

# Key Highlights From AG Lucien Wong's Opening Of The Legal Year 2022 Speech



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## Restructuring Of The Legal Service

### ► Legal And Judicial Services In Singapore To Be Restructured On 14 January 2022

New Judicial Service Commission will be formed and Legal Service reconstituted to allow for greater specialisation of roles and competencies, and better prepare for future challenges



Notwithstanding the restructuring, the Legal Service's core function as a key pillar of the rule of law remains the same

Reconstituted Legal Service Commission headed by the Attorney-General

# 400

Legal Service Officers (LSOs) in AGC

# 200

LSOs in Ministries and Statutory Boards

AGC will become the hub in bringing together the community of public lawyers, taking the Legal Service to greater heights

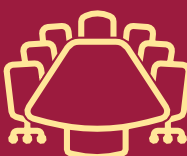
To attract and retain talent, the reconstituted Legal Service will continue to offer the best opportunities for LSOs to develop meaningful careers as public lawyers



The Legal Service is to remain the employer of choice for the brightest talents in the legal profession

### ► Establishing Areas Of Legal Specialisation

To provide better specialist legal support to the Government, for example:



#### Corporate Law Cluster

To advise the Government in the area of corporate law

*e.g. fund-raisings, loans and guarantees*



#### Technology Law Cluster

To handle evolving legal and regulatory issues related to rapid advancements in technology

*e.g. blockchain and agile application development*

## Improving Prosecutorial Workstreams

### ► Office Of The Public Prosecutor (OPP) Initiative

# 30

Deputy Public Prosecutors (DPPs) deployed to police divisions since 1 July 2021 to assist with review of investigation papers (IPs) and legal representations, expediting investigative and decision-making processes

# 30%

Increase in total number of IP-related requests processed in the last year, despite OPP initiative taking effect only in the latter part of the year

### ► Streamlining Criminal Case Assignments



To enhance quality and consistency in decision-making, AGC has introduced a follow-through case assignment system where DPPs will oversee a case from pre-trial stage to conclusion



This system will enable law enforcement partners and members of the criminal bar to know which case DPP to contact throughout the process

### ► AGC Portal For Submission Of Legal Representations



Developed in consultation with members of the criminal bar, the portal automates the process of submitting representations to AGC, and ensures representations are routed more efficiently to the case DPP



The portal is in the pilot phase and AGC aims to have all lawyers make representations on the portal by mid-2022

## 2020 Revised Edition of Acts

### ► Came Into Force On 31 December 2021

The 2020 Revised Edition is a verified consolidation of all the in-force statutes as amended up to 1 December 2021



The 2020 Revised Edition marks the completion of a project by AGC and the Law Revision Commission which began more than 5 years ago

The last revision of Acts was in 1985, over 35 years ago. The scope of the 2020 Revised Edition far exceeds the scope of the 1985 Revised Edition:



Key features include:



Simplified language, streamlined and more informative citations, as well as full and updated legislative histories



Consistency in house styles and expressions, and accuracy in cross-references across all Acts



The 2020 Revised Edition is a significant step in AGC's drive to ensure that Singapore's legislation is made more understandable to members of the public