

## **Media Release**

### **Minister for Health Instructs POFMA Office to Issue Correction Direction and Targeted Correction Direction**

**Singapore - 18 April 2020:** The Minister for Health has instructed POFMA Office to issue a Correction Direction<sup>1</sup> to the “Singapore States Times” Facebook page, and a Targeted Correction Direction<sup>2</sup> to Facebook.

2. The “Singapore States Times” Facebook page made multiple false statements on the Ministry of Health’s reporting of COVID-19 cases in Singapore, in a post published on 18 April 2020.

3. For facts of the case, please refer to the Factually article, “Corrections and Clarifications Regarding Falsehoods Published by Singapore States Times on the Reporting of COVID-19 Cases in Singapore” (<https://www.gov.sg/article/factually-clarifications-on-falsehoods-posted-by-sst-on-reporting-of-covid-19-cases-in-singapore>).

4. Members of the public should rely on official channels such as the Ministry of Health’s official website ([www.moh.gov.sg](http://www.moh.gov.sg)) and Gov.sg WhatsApp (<http://go.gov.sg/whatsapp>) to get accurate and up-to-date information on the COVID-19 situation in Singapore. Any suspected falsehoods can be reported to [info@pofmaoffice.gov.sg](mailto:info@pofmaoffice.gov.sg).

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<sup>1</sup> A **Correction Direction** is a Direction issued to a person who has communicated a falsehood (i.e. the recipient) that affects the public interest. It requires the recipient to publish a correction notice, providing access to the correct facts. The Direction does not require the recipient to take down their post or make edits to their content, and does not impose criminal sanctions.

<sup>2</sup> A **Targeted Correction Direction** is a Direction issued to an Internet Intermediary (“II”), whose service was used to communicate a falsehood that affects the public interest. The Direction requires the II to communicate a correction notice by means of its service to all users in Singapore who access the falsehood through its service. This is so that users who see the falsehood on a platform also see the correction notice on that platform.

**About the POFMA Office**

*The POFMA Office, situated within the Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA), is responsible for the administration of the Protection from Online Falsehoods and Manipulation Act (POFMA). For more information about POFMA Office, visit [www.pofmaoffice.gov.sg](http://www.pofmaoffice.gov.sg).*

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