The New Companies Ordinance Cap. 622

Briefings on Forms and Procedures

- **♦ Company Incorporation**
- **♦ Company Deregistration**
- **♦ Compounding of Specified Offences**

Miss Nancy YAU
Acting Deputy Registry Manager
(Company Formation and Enforcement)
January 2014



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Company Incorporation

Key Changes:

- 1. Types of Companies
- 2. Abolition of Memorandum of Association
- 3. Abolition of Par Value for Shares
- 4. One "natural person" as Director
- Correspondence Address of Company Secretary
- 6. Statutory period for delivery of Consent to Act as Director after incorporation.



Types of Companies (s. 66)

- 1. Private company limited by shares
- 2. Public company limited by shares

New Form NNC1 must be used with effect from 3 March 2014.





Types of Companies (s. 66)

- 3. Company limited by guarantee (without a share capital)
- 4. Private unlimited company with a share capital
- 5. Public unlimited company with a share capital

New Form NNC1G must be used with effect from 3 March 2014.

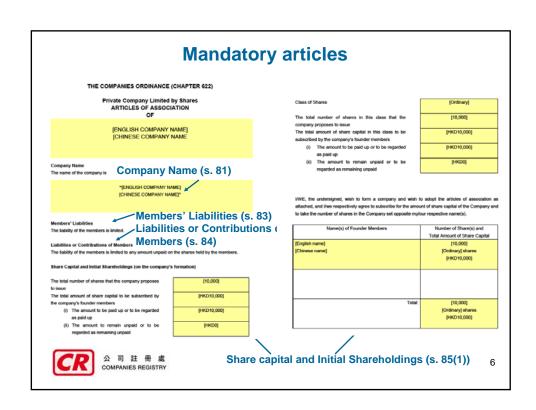


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Abolition of Memorandum of Association

- ☐ Only a copy of the Articles of Association is required to be delivered for registration (s. 67(1)(b))
- - Schedule 1 for public companies limited by shares
 - Schedule 2 for private companies limited by shares
 - Schedule 3 for companies limited by guarantee
- Sample articles available for use at e-Registry
 - Sample A for private companies limited by shares (simplified version)
 - Sample B for private companies limited by shares
 - Sample C for public companies limited by shares
 - Sample D for companies limited by guarantee



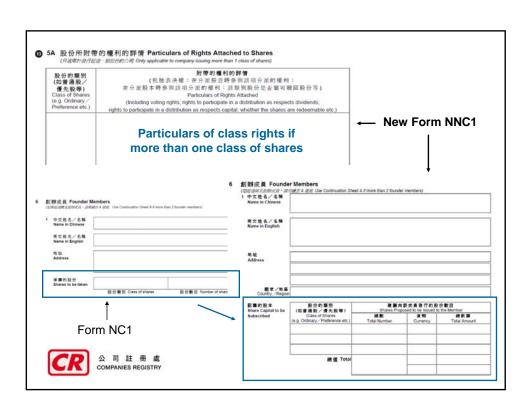


Abolition of Par Value of Shares

- X
 A share does not have nominal value
- Mo authorised capital
- Total number and total amount of shares to be issued, amount to be paid up and unpaid (Schedule 2 to Cap. 622)

New	総値 Total Form NNC1	10,000	HKD	20,000	10,000	10,000
	Ordinary	10,000	HKD	20,000	10,000	10,000
	股份的類別 (如普通股/優先股等) Class of Shares (e.g. Ordinary/ Preference etc.)	建議簽行的 股份總數 Total Number of Shares Proposed to be Issued	貨幣 Currency	創辦成員認購的 股本總額 Total Amount of Share Capital to be Subscribed by Founder Members	將要繳付或視爲 已繳付的總款額 Total Amount to be Paid Up or to be Regarded as Paid Up on the Shares	建議發行的股份的 衡未繳付或觀爲 衡未繳付或總別額 Total Amount to Remain Unpaid or to be Regarded as Unpaid on the Shares Proposed to be Issued (a) – (b)





One "natural person" as Director

Section 457 requires a private company must have at least one director who is a natural person.

Note:

With effect from 3 March 2014, all applications lodged for incorporation of private companies under the new Companies Ordinance must comply with section 457.



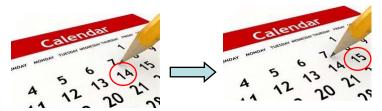
Correspondence Address of Company Secretary

Under Cap. 622, a company secretary, who is a natural person, is only required to report correspondence address instead of residential address (s. 5 of Schedule 2).

The founder member has to confirm:



Statutory period for delivery of Consent to Act as Director after incorporation



If the director of the company does not sign the Consent to Act on the Incorporation Form, the consent should be given in a Form NNC3 which should be delivered to the Registrar for registration not later than 15 days after the date of incorporation (s.74(1)).



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Company Deregistration (1)

Key Changes (1) – Extending the deregistration procedure to companies limited by guarantee

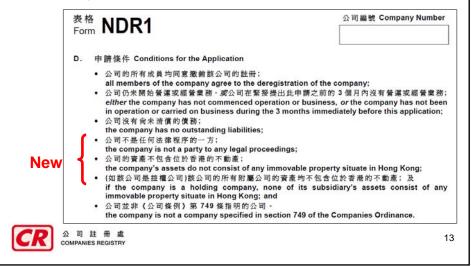
- □ Private companies & companies limited by guarantee can apply for deregistration. (s. 749)
- Exceptions: Companies specified in s. 749(2) (e.g. authorized institution as defined by s. 2(1) of the Banking Ordinance, an insurer as defined by ss. 2(1) & (2) of the Insurance Companies Ordinance).





Company Deregistration (2)

Key Changes (2) - Imposing additional conditions for deregistration of defunct companies (s.750 (2))



Company Deregistration (3)

Key Changes (3) - Penalty for knowingly or recklessly giving false and misleading information to the Registrar in connection with a deregistration application (s. 750(6))

- A fine of HK\$300,000 and imprisonment for 2 years upon conviction on indictment; or
- A fine of HK\$100,000 and imprisonment for 6 months upon summary conviction.



Compounding of Specified Offences (1)

Section 899 empowers the Registrar of Companies to compound, at the discretion of the Registrar, specified offences so as to:

- □ Encourage compliance
- ☐ Optimise the use of judicial resources





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Compounding of Specified Offences (2)

In respect of a specified offence



Registrar gives a notice in writing to the person who is in breach stating particulars of the alleged offence and the conditions upon which no proceedings will be initiated:

- the amount of the compounding fee to be paid;
- the period within which the conditions have to be complied with; <u>and</u>
- where the offence is constituted by a failure to do an act or thing, the specified period within which the act or thing must be done.





Compounding of Specified Offences (3)

The person confirms acceptance of the conditions specified in the notice (Form NCO1) <u>AND</u> pays the compounding fee <u>AND</u> complies with the conditions specified in the notice.



If the company does not comply with <u>ALL</u> the conditions specified in the notice, prosecution action may be taken.



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Compounding of Specified Offences (4)

Specified offences are set out in Schedule 7 to Cap. 622 -

To name a few:

- ☐ Failure to deliver Annual Returns of local companies
- ☐ Failure to deliver Annual Returns & Accounts of registered non-Hong Kong companies
- ☐ Failure to display company name at registered office and business venue



