

Media Release

Minister for Law Instructs POFMA Office to Issue POFMA Directions

Singapore - 27 May 2020: The Minister for Law has instructed POFMA Office to issue a Correction Direction¹ to the "National Times Singapore" Facebook page, and a Targeted Correction Direction² to Facebook.

2. In a post published on 15 May 2020, the "National Times Singapore" Facebook page made multiple false statements of fact about the scope and application of POFMA.

3. For facts of the case, please refer to the Factually article, "Corrections and clarifications regarding Facebook post by National Times Singapore ("NTS")" (www.gov.sg/article/factually270520).

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 <u>www.pofmaoffice.gov.sg</u>.

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¹ 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.

² 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.