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CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF
DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

NEW YORK, 18 DECEMBER 1979

SINGAPORE: PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL OF RESERVATIONS¹

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary,
communicates the following:

The above action was effected on 30 June 2011.

(Original: English)

“Upon accession to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Government of the Republic of Singapore made a reservation reserving the right not to apply the provisions of articles 2 and 16 where compliance with these provisions would be contrary to religious or personal laws of the minorities in the Republic of Singapore, the text of which reads as follows:

‘(1) In the context of Singapore’s multiracial and multi-religious society and the need to respect the freedom of minorities to practice their religious and personal laws, the Republic of Singapore reserves the right not to apply the provisions of articles 2 and 16 where compliance with these provisions would be contrary to their religious or personal laws.’

¹Refer to depositary notification C.N.358.1995.TREATIES-5 of 21 November 1995
(Accession: Singapore).


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The Government of the Republic of Singapore, having reviewed the said reservation hereby modifies the same as follows:

‘(1) In the context of Singapore’s multiracial and multi-religious society and the need to respect the freedom of minorities to practice their religious and personal laws, the Republic of Singapore reserves the right not to apply the provisions of article 2, paragraphs (a) to (f), and article 16, paragraphs 1(a), 1(c), 1(h), and article 16, paragraph 2, where compliance with these provisions would be contrary to their religious or personal laws.’ ”

The Government of Singapore informed the Secretary-General that the above modification limits the legal effect of the reservations made by Singapore upon accession, so as to achieve a more complete application of the Convention in the relations between Singapore and other States parties to the Convention and, therefore, constitutes a partial withdrawal of the reservations to articles 2 and 16 of the Convention made by Singapore upon accession.

22 September 2011



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