the relevant law/regulation?

Statutory regime: For judgments obtained in the superior courts of Brunei and Malaysia, possibility of registering and enforcing under the Reciprocal Enforcement of Commonwealth Judgments Act (RECJA) and Order 67 of the Rules of Court (available at <http://statutes.agc.gov.sg>).

Common law regime: For judgments obtained in other ASEAN countries, possibility of an action under the common law to enforce final and conclusive foreign judgments *in personam* given by a foreign court of competent jurisdiction: *Hong Pian Tee v Les Placements Germain Gauthier Inc* [2002] 1 SLR(R) 515 at paragraph [12].

- b) What is the available procedure? (please indicate main steps briefly)

Statutory regime: An application has to be made and a court order granted to register the relevant judgment: see Order 67 Rules 2, 3 and 5 of the Rules of Court. The judgment may only be enforced after the period for setting aside the registration of the judgment has expired, or a setting aside application is finally determined: Order 67 Rules 10(1) and (2) of the Rules of Court. An affidavit of service of the notice of registration of the judgment (Order 67 Rule 7 of the Rules of Court) and any order made by the Court in relation to the judgment must be produced to the Sheriff: Order 67 Rule 10(3) of the Rules of Court.

Common law regime: To commence a common law action for the judgment debt; an application for summary judgment may be made on the ground that the defendant has no defence to the claim: *Hong Pian Tee v Les Placements Germain Gauthier Inc* [2002] 1 SLR(R) 515 at paragraph [12].

- c) When might your system reject such enforcement nonetheless? (e.g. grounds)

Statutory regime: If the registration of a judgment is set aside because of the restrictions on registration enumerated under section 3(2) of the RECJA, or it is not just or convenient that the judgment should be enforced in Singapore, or there is some other sufficient reason for setting aside the registration: Order 67 Rule 9 of the Rules of Court.

Common law regime: If the judgment was procured by fraud, or its enforcement would be contrary to public policy, or if the proceedings in which the judgment was obtained are opposed to natural justice: *Hong Pian Tee v Les Placements Germain Gauthier Inc* [2002] 1 SLR(R) 515 at paragraph [12].

5. Is your country a signatory to the New York Convention on the recognition and enforcement of international arbitration awards?

Yes

If yes, what is the domestic implementing legislation for the New York Convention in your country?

International Arbitration Act (available at <http://statutes.agc.gov.sg>)

6. Is your country a party to the ICSID Convention?

Yes

7. Does your system have an agency or team that is designated to address investor complaints or to assist aggrieved investors (particularly from ASEAN)?

All investors (foreign or local) can refer to the EnterpriseOne ([link](#)) and Economic Development Board ([link](#)) web portals for information and assistance.