

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF**

Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Chapter 588)

**Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2021  
(Commencement) Notice**

**Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation**

**Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance  
(Amendment of Schedule 3B) Notice 2022**

**INTRODUCTION**

To implement the new regulatory regime of the accounting profession, the Secretary for the Financial Services and the Treasury (“SFST”) has made:

A

- (a) the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (Commencement) Notice (“Commencement Notice”) (**Annex A**) under section 1(2) of the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (“Amendment Ordinance”);

B

- (b) the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Regulation (“Regulation”) (**Annex B**) under section 94 of the Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) (“FRCO”); and

C

- (c) the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Amendment of Schedule 3B) Notice 2022 (“Notice of Amendment of Schedule 3B”) (**Annex C**) under section 61(1) of the FRCO.

## BACKGROUND

2. The Amendment Ordinance was enacted by the Legislative Council (“LegCo”) and published in the Gazette on 22 and 29 October 2021 respectively. According to the Amendment Ordinance, the Financial Reporting Council (“FRC”) will become a full-fledged independent regulator of the accounting profession, and will be renamed as the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (“AFRC”). Major regulatory powers in relation to the accounting profession will be transferred from the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“HKICPA”) to the AFRC, including the registration of public interest entities (“PIE”)<sup>1</sup> auditors and practice units<sup>2</sup>, issue of practising certificates, inspection of practice units, and investigation and discipline against practice units and certified public accountants (“CPA”). The AFRC will also oversee the HKICPA’s performance of its various statutory professional functions.

## JUSTIFICATIONS

3. To implement the new regulatory regime of the accounting profession, we need to make the following three pieces of subsidiary legislation to provide for the commencement date of the new regime, the transitional arrangements and consequential amendments for the commencement of the new regime, and the fee levels to be adopted by the AFRC for issue of practising certificates and registration of practice units.

### (A) *Commencement Notice*

4. Section 1(2) of the Amendment Ordinance provides that the Amendment Ordinance is to come into operation on a day to be appointed by the SFST by a notice published in the Gazette. Taking into account the progress of the preparatory work for the new regime, the SFST has made the Commencement Notice and appointed 1 October 2022 as the commencement date of the Amendment Ordinance, with the exception of the following provisions, which will come into operation in advance on 4 July 2022:

#### (a) Establishment of an Advisory Committee

The Amendment Ordinance provides that an Advisory Committee will be established to advise the AFRC on policy matters concerning any of its regulatory objectives and functions. Members of the Advisory Committee

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<sup>1</sup> A PIE refers to a corporation with issued shares or stocks listed in Hong Kong or a collective investment scheme with interests listed in Hong Kong.

<sup>2</sup> A practice unit is defined in the Amendment Ordinance as (i) a certified public accountant (practising) (“CPA (practising)”) who practises accountancy on his/her own account under his/her own name; (ii) a CPA (practising) who practises accountancy on his/her own account under a firm name; (iii) a firm of CPAs (practising); or (iv) a corporate practice.

will be appointed by the Financial Secretary in consultation with the AFRC, and they will comprise, inter alia, practitioners, service users and other stakeholders of the accounting profession. To enable the Advisory Committee to advise on the preparatory work for the new regime at an early stage, the SFST has specified that the provisions concerning the establishment of the Advisory Committee in the Amendment Ordinance will come into operation earlier.

(b) Transitional and saving provisions to be made by regulation

The Amendment Ordinance adds to the FRCO a new provision, which states that the SFST may make transitional and saving provisions consequent to the Amendment Ordinance by regulation. The SFST has specified that this provision will come into operation before the commencement of the new regime, so that he may make and bring into operation the necessary regulations in a timely manner to facilitate the FRC's preparatory work for the commencement of the new regime. For example, the Regulation will empower the FRC to, among other things, access the HKICPA's records and information prior to the commencement of the new regime for setting up its register and building case database.

***(B) Regulation***

5. In consultation with the FRC and the HKICPA, the SFST has made the Regulation to provide for (a) the transitional arrangements for the handling of pending or ongoing cases after the commencement of the new regime; and (b) the consequential amendments to other ordinances and subsidiary legislation. We have already set out in last year's LegCo brief on the new regime the principles underlying the transitional arrangements for various regulatory functions. A summary is provided below.

*Registration of PIE auditors and practice units, and issue of practising certificates*

6. According to the Amendment Ordinance, the functions of registering PIE auditors and practice units as well as issuing practising certificates will be transferred from the HKICPA to the AFRC under the new regime. The Amendment Ordinance stipulates the criteria and requirements for consideration by the AFRC when processing applications for registration or issue of practising certificates. These criteria and requirements are largely the same as those currently provided in the FRCO and the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50) ("PAO").

7. As regards the transitional arrangements, the Regulation stipulates that registration of PIE auditors and practice units as well as practising certificates which are effective immediately before the commencement of the new regime will remain valid after the commencement of the new regime until 31 December 2022. Applications for

registration or issue of practising certificates which the HKICPA has yet to finish processing by the commencement of the new regime, renewals during the transition period and related matters will be handled as follows:

| <b>Subject matter</b>   | <b>Transitional arrangements</b>  |
|---|---|
| (a) New applications submitted to the HKICPA before the commencement of the new regime  | <p>For applications on which the HKICPA has already made a decision to approve or refuse before the commencement of the new regime, the HKICPA will follow up on the outstanding procedures including issuing certificates or notification of reason(s) for refusal.</p> <p>For pending applications on which the HKICPA has yet to make a decision to approve or refuse by the commencement of the new regime, they will be transferred to the AFRC for a decision. Applicants are not required to make a fresh application to the AFRC.</p> |
| (b) Renewal applications  | Applications for renewal of registration or practising certificates in and after 2023 should be made to the AFRC after the commencement of the new regime.  |
| (c) Conditions imposed on registrations or practising certificates by the HKICPA before the commencement of the new regime (if any)   | The conditions will remain effective after the commencement of the new regime.  |
| (d) Decisions of revocation or suspension of registration, cancellation or suspension of practising certificates, or removal of names from the register made by the HKICPA before the commencement of the new regime (if any) | The decisions will remain effective after the commencement of the new regime. The practice units or CPAs concerned may submit fresh applications for registration or issue of practising certificates to the AFRC. When processing the applications, the AFRC will take into consideration all relevant information, including the effective period of the said decisions.  |

*Practice reviews over practice units, and investigation and disciplinary actions against practice units and CPAs*

8. According to the Amendment Ordinance, the functions of practice reviews in relation to practice units as well as investigation and discipline against practice units and CPAs will be transferred from the HKICPA to the AFRC under the new regime. The Amendment Ordinance stipulates the scope of these functions (including investigable and sanctionable misconducts as well as powers of inspectors and investigators) and the types and levels of penalties<sup>3</sup>, which are similar to those currently provided under the PAO. As regards the procedures, the AFRC will, in exercising the new powers, adopt the procedures established under the FRCO and carried out by the FRC executive team under the supervision of the FRC Board (made up entirely of non-practitioners), so as to ensure impartiality and independence from the profession.

9. As for the transitional arrangements, the Regulation stipulates that practice reviews as well as investigation and disciplinary cases which are still ongoing by the commencement of the new regime will continue to be handled under the HKICPA's mechanism to avoid interruption of the relevant proceedings. Upon the conclusion of these practice reviews and investigation cases, the HKICPA will refer them to the AFRC for consideration of the need to take follow-up actions (e.g. conducting further inspections or imposing sanctions) under the Amendment Ordinance.

10. Moreover, new cases that arise on or after the commencement of the new regime will be handled by the AFRC under the Amendment Ordinance, irrespective of whether the matters involved took place before or after the commencement of the new regime.

*Review and appeal*

11. According to the Amendment Ordinance, the scope of review of the existing Public Interest Entities Auditors Review Tribunal established in accordance with the FRCO will be expanded under the new regime to cover the AFRC's decisions regarding the issue of practising certificates, registration of practice units and disciplinary actions against practice units and CPAs. Relevant persons who are dissatisfied with the determination of the Tribunal may appeal to the court.

12. With regard to the transitional arrangements, for the relevant decisions made by the HKICPA before the commencement of the new regime or under the transitional arrangements in accordance with the relevant ordinance, the persons concerned may still apply for review and/or appeal under the corresponding ordinance. The categories of

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<sup>3</sup> They include the revocation or suspension of a registration, the cancellation of a practising certificate, the issue of a reprimand, or the issue of an order to pay a penalty not exceeding \$500,000.

relevant decisions subject to review and/or appeal before and after the commencement of the new regime are summarised as follows:

| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Decisions subject to review and appeal under the FRCO</b></p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Decisions subject to appeal under the PAO</b></p>  |
|---|--|
| <p>(a) Decisions made by the HKICPA before the commencement of the new regime in relation to registration of PIE auditors</p> <p>(b) Decisions made by the AFRC after the commencement of the new regime in relation to issue of practising certificates, registration of PIE auditors and practice units, and disciplinary actions against practice units and CPAs</p> | <p>(a) Decisions made by the HKICPA before the commencement of the new regime in relation to registration of practice units</p> <p>(b) Decisions made by the HKICPA before the commencement of the new regime in relation to issue of practising certificates</p> <p>(c) Decisions made by the HKICPA before the commencement of the new regime in relation to disciplinary actions</p> <p>(d) Decisions made by the HKICPA under the transitional arrangements after the commencement of the new regime in relation to disciplinary actions</p> |

13. In addition to the transitional arrangements mentioned above, the Regulation provides for the consequential technical amendments to all relevant legislation, such as changes of references to the FRC and the HKICPA in the legislation due to the transfer of regulatory functions and the renaming of the FRC.

***(C) Notice of Amendment of Schedule 3B***

14. Upon the transfer of powers of issuing practising certificates and registering practice units to the AFRC, the relevant application fees previously payable to the HKICPA will be collected by the AFRC. The Government has committed to exempt the fees in the first year of the new regime. Thereafter, the AFRC will start collecting the fees, which will be initially set at levels no higher than those currently adopted by the HKICPA.

15. The fees currently specified in Schedule 3B of the FRCO as amended by the Amendment Ordinance for the issue of practising certificates, registration of practice units and renewal applications are \$0. To implement the above arrangements, the SFST has made a notice to set the fee levels for the issue of practising certificates, registration of practice units and renewal applications by aligning them with those currently adopted by the HKICPA with effect from 1 October 2023. We will review the fee levels after the new regime has been in operation for a period of time, and will consult the LegCo in due course.

## **RELATED SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION**

16. The Commencement Notice at **Annex A** provides that:

- (a) except for the provisions in paragraph (b), the Amendment Ordinance will come into operation on 1 October 2022; and
- (b) the provisions which concern the Advisory Committee and enable the SFST to make regulations on transitional arrangements consequent to the Amendment Ordinance will come into operation on 4 July 2022.

17. The Regulation at **Annex B** comprises the following parts:

- (a) Part 1 provides that the commencement date of the Regulation is 1 October 2022, except for the provisions in this Part and sections 92 and 98 on the FRC's access to the HKICPA's records and information, which will come into operation earlier on 4 July 2022;
- (b) Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5 provide for the transitional arrangements in relation to the transfer of powers of registering PIE auditors, issuing practising certificates and registering CPA firms and corporate practices, including saving registrations that are effective before the commencement of the new regime as well as decisions made by the HKICPA on applications for registration/issue of practising certificates, imposition and revision of registration conditions, revocation or suspension of registration and removal of names from the register, such that these registrations and decisions will remain effective under the new regime. These Parts also provide that any outstanding administrative procedures for applications/matters on which the HKICPA has already made a decision before the commencement of the new regime will continue to be followed up by the HKICPA, while pending applications/matters on which the HKICPA has not yet made a decision before the commencement of the new regime will be transferred to the AFRC for a decision;

- (c) Parts 6 and 7 provide for the transitional arrangements in relation to the transfer of powers of practice reviews over practice units as well as investigation and discipline against CPAs and practice units, including:
  - (i) Part 6 saves pre-existing practice units before the commencement of the new regime, such that the registration of these practice units will remain effective under the new regime;
  - (ii) Division 1 of Part 7 provides that practice reviews that have not yet been concluded by the commencement of the new regime are to continue to be dealt with by the HKICPA under the new regime, and the conclusion report will be referred to the AFRC for consideration of follow-up actions;
  - (iii) Division 2 of Part 7 provides that investigation cases that have not yet been concluded by the commencement of the new regime will continue to be dealt with in accordance with the HKICPA's procedures under the new regime, and prima facie cases will be referred to the AFRC for consideration of follow-up actions;
  - (iv) Division 3 of Part 7 provides that disciplinary cases that have not yet been concluded by the commencement of the new regime will continue to be dealt with in accordance with the HKICPA's procedures under the new regime;
- (d) Part 8 provides for the transitional arrangements for appeals against relevant decisions made before the commencement of the new regime, including specifying that relevant persons may still appeal to the Court of Appeal in accordance with the mechanism under the PAO; appeal procedures that have not yet been concluded by the commencement of the new regime may continue; and decisions made by the Court of Appeal will not be affected by the new regime;
- (e) Parts 9 and 10 contain other provisions on miscellaneous matters relating to the PAO and its subsidiary legislation, as well as the FRCO as amended by the Amendment Ordinance; and
- (f) Part 11 and the Schedule contain consequential amendments to all relevant ordinances.

18. The Notice of Amendment of Schedule 3B at **Annex C** amends Schedule 3B to the FRCO so as to set the level of fees payable for the following items by aligning them with those currently adopted by the HKICPA:



- (a) the issue of a practising certificate;
- (b) the issue of a renewed practising certificate;
- (c) the application for registration of a firm name or firm;
- (d) the application for renewal of registration of a firm name or firm;
- (e) the application for registration as a corporate practice; and
- (f) the application for renewal of registration as a corporate practice.

## **LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE**

19. The legislative timetable of the Commencement Notice, the Regulation and the Notice of Amendment of Schedule 3B is as follows:

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Publication in the Gazette | 6 May 2022  |
| Tabling at the LegCo       | 11 May 2022 |

## **IMPLICATIONS OF THE SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION**

20. The Commencement Notice, the Regulation and the Notice of Amendment of Schedule 3B are in conformity with the Basic Law, including the provisions concerning human rights, and they will not affect the current binding effect of the existing provisions of the FRCO and the PAO. The subsidiary legislation has no economic, environmental, productivity, family, gender or sustainability implications. The FRC will utilise the unspent balance of the seed capital injected by the Government in 2019 to meet the operational cost of the new regime at the initial stage, and will be funded by the fees collected for practising certificates and registration applications in the long run. Moreover, as the FRC is a statutory body that employs its own staff, the subsidiary legislation will not have financial or civil service implications for the Government.

## **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

21. We consulted the LegCo Panel on Financial Affairs on the subsidiary legislation on 4 April 2022 and received general support from Members. With regard to the Notice of Amendment of Schedule 3B, some members proposed that the fee exemption period for the new regime be extended from one year to three years with a view to alleviating the pressure on the profession during the transition to the new regime. We have explained to Members that as the AFRC will take over major regulatory functions of the accounting profession under the new regime, it is necessary for the AFRC to have

a stable and sustainable source of income to support the related work. To ease the burden of the profession, apart from waiving the fees in the first year of the new regime, we have also align the fee levels with those currently adopted by the HKICPA through the Notice of Amendment of Schedule 3B, so as to ensure that the new regime will not bring additional financial burden to the profession.

## **PUBLICITY**

22. We will issue a press release on the gazettal of the subsidiary legislation and will assign a spokesperson to answer media enquiries.

## **ENQUIRIES**

23. Enquiries relating to this Brief can be directed to Mr Eric LEE, Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Financial Services) at 2528 9016.

**Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau**  
**4 May 2022**

**Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance  
2021 (Commencement) Notice**

Under section 1(2) of the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (41 of 2021), I appoint—

- (a) subject to paragraph (b), 1 October 2022 as the day on which the Ordinance comes into operation; and
- (b) 4 July 2022 as the day on which the following provisions of the Ordinance come into operation—
  - (i) Part 1;
  - (ii) section 5(20);
  - (iii) section 5(21) in so far as it relates to the new definitions of *Advisory Committee* and *PA Ordinance*;
  - (iv) section 14 in so far as it relates to the new section 10B;
  - (v) section 98;
  - (vi) section 100(2) and (26);
  - (vii) section 101(5).

Secretary for Financial Services and  
the Treasury

2022

**Accounting and Financial Reporting Council  
(Transitional and Saving Provisions and Consequential  
Amendments) Regulation**

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## Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

(Made by the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury under  
section 94 of the Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588))

### Part 1

#### Preliminary

#### 1. Commencement

- (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), this Regulation comes into operation on 1 October 2022.
- (2) Part 1 and sections 92 and 98 come into operation on 4 July 2022.
- (3) Section 99(2) and (3), Division 36 of Part 11 and the Schedule come into operation immediately after section 3 of the 2021 Amending Ordinance comes into operation.

#### 2. Interpretation

In this Regulation—

*amended Ordinance* (《經修訂本條例》) means the Ordinance as amended by the 2021 Amending Ordinance and this Regulation;

*Disciplinary Committee* (紀律委員會) means a Disciplinary Committee constituted under section 33(3) of the pre-amended PAO;

*former CPA register* (舊有會計師名冊) means the register of certified public accountants kept under section 22 of the pre-amended PAO;

*pre-amended Ordinance* (《原有本條例》) means the Ordinance as in force immediately before the transition date;

*pre-amended PAO* (《原有專業會計師條例》) means the PA Ordinance as in force immediately before the transition date;

*pre-existing corporate practice* (原有執業法團) means a company—

- (a) that was registered as a corporate practice under the pre-amended PAO; and
- (b) the name of which appeared in the former CPA register immediately before the transition date;

*pre-existing CPA(P) partnership firm* (原有執業會計師合夥事務所) means a firm of certified public accountants (practising)—

- (a) that was registered under the pre-amended PAO; and
- (b) the firm name of which appeared in the former CPA register immediately before the transition date;

*pre-existing CPA(P) sole proprietor* (原有獨營執業會計師) means a certified public accountant (practising) who practises accountancy on the accountant's own account under a firm name that—

- (a) was registered under the pre-amended PAO; and
- (b) appeared in the former CPA register immediately before the transition date;

*pre-existing practising certificate* (原有執業證書) means a practising certificate issued under the pre-amended PAO that was in force immediately before the transition date;

*specified expiry date* (指明屆滿日期) means 31 December 2022;

*transition date* (轉制日期) means 1 October 2022;

*transition time* (轉制時刻) means the time when the transition date begins;

*transitional period* (過渡期) means the period beginning on the transition date and ending on the specified expiry date.

**3. Pre-existing decisions etc. not affected**

Unless otherwise provided in this Regulation, the coming into operation of any provision of the 2021 Amending Ordinance does not affect—

- (a) the validity of any decision, determination, order, direction, sanction or action, or any other act, that was made, given, imposed, taken or done under the pre-amended Ordinance or pre-amended PAO before the transition date; and
- (b) the taking effect of any such decision, determination, order, direction, sanction, action or act.

**4. Provisions not to derogate from section 23 of Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance**

The provisions in this Regulation are in addition to and not in derogation of section 23 of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1).

**Part 2**

**Transitional and Saving Provisions in relation to  
Registration of PIE Auditors under Pre-amended  
Ordinance**

**Division 1—Preliminary**

**5. Interpretation of Part 2**

In this Part—

*effective PIE auditor registration* (有效公眾利益實體核數師註冊)—

- (a) means a registration as a PIE auditor under the pre-amended Ordinance that was in force before the transition date; but
- (b) does not include a registration as a PIE auditor under the pre-amended Ordinance that has expired, or has been revoked, before that date;

*former PIE auditors register* (舊有公眾利益實體核數師名冊) means the register of PIE auditors established under section 20ZX of the pre-amended Ordinance;

*pre-existing PIE auditor registration* (原有公眾利益實體核數師註冊) means—

- (a) an effective PIE auditor registration; or
- (b) a registration to which section 7 applies;

*pre-existing registered PIE auditor* (原有註冊公眾利益實體核數師) means a person registered as a registered PIE auditor under the pre-amended Ordinance;

*pre-existing registration application (PIE auditor)* (原有註冊申請 (公眾利益實體核數師)) means an application made under section 20G of the pre-amended Ordinance.

## Division 2—Effective PIE Auditor Registration and Application for Registration

### 6. Effective PIE auditor registration not affected

- (1) During the transitional period, an effective PIE auditor registration is taken to be a registration as a PIE auditor under the amended Ordinance (*deemed registration*).
- (2) To avoid doubt, subsection (1) does not affect any suspension of an effective PIE auditor registration that was in force immediately before the transition date.
- (3) The suspension—
  - (a) is taken to be a suspension of the deemed registration; and
  - (b) remains in force for the duration of the suspension period.
- (4) In this section—

*suspension period* (暫時吊銷期), in relation to a suspension of an effective PIE auditor registration, means—

  - (a) if the registration is suspended for a period of time—that period; or
  - (b) if the registration is suspended until the occurrence of an event—the period from the taking effect of the suspension to the occurrence of that event.

### 7. Registration granted but not yet taken effect

- (1) If—

- (a) a pre-existing registration application (PIE auditor) was granted before the transition date; and
  - (b) the registration is to take effect on or after that date, this section applies to the registration.
- (2) The validity of the registration, or its taking effect, is not affected only because of the coming into operation of any provision of the 2021 Amending Ordinance.
  - (3) After taking effect, the registration—
    - (a) is taken to be a registration as a PIE auditor under the amended Ordinance; and
    - (b) expires on the specified expiry date.

### 8. Application for registration decided but applicant not yet informed

- (1) This section applies if the HKICPA Council—
  - (a) made a decision under section 20H of the pre-amended Ordinance on a pre-existing registration application (PIE auditor) before the transition date; but
  - (b) at the transition time, has not yet informed the applicant of its decision in accordance with section 20I of the pre-amended Ordinance.
- (2) Section 20I of the pre-amended Ordinance continues to apply in relation to the decision as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (3) Subject to subsection (2), if—
  - (a) the decision was to grant the pre-existing registration application (PIE auditor); and
  - (b) the registration is to take effect on or after the transition date,



the registration is a registration to which section 7 applies.

**9. Pending application for registration**

A pre-existing registration application (PIE auditor) that was pending immediately before the transition date is, on and after the transition date, taken to be an application made under section 20G of the amended Ordinance.

**Division 3—Condition in relation to Registration**

**10. Condition in relation to registration not affected**

If, before the transition date—

- (a) the HKICPA Council decided to impose or amend a condition in relation to a pre-existing PIE auditor registration under section 20S of the pre-amended Ordinance; and
- (b) the decision has taken effect under section 37ZD of the pre-amended Ordinance,

the condition is, on and after the transition date, taken to be a condition imposed or amended (as the case requires) under section 20S of the amended Ordinance.

**11. Decision about condition not yet taken effect**

If—

- (a) before the transition date, the HKICPA Council decided to impose or amend a condition in relation to a pre-existing PIE auditor registration under section 20S of the pre-amended Ordinance; but
- (b) at the transition time, the decision has not yet taken effect under section 37ZD of the pre-amended Ordinance,

the condition is, after the decision takes effect, taken to be a condition imposed or amended (as the case requires) under section 20S of the amended Ordinance.

**12. Auditor not yet informed of decision about condition**

(1) This section applies if the HKICPA Council—

- (a) decided before the transition date to impose or amend a condition in relation to a pre-existing PIE auditor registration under section 20S of the pre-amended Ordinance; but
- (b) at the transition time, has not yet informed the auditor of its decision in accordance with section 20S(3) and (4) of the pre-amended Ordinance.

(2) Section 20S(3) and (4) of the pre-amended Ordinance continues to apply in relation to the decision as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

(3) Subject to subsection (2), the condition is a condition to which section 11 applies.

**Division 4—Registered Responsible Person of PIE Auditor**

**13. Registered responsible person not affected**

If—

- (a) before the transition date, the name of an individual was recorded in the former PIE auditors register as a responsible person of a pre-existing registered PIE auditor;
- (b) at the transition time, the individual is still a responsible person of the auditor; and

- (c) the auditor's registration is a pre-existing PIE auditor registration,

the individual continues to be a registered responsible person of the auditor on and after the transition date.

**14. Decision to add registered responsible person**

- (1) This section applies if—

- (a) a pre-existing registered PIE auditor proposed before the transition date to add the name of a person to the list of registered responsible persons of the auditor under section 20Y of the pre-amended Ordinance;
- (b) the HKICPA Council has made a decision on the proposal before that date; and
- (c) the auditor's registration is a pre-existing PIE auditor registration.

- (2) If—

- (a) the decision is a decision to add the name as proposed; but
- (b) at the transition time, the name has not yet been added, the AFRC is to add the name to the list of registered responsible persons of the auditor.

- (3) If, at the transition time, the HKICPA Council has not yet informed the auditor of its decision in accordance with section 20Y(4) and (5) of the pre-amended Ordinance (*pre-amended provision*), the pre-amended provision continues to apply in relation to the decision as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

**15. Pending proposal to add registered responsible person**

If—

- (a) a pre-existing registered PIE auditor proposed before the transition date to add the name of a person to the list of registered responsible persons of the auditor under section 20Y of the pre-amended Ordinance;
- (b) at the transition time, the HKICPA Council has not yet made any decision on the proposal; and
- (c) the auditor's registration is a pre-existing PIE auditor registration,

the proposal is, on and after the transition date, taken to be a proposal under section 20Y of the amended Ordinance.

**Division 5—Revocation and Suspension of Registration on  
Non-disciplinary Ground**

**16. Decision about revocation and suspension of registration not yet taken effect**

- (1) This section applies if—

- (a) the HKICPA Council decided before the transition date to revoke or suspend a pre-existing PIE auditor registration under section 20T or 20X of the pre-amended Ordinance;
- (b) at the transition time, the decision has not yet taken effect under section 37ZD of the pre-amended Ordinance; and
- (c) the registration is, under section 6 or 7, taken to be a registration as a PIE auditor under the amended Ordinance (*deemed registration*).

- (2) If, at the transition time, the HKICPA Council has not yet informed the auditor of the section 20T decision or section 20X decision in accordance with the relevant provision, that relevant provision continues to apply in relation to the decision as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

(3) When the section 20T decision or section 20X decision takes effect, the revocation or suspension has effect as a revocation or suspension of the deemed registration.

(4) In this section—

*relevant provision* (有關條文)—

(a) in relation to a section 20T decision—means section 20T(4) and (5) of the pre-amended Ordinance; and

(b) in relation to a section 20X decision—means section 20X(5) and (6) of the pre-amended Ordinance;

*section 20T decision* (第 20T 條決定) means a decision made under section 20T of the pre-amended Ordinance to revoke or suspend a pre-existing PIE auditor registration;

*section 20X decision* (第 20X 條決定) means a decision made under section 20X of the pre-amended Ordinance to revoke or suspend a pre-existing PIE auditor registration.

**17. Pending matter under sections 20T and 20X of pre-amended Ordinance**

If, before the transition date—

(a) there was a situation because of which a pre-existing PIE auditor registration could have been subject to revocation or suspension under section 20T or 20X of the pre-amended Ordinance (*revocation or suspension matter*); but

(b) no decision has been made under the pre-amended Ordinance in relation to the revocation or suspension matter,

the AFRC is to, on and after that date, deal with the matter in accordance with the amended Ordinance.

**Division 6—Notification Requirement**

**18. Notification requirement under sections 20Z and 20ZA of pre-amended Ordinance**

If—

(a) before the transition date, a pre-existing registered PIE auditor was required under section 20Z or 20ZA of the pre-amended Ordinance to inform the HKICPA Council of a change;

(b) the auditor has not done so before that date; and

(c) the auditor's registration is a pre-existing PIE auditor registration,

that section continues to apply, on and after that date, in relation to the change with the modification that “the AFRC” is substituted for “the HKICPA Council”.

**Division 7—Copy of Former PIE Auditors Register**

**19. Copy of former PIE auditors register certified by HKICPA continues to be admissible**

In any legal proceedings—

(a) a document purporting—

(i) to be a copy of an entry in, or an extract of, the former PIE auditors register; and

(ii) to be certified by an authorized officer of the HKICPA under section 20ZY(2)(b) of the pre-amended Ordinance as a true copy of the entry or extract,

is admissible in evidence on its production without further proof; and

- (b) unless there is evidence to the contrary, on being admitted in evidence under paragraph (a), the document—
  - (i) is presumed to be certified by an authorized officer of the HKICPA;
  - (ii) is presumed to be a true copy of the entry or extract; and
  - (iii) is proof of its contents.

### Division 8—Review and Appeal

#### 20. Interpretation of Division 8 of Part 2

In this Division—

*previous decision* (先前決定) means a decision that falls within paragraph (a)(i) of the definition of *specified decision* in section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance.

#### 21. Remission of previous decision on review

- (1) This section applies to the review of a previous decision under Division 3 of Part 3C of the amended Ordinance.
- (2) For the purposes of section 37T(1)(b) of the amended Ordinance, the AFRC is, on and after the transition date, taken to be the decision authority in relation to the previous decision.

#### 22. Remission of previous decision on appeal

- (1) This section applies to an appeal under Division 5 of Part 3C of the amended Ordinance against a determination of the Tribunal in relation to a previous decision.

- (2) For the purposes of section 37ZH(1)(d) of the amended Ordinance, the AFRC is, on and after the transition date, taken to be the decision authority in relation to the previous decision.

## Part 3

### Transitional and Saving Provisions in relation to Practising Certificate under Pre-amended PAO

#### Division 1—Interpretation

#### 23. Interpretation of Part 3

In this Part—

*deemed CPA(P)* (視同執業會計師)—see sections 24(2) and 26(6);

*deemed practising certificate* (視同執業證書)—see sections 24(1)  
and 26(4);

*pre-existing practising certificate application* (原有執業申請)  
means an application for a practising certificate made under the  
pre-amended PAO.

#### Division 2—Pre-existing Practising Certificate

#### 24. Pre-existing practising certificate and its holder

- (1) During the transitional period, a pre-existing practising certificate is taken to be a practising certificate issued under section 20AAD of the amended Ordinance (*deemed practising certificate*).
- (2) Accordingly, the holder of a deemed practising certificate is taken to be a certified public accountant (practising) as defined by section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance (*deemed CPA(P)*).
- (3) Also, a condition—
  - (a) imposed under the pre-amended PAO in relation to a deemed practising certificate; and

- (b) in force immediately before the transition date,  
is taken to be a condition imposed under section 20AAB(3) of  
the amended Ordinance.

#### Division 3—Pre-existing Practising Certificate Application

#### 25. Pending pre-existing practising certificate application

- (1) A pre-existing practising certificate application that was pending immediately before the transition date is, on and after the transition date, taken to be an application made under section 20AA of the amended Ordinance (*deemed practising certificate application*).
- (2) Accordingly, Subdivision 1 of Division 1 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to a deemed practising certificate application.

#### 26. Decision made to grant pre-existing practising certificate application but practising certificate not yet issued

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
  - (a) the HKICPA Council decided to grant a pre-existing practising certificate application; but
  - (b) a practising certificate under the pre-amended PAO (*PAO practising certificate*) has not been issued to the applicant.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the HKICPA Council is regarded as having decided to grant the application if the HKICPA Council is satisfied that the applicant has complied with the requirements under the pre-amended PAO for the issue of a PAO practising certificate.
- (3) On and after the transition date, the PAO practising certificate is to be issued to the applicant in accordance with the pre-

amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

- (4) The PAO practising certificate so issued is taken to be a practising certificate issued under section 20AAD of the amended Ordinance (*deemed practising certificate*).
- (5) A deemed practising certificate expires on the specified expiry date.
- (6) Accordingly, the holder of a deemed practising certificate is taken to be a certified public accountant (practising) as defined by section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance (*deemed CPA(P)*).

**27. Decision made to refuse pre-existing practising certificate application but applicant not yet informed**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
  - (a) the HKICPA Council decided to refuse a pre-existing practising certificate application; but
  - (b) the HKICPA Registrar has not yet informed the applicant of the decision.
- (2) On and after the transition date, the provisions of the pre-amended PAO relating to the requirement to inform the applicant of the decision continue to apply as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

**Division 4—Cancellation or Suspension of Practising Certificate under Pre-amended PAO**

**28. Decision on cancellation or suspension not yet made**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
  - (a) there was a situation because of which a pre-existing practising certificate could have been subject to

cancellation or suspension under the pre-amended PAO (*pending matter*); but

- (b) no decision has been made by the HKICPA Council regarding the pending matter.
- (2) On and after the transition date, section 20AAO of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the pending matter.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), the date of issue referred to in section 20AAO(1)(a) of the amended Ordinance is the date of issue of the pre-existing practising certificate.

**Division 5—Application of Amended Ordinance to Deemed Practising Certificate**

**29. Application for renewal of deemed practising certificate**

Subdivision 2 of Division 1 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the first application by a deemed CPA(P) for the renewal of the deemed practising certificate.

**30. Cancellation or suspension of deemed practising certificate**

Subdivision 4 of Division 1 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the cancellation or suspension of the deemed practising certificate held by a deemed CPA(P).

## Part 4

### Transitional and Saving Provisions in relation to Registration of Firm Name or Firm under Pre-amended PAO

#### Division 1—Interpretation

##### 31. Interpretation of Part 4

In this Part—

*deemed CPA(P) partnership firm* (視同執業會計師合夥事務所)—see sections 33(1) and 35(2)(b);

*deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor* (視同獨營執業會計師)—see sections 32(1) and 35(2)(a);

*pre-existing registration application (firm)* (原有註冊申請(事務所)) means an application for registration of a firm name or firm made under the pre-amended PAO.

#### Division 2—Pre-existing CPA(P) Sole Proprietor and Pre-existing CPA(P) Partnership Firm

##### 32. Pre-existing CPA(P) sole proprietor

- (1) During the transitional period, a pre-existing CPA(P) sole proprietor is taken to be a certified public accountant (practising) who practises accountancy on the accountant's own account under a firm name registered under Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance (*deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor*).

- (2) Accordingly, paragraph (a) of the definition of *CPA firm* in section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance includes a deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor.
- (3) Also, the certificate of registration issued under the pre-amended PAO to a deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor is taken to be a certificate of registration issued under section 20AAV of the amended Ordinance.

##### 33. Pre-existing CPA(P) partnership firm

- (1) During the transitional period, a pre-existing CPA(P) partnership firm is taken to be a firm of certified public accountants (practising) that practises accountancy in partnership and that is registered under Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance (*deemed CPA(P) partnership firm*).
- (2) Accordingly, paragraph (b) of the definition of *CPA firm* in section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance includes a deemed CPA(P) partnership firm.
- (3) Also, the certificate of registration issued under the pre-amended PAO to a deemed CPA(P) partnership firm is taken to be a certificate of registration issued under section 20AAV of the amended Ordinance.

#### Division 3—Pre-existing Registration Application (Firm)

##### 34. Pending pre-existing registration application (firm)

- (1) A pre-existing registration application (firm) that was pending immediately before the transition date is, on and after the transition date, taken to be an application made under section 20AAS of the amended Ordinance (*deemed registration application (firm)*).

- (2) Accordingly, Subdivision 1 of Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to a deemed registration application (firm).

**35. Order to approve pre-existing registration application (firm) made but applicant's firm name or applicant not yet registered**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
- (a) the HKICPA Council ordered that a pre-existing registration application (firm) be approved; but
  - (b) the HKICPA Registrar has neither registered the applicant's firm name or the applicant under the pre-amended PAO nor issued a certificate of registration to the applicant.
- (2) During the transitional period, the applicant is taken to be—
- (a) if the applicant is a PAO certified public accountant (practising)—a certified public accountant (practising) who practises accountancy on the accountant's own account under a firm name registered under Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance (*deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor*); or
  - (b) if the applicant is a firm of PAO certified public accountants (practising)—a firm of certified public accountants (practising) that practises accountancy in partnership and that is registered under Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance (*deemed CPA(P) partnership firm*).
- (3) Accordingly—
- (a) paragraph (a) of the definition of *CPA firm* in section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance includes a deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor; or

- (b) paragraph (b) of the definition of *CPA firm* in section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance includes a deemed CPA(P) partnership firm.

- (4) Also, a certificate of registration is to be issued on or after the transition date to the applicant in accordance with the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (5) The certificate of registration so issued is taken to be a certificate of registration issued under section 20AAV of the amended Ordinance.
- (6) In subsection (2)—

*PAO certified public accountant (practising)* (《原會計師條例》執業會計師) means a certified public accountant (practising) as defined by section 2(1) of the pre-amended PAO.

**36. Applicant's firm name or applicant registered but certificate of registration not yet issued**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
- (a) the HKICPA Council ordered that a pre-existing registration application (firm) be approved; and
  - (b) the HKICPA Registrar—
    - (i) has registered the applicant's firm name or the applicant under the pre-amended PAO; but
    - (ii) has not issued a certificate of registration to the applicant.
- (2) A certificate of registration is to be issued on or after the transition date to the applicant in accordance with the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.



- (3) The certificate of registration so issued is taken to be a certificate of registration issued under section 20AAV of the amended Ordinance.

**37. Order to reject pre-existing registration application (firm) made but not yet served**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
- (a) the HKICPA Council ordered that a pre-existing registration application (firm) be rejected; but
  - (b) the HKICPA Registrar has not served the order on the applicant or refunded the registration fee to the applicant.
- (2) On and after the transition date, the provisions of the pre-amended PAO relating to the requirements to serve the order and to refund the registration fee continue to apply as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

**Division 4—Removal of Firm Name under Pre-amended  
PAO**

**38. Order to remove firm name not yet made**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
- (a) there was a situation because of which the firm name of a pre-existing CPA(P) sole proprietor or pre-existing CPA(P) partnership firm could have been ordered by the HKICPA Council to be removed from the former CPA register under the pre-amended PAO (*pending matter*); but
  - (b) no order has been made by the HKICPA Council regarding the pending matter.

- (2) On and after the transition date, section 20AAZH of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the pending matter.

**39. Order made to remove firm name but firm name not yet removed**

- (1) This section applies—
- (a) if, before the transition date—
    - (i) the firm name of a pre-existing CPA(P) sole proprietor or pre-existing CPA(P) partnership firm was ordered by the HKICPA Council to be removed from the former CPA register (*specified order*); but
    - (ii) the firm name has not been so removed; and
  - (b) if—
    - (i) the pre-existing CPA(P) sole proprietor is a deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor within the meaning of section 32(1) (*continued CPA(P) sole proprietor*); or
    - (ii) the pre-existing CPA(P) partnership firm is a deemed CPA(P) partnership firm within the meaning of section 33(1) (*continued CPA(P) partnership firm*).
- (2) Subject to subsections (3), (4), (5) and (6), on and after the transition date, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the specified order as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (3) If the outcome of the application of the pre-amended PAO is that the firm name of the continued CPA(P) sole proprietor or continued CPA(P) partnership firm would have been removed from the former CPA register, the HKICPA Registrar must inform the AFRC of the outcome.

- (4) The AFRC must then take steps to ensure that the firm name of the continued CPA(P) sole proprietor or continued CPA(P) partnership firm ceases to appear in the AFRC register.
- (5) Accordingly, with effect from the time of the cessation—
  - (a) the continued CPA(P) sole proprietor ceases to be a certified public accountant (practising) who practises accountancy on the accountant's own account under a firm name registered under Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance; or
  - (b) the continued CPA(P) partnership firm ceases to be a firm of certified public accountants (practising) that practises accountancy in partnership and that is registered under Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance.
- (6) Also, the certificate of registration of the continued CPA(P) sole proprietor or continued CPA(P) partnership firm ceases to have effect.
- (7) To avoid doubt, after the steps are taken under subsection (4), the pre-amended PAO continues to apply as if the firm name of the continued CPA(P) sole proprietor or continued CPA(P) partnership firm had been removed from the former CPA register under the pre-amended PAO.

**40. Firm name already removed**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date, a firm name was removed from the former CPA register pursuant to an order of the HKICPA Council under the pre-amended PAO (*removal*).
- (2) On and after the transition date, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the removal as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

**Division 5—Application of Amended Ordinance to Deemed  
CPA(P) Sole Proprietor and Deemed CPA(P) Partnership  
Firm**

- 41. Application for renewal of registration by deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor and deemed CPA(P) partnership firm**
  - (1) Subdivision 2 of Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the first application by a deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor for renewal of the registration of the firm name under which the sole proprietor practises.
  - (2) Subdivision 2 of Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the first application by a deemed CPA(P) partnership firm for renewal of the registration of the firm (including the firm name).
- 42. Revocation or suspension of registration of firm name or firm in relation to deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor and deemed CPA(P) partnership firm**

Subdivision 4 of Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the revocation or suspension of—

  - (a) the registration of the firm name under which a deemed CPA(P) sole proprietor practises; or
  - (b) the registration of a deemed CPA(P) partnership firm and of the firm name under which the firm practises.

## Part 5

### Transitional and Saving Provisions in relation to Registration of Corporate Practice under Pre-amended PAO

#### Division 1—Interpretation

#### 43. Interpretation of Part 5

In this Part—

*deemed corporate practice* (視同執業法團)—see sections 44(1) and 46(2);

*pre-existing registration application (corporate practice)* (原有註冊申請(法團)) means an application for registration as a corporate practice made under the pre-amended PAO.

#### Division 2—Pre-existing Corporate Practice

#### 44. Pre-existing corporate practice

- (1) During the transitional period, a pre-existing corporate practice is taken to be a company registered as a corporate practice under Division 3 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance (*deemed corporate practice*).
- (2) Accordingly, the definition of *corporate practice* in section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance includes a deemed corporate practice.
- (3) Also, a condition—
  - (a) imposed under the pre-amended PAO in relation to the registration of a deemed corporate practice; and

(b) in force immediately before the transition date, is taken to be a condition imposed under section 20AAZZG(3)(a) of the amended Ordinance (*deemed condition*).

- (4) For the purpose of applying section 20AAZZG(4) of the amended Ordinance in relation to a deemed condition, the period within which the condition must be complied with (*compliance period*) as specified by the HKICPA Council is taken to be a compliance period specified by the AFRC.
- (5) Further, the certificate of registration issued under the pre-amended PAO to a deemed corporate practice is taken to be a certificate of registration issued under section 20AAZP of the amended Ordinance.

#### Division 3—Pre-existing Registration Application (Corporate Practice)

#### 45. Pending pre-existing registration application (corporate practice)

- (1) A pre-existing registration application (corporate practice) that was pending immediately before the transition date is, on and after the transition date, taken to be an application made under section 20AAZM of the amended Ordinance (*deemed registration application (corporate practice)*).
- (2) Accordingly, Subdivision 1 of Division 3 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to a deemed registration application (corporate practice).

#### 46. Order to approve pre-existing registration application (corporate practice) made but applicant not yet registered

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—

- (a) the HKICPA Council ordered that a pre-existing registration application (corporate practice) be approved; but
  - (b) the HKICPA Registrar has neither registered the applicant under the pre-amended PAO nor issued a certificate of registration to the applicant.
- (2) During the transitional period, the applicant is taken to be a company registered as a corporate practice under Division 3 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance (*deemed corporate practice*).
- (3) Accordingly, the definition of *corporate practice* in section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance includes a deemed corporate practice.
- (4) Also, a certificate of registration is to be issued on or after the transition date to the applicant in accordance with the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (5) The certificate of registration so issued is taken to be a certificate of registration issued under section 20AAZP of the amended Ordinance.

**47. Applicant registered but certificate of registration not yet issued**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
- (a) the HKICPA Council ordered that a pre-existing registration application (corporate practice) be approved; and
  - (b) the HKICPA Registrar—
    - (i) has registered the applicant under the pre-amended PAO; but

- (ii) has not issued a certificate of registration to the applicant.
- (2) A certificate of registration is to be issued on or after the transition date to the applicant in accordance with the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (3) The certificate of registration so issued is taken to be a certificate of registration issued under section 20AAZP of the amended Ordinance.

**48. Order to reject pre-existing registration application (corporate practice) made but not yet served**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
- (a) the HKICPA Council ordered that a pre-existing registration application (corporate practice) be rejected; but
  - (b) the HKICPA Registrar has not served the order on the applicant or refunded the registration fee to the applicant.
- (2) On and after the transition date, the provisions of the pre-amended PAO relating to the requirements to serve the order and to refund the registration fee continue to apply as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

**Division 4—Removal of Name of Corporate Practice under Pre-amended PAO**

**49. Pending application for removal of name of corporate practice**

- (1) An application for the removal of the name of a pre-existing corporate practice from the former CPA register made under the pre-amended PAO that was pending immediately before the transition date is, on and after the transition date, taken to be a

request under section 20AAZZB(3)(a) of the amended Ordinance (*deemed request*).

- (2) Accordingly, section 20AAZZB of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to a deemed request.

**50. Order to remove name of corporate practice not yet made under section 27 of pre-amended PAO**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—

(a) there was a situation because of which the name of a pre-existing corporate practice could have been ordered by the HKICPA Council to be removed from the former CPA register under section 27 of the pre-amended PAO (*pending matter*); but

(b) no order has been made by the HKICPA Council regarding the pending matter.

- (2) On and after the transition date, section 20AAZZB of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the pending matter.

**51. Direction to remove name of corporate practice not yet given under section 28D of pre-amended PAO**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—

(a) there was a situation because of which the name of a pre-existing corporate practice could have been directed by the HKICPA Council to be removed from the former CPA register under section 28D of the pre-amended PAO (*pending matter*); but

(b) no direction has been given by the HKICPA Council regarding the pending matter.

- (2) On and after the transition date—

(a) the AFRC is to deal with the pending matter as if it were a matter for revocation or suspension of the registration of the pre-existing corporate practice under section 20AAZZB(3) of the amended Ordinance; and

(b) for the purposes of the amended Ordinance, a revocation or suspension (if any) pursuant to paragraph (a) is taken to be a revocation or suspension under that section.

**52. Order made or direction given to remove name of corporate practice but name not yet removed**

- (1) This section applies if—

(a) before the transition date—

(i) the name of a pre-existing corporate practice—

(A) was ordered by the HKICPA Council to be removed from the former CPA register under section 27 of the pre-amended PAO (*section 27 order*); or

(B) was directed by the HKICPA Council to be removed from the former CPA register under section 28D of the pre-amended PAO (*section 28D direction*); but

(ii) the name has not been so removed; and

(b) the pre-existing corporate practice is a deemed corporate practice within the meaning of section 44(1) (*continued corporate practice*).

- (2) Subject to subsections (3), (4), (5) and (6), on and after the transition date, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the section 27 order or section 28D direction as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

- (3) If the outcome of the application of the pre-amended PAO is that the name of the continued corporate practice would have been removed from the former CPA register, the HKICPA Registrar must inform the AFRC of the outcome.
- (4) The AFRC must then take steps to ensure that the name of the continued corporate practice ceases to appear in the AFRC register.
- (5) Accordingly, with effect from the time of the cessation, the continued corporate practice ceases to be a company registered as a corporate practice under Division 3 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance.
- (6) Also, the certificate of registration of the continued corporate practice ceases to have effect.
- (7) To avoid doubt, after the steps are taken under subsection (4), the pre-amended PAO continues to apply as if the name of the continued corporate practice had been removed from the former CPA register under the pre-amended PAO.

**53. Name of corporate practice already removed**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date, the name of a corporate practice was removed from the former CPA register pursuant to an order or direction of the HKICPA Council under section 27 or 28D of the pre-amended PAO (*removal*).
- (2) On and after the transition date, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the removal as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

**Division 5—Notification Requirements on Corporate  
Practice under Pre-amended PAO**

**54. Notification requirement under section 28D(6)(a) of pre-amended PAO**

- (1) This section applies to a cessation of which notice is required to be given to the HKICPA Council under section 28D(6)(a) of the pre-amended PAO (*PAO provision*).
- (2) On and after the transition date, the PAO provision continues to apply with the modification that “the AFRC” is substituted for “the Council” if—
  - (a) the cessation occurred before the transition date; but
  - (b) at the transition time—
    - (i) no notice has been given under that provision; and
    - (ii) the time limit for giving notice under that provision has not ended.
- (3) A failure to comply with the modified PAO provision is taken to be a failure under section 3B(4)(b) of the amended Ordinance.
- (4) A notice given to the AFRC under the modified PAO provision is taken to be a notice under section 20AAZZG(2) of the amended Ordinance.
- (5) In this section—

*modified PAO provision* (經變通原條文) means section 28D(6)(a) of the pre-amended PAO modified as described in subsection (2).

**55. Notice given under section 28D(6)(a) of pre-amended PAO before transition date**

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
  - (a) notice of cessation was given to the HKICPA Council under section 28D(6)(a) of the pre-amended PAO; but
  - (b) the HKICPA Council has not exercised the power under section 28D(6)(c) of the pre-amended PAO.
- (2) The HKICPA Council must inform the AFRC of the matter referred to in subsection (1).
- (3) On and after the transition date, the notice referred to in subsection (1)(a) is taken to be a notice under section 20AAZZG(2) of the amended Ordinance.

**56. Notification requirement under section 28H(1) of pre-amended PAO**

- (1) This section applies to a proposal of which notice is required to be sent to the HKICPA Registrar under section 28H(1) of the pre-amended PAO (*PAO provision*).
- (2) On and after the transition date, the PAO provision continues to apply with the modification that “the AFRC” is substituted for “the Registrar” if—
  - (a) the proposal was made before the transition date; but
  - (b) at the transition time—
    - (i) no notice has been sent under that provision; and
    - (ii) the time limit for sending notice under that provision has not ended.
- (3) A failure to comply with the PAO provision modified as described in subsection (2) is taken to be a failure under section 20AAZZH(6) of the amended Ordinance.

**57. Notification requirement under section 28H(2) of pre-amended PAO**

- (1) This section applies to an alteration or addition to articles of association (*amendment*) of which notice is required to be given to the HKICPA Registrar under section 28H(2) of the pre-amended PAO (*PAO provision*).
- (2) On and after the transition date, the PAO provision continues to apply with the modification that “the AFRC” is substituted for “the Registrar” if—
  - (a) the amendment was made before the transition date; but
  - (b) at the transition time—
    - (i) no notice has been given under that provision; and
    - (ii) the time limit for giving notice under that provision has not ended.
- (3) A failure to comply with the PAO provision modified as described in subsection (2) is taken to be a failure under section 20AAZZH(6) of the amended Ordinance.

**Division 6—Application of Amended Ordinance to Deemed Corporate Practice**

**58. Application for renewal of registration by deemed corporate practice**

Subdivision 2 of Division 3 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the first application by a deemed corporate practice for renewal of its registration.

**59. Revocation or suspension of registration of deemed corporate practice**

Subdivision 4 of Division 3 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the revocation or suspension of the registration of a deemed corporate practice.

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**Part 6**

**Transitional and Saving Provisions in relation to  
Practice Unit under Pre-amended PAO**

**60. Pre-existing practice unit**

- (1) During the transitional period, a person that was a practice unit under the pre-amended PAO immediately before the transition date is taken to be a practice unit under the amended Ordinance (*deemed practice unit*).
  - (2) Accordingly, the definition of *practice unit* in section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance includes a deemed practice unit.
  - (3) Also, the provisions of the amended Ordinance that apply in relation to a practice unit as defined by section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance apply in relation to a deemed practice unit.
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## Part 7

### Transitional and Saving Provisions in relation to Practice Review, Investigation and Disciplinary Proceedings under Pre-amended PAO

#### Division 1—Practice Review

##### 61. Interpretation of Division 1 of Part 7

In this Division—

*practice review* (執業審核) means an examination or a review described in section 32B(1)(b) of the pre-amended PAO.

##### 62. Ongoing practice review

(1) This section applies if—

(a) before the transition date, the HKICPA Council issued directions to the Practice Review Committee under section 32B(1)(b) of the pre-amended PAO requiring a practice review to be carried out; but

(b) at the transition time, the practice review has not yet been concluded.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), the practice review is to continue to be dealt with under the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

(3) The Practice Review Committee must not, in relation to the practice review, exercise the powers conferred by section 32D(2), (3) and (5) of the pre-amended PAO.

(4) After a conclusion report is made to the Practice Review Committee, the Committee must refer the report to the AFRC.

(5) Section 20ZZE of the amended Ordinance applies in relation to the conclusion report and practice review as if—

(a) the report were an inspection report prepared and submitted to the AFRC under section 20ZZD(1) of the amended Ordinance;

(b) the practice review were an inspection under Division 2 of Part 3AA of the amended Ordinance; and

(c) the PAO practice unit to which the practice review relates were a practice unit.

(6) In this section—

*conclusion report* (完結報告), in relation to a practice review, means a report made under section 32C(3) of the pre-amended PAO at the conclusion of the review;

*PAO practice unit* (《原會計師條例》執業單位) means practice unit as defined by section 2(1) of the pre-amended PAO;

*Practice Review Committee* (執業審核委員會) means the committee established under section 32A of the pre-amended PAO.

##### 63. Continued application of immunity and secrecy provisions in relation to practice review

(1) Section 32G of the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to a continued review as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

(2) Section 32H of the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to a continued review with the following modifications—

(a) the references to the FRC in subsection (2)(b) of that section (*that subsection*) are to be construed as references to the AFRC; and

- (b) the reference to the Financial Reporting Council Ordinance in that subsection is to be construed as a reference to the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance.
- (3) In this section—  
*continued review* (延續審核) means a practice review in relation to which section 62 applies.

### Division 2—Investigation

#### 64. Interpretation of Division 2 of Part 7

In this Division—

*investigable matter* (可調查事宜) means a matter—

- (a) that allegedly occurred before the transition date; and  
(b) in relation to which the HKICPA Council could exercise its power under section 42C(2) of the pre-amended PAO.

#### 65. Investigable matter not yet investigated

- (1) If the HKICPA Council did not exercise its power under section 42C(2) of the pre-amended PAO in relation to an investigable matter before the transition date, the HKICPA Council must inform the AFRC of the matter, and the AFRC—
- (a) may direct an investigation to be carried out in relation to the matter under Division 3 of Part 3AA of the amended Ordinance; and  
(b) if satisfied that the matter did occur—may deal with the matter under Part 3B of the amended Ordinance as if the matter were a case of CPA misconduct.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the person investigated is taken to be a professional person.

#### 66. Investigation in progress

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) before the transition date, an Investigation Committee was constituted under section 42C(2)(a) of the pre-amended PAO to consider an investigable matter; but  
(b) at the transition time, the Investigation Committee has not yet informed the HKICPA Council of its opinion on the matter.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the investigable matter is to continue to be dealt with under the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (3) If eventually the Investigation Committee informs the HKICPA Council that in its opinion there is a prima facie case against the person investigated, the HKICPA Council—
- (a) must refer the investigable matter to the AFRC; and  
(b) must not take any action under section 42C(1) of the pre-amended PAO in relation to the matter.
- (4) After the investigable matter is referred to the AFRC under subsection (3), the AFRC may deal with the person under Part 3B of the amended Ordinance as if the person were a professional person alleged to be guilty of CPA misconduct.

#### 67. Investigation Committee's opinion not yet acted on

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) before the transition date, an Investigation Committee was constituted under section 42C(2)(a) of the pre-amended PAO to consider an investigable matter; and  
(b) at the transition time—

- (i) the Investigation Committee has informed the HKICPA Council that in its opinion there is a prima facie case against the person investigated; but
- (ii) the HKICPA Council has not yet taken any action under section 42C(1) of the pre-amended PAO in relation to the matter.

(2) The HKICPA Council—

- (a) must refer the investigable matter to the AFRC; and
- (b) must not take any action under section 42C(1) of the pre-amended PAO in relation to the matter.

- (3) After the investigable matter is referred to the AFRC under subsection (2), the AFRC may deal with the person under Part 3B of the amended Ordinance as if the person were a professional person alleged to be guilty of CPA misconduct.

**68. Continued application of secrecy and immunity provisions in relation to investigable matter**

- (1) Section 42G of the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to a continued matter with the following modifications—
- (a) the references to the FRC in subsection (2)(b) of that section (*that subsection*) are to be construed as references to the AFRC; and
  - (b) the reference to the Financial Reporting Council Ordinance in that subsection is to be construed as a reference to the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance.
- (2) Section 42H of the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to a continued matter as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

- (3) In this section—

*continued matter* (延續事宜) means an investigable matter in relation to which section 65, 66 or 67 applies.

### Division 3—Disciplinary Proceedings

#### Subdivision 1—Interpretation and Application

**69. Interpretation of Division 3 of Part 7**

- (1) In this Division—

*final disciplinary order* (最終紀律處分命令) means a PAO disciplinary order that has taken effect as described in subsection (2);

*FRC* (財匯局) has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the pre-amended Ordinance;

*PAO disciplinary order* (《原會計師條例》紀律處分命令) means—

- (a) an order referred to in section 73(3) or 74(1); or
- (b) an order referred to in section 73(4) or 75(1);

*PAO misconduct* (《原會計師條例》失當行為) means an act, omission, conviction or punishment to which section 71 applies;

*relevant professional person* (有關專業人士) means—

- (a) a certified public accountant (practising);
- (b) a CPA firm; or
- (c) a corporate practice.

- (2) For the purposes of the definition of *final disciplinary order* in subsection (1)—

- (a) an order referred to in paragraph (a) of the definition of *PAO disciplinary order* in that subsection takes effect when it takes effect in accordance with—
  - (i) section 35(1)(i) and (ii) of the pre-amended PAO; and
  - (ii) section 38(2) of the pre-amended PAO as modified by section 76; and
- (b) an order referred to in paragraph (b) of the definition of *PAO disciplinary order* in that subsection takes effect when it takes effect in accordance with section 35(1)(i) and (ii) of the pre-amended PAO.

**70. Non-application of Part 3C of amended Ordinance**

To avoid doubt, nothing in this Division is to be construed as—

- (a) applying Part 3C of the amended Ordinance to a PAO disciplinary order or a final disciplinary order; or
- (b) enabling a review of, or an appeal from, such an order under that Part.

**Subdivision 2—PAO Disciplinary Matters to be Dealt with under Amended Ordinance**

**71. Complaint not made**

- (1) This section applies to an act or omission, or a conviction or punishment—
  - (a) that was done or made, or took place, before the transition date; and
  - (b) in respect of which a complaint could be made under section 34(1) of the pre-amended PAO (*complaint provision*) against a person.

- (2) If no complaint was made about the PAO misconduct under the complaint provision before the transition date, the AFRC may deal with the misconduct under Part 3B of the amended Ordinance as if the misconduct were CPA misconduct and the person were a professional person.

**72. Complaint made but not yet submitted**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) before the transition date, a complaint was made to the HKICPA Registrar under section 34(1) of the pre-amended PAO about any PAO misconduct; but
  - (b) at the transition time, the HKICPA Registrar has not yet submitted the complaint to the HKICPA Council.
- (2) The HKICPA Registrar must refer the complaint to the AFRC.
- (3) After the complaint is referred to the AFRC under subsection (2), the AFRC may deal with the complaint under Part 3B of the amended Ordinance as if the person against whom the complaint was made were a professional person alleged to be guilty of CPA misconduct.

**Subdivision 3—PAO Disciplinary Matters to be Dealt with under Pre-amended PAO**

**73. Complaint already submitted**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) before the transition date, a complaint was submitted to the HKICPA Council under section 34(1) of the pre-amended PAO; and
  - (b) at the transition time, the complaint is still being, or has not yet been, dealt with under the pre-amended PAO.

- (2) The complaint is to continue to be dealt with under the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (3) If, pursuant to subsection (2), an order is made under section 35(1) of the pre-amended PAO in relation to the complaint—
  - (a) the order may be appealed against under section 41 of the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation;
  - (b) subject to sections 76 and 77, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the order and, if the order is varied on appeal, the order so varied as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation; and
  - (c) for an order made against a relevant professional person—the Disciplinary Committee must inform the AFRC of the order and, if the order is varied on appeal, the order so varied.
- (4) If, pursuant to subsection (2), an order is made under section 35B(3) of the pre-amended PAO in relation to the complaint—
  - (a) subject to sections 76 and 77, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the order as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation; and
  - (b) for an order made against a relevant professional person—the Disciplinary Committee must inform the AFRC of the order.

**74. Disciplinary order made under section 35(1) of pre-amended PAO but not yet taken effect**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) before the transition date, an order was made under section 35(1) of the pre-amended PAO; but

- (b) at the transition time, the order has not yet taken effect in accordance with sections 35(1)(i) and (ii) and 38(2) of the pre-amended PAO.
- (2) The order may be appealed against, or continue to be appealed against, under section 41 of the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (3) Subject to sections 76 and 77, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the order and, if the order is varied on appeal, the order so varied as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (4) If the order is made against a relevant professional person, the Disciplinary Committee must inform the AFRC of the order and, if the order is varied on appeal, the order so varied.

**75. Disciplinary order made under section 35B(3) of pre-amended PAO but not yet taken effect**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) before the transition date, an order was made under section 35B(3) of the pre-amended PAO; but
  - (b) at the transition time, the order has not yet taken effect in accordance with section 35(1)(i) and (ii) of the pre-amended PAO.
- (2) Subject to sections 76 and 77, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the order as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (3) If the order is made against a relevant professional person, the Disciplinary Committee must inform the AFRC of the order.

**76. Taking effect of disciplinary order**

Section 38 of the pre-amended PAO (*that section*) applies to an order referred to in section 73(3) or 74(1) with the modification that the following provision is substituted for subsection (2) of that section—

- “(2) Despite section 35(1)(i) and (ii), an order made under section 35(1) can take effect only after—
- (a) the expiry of the 30-day period beginning after the date of service of the order on the person against whom the order is made; or
  - (b) if the order is appealed against under section 41—the appeal is finally determined as described in section 2(2).”.

**77. Effect of final disciplinary order**

- (1) This section applies to a final disciplinary order.
- (2) If the order is an order to cancel a pre-existing practising certificate, it has effect as a sanction to cancel a practising certificate.
- (3) If the order is an order that a practising certificate (as defined by section 2(1) of the pre-amended PAO) must not be issued to a person—
  - (a) it has effect as a sanction that a practising certificate must not be issued to the person; and
  - (b) for the purposes of section 20AAL(1)(f)(ii) of the amended Ordinance, it is taken to be a sanction imposed under section 37CA(2)(f) of the amended Ordinance.
- (4) If the order is an order to remove the firm name of a pre-existing CPA(P) sole proprietor from the former CPA register—
  - (a) it has effect as a sanction to revoke the registration of the sole proprietor’s firm name; and

- (b) for the purposes of section 20AAZJ(1) of the amended Ordinance, the registration is taken to be revoked under section 37CA(2)(d)(i) of the amended Ordinance.
- (5) If the order is an order to remove the firm name of a pre-existing CPA(P) partnership firm from the former CPA register—
  - (a) it has effect as a sanction to revoke the registration of the firm (including the firm name); and
  - (b) for the purposes of section 20AAZJ(1) of the amended Ordinance, the registration is taken to be revoked under section 37CA(2)(d)(i) of the amended Ordinance.
- (6) If the order is an order to remove the name of a pre-existing corporate practice from the former CPA register—
  - (a) it has effect as a sanction to revoke the registration of the corporate practice; and
  - (b) for the purposes of section 20AAZZD(1) of the amended Ordinance, the registration is taken to be revoked under section 37CA(2)(d)(i) of the amended Ordinance.
- (7) If the order is an order to pay a sum to the FRC, it has effect as an order to pay the sum to the AFRC.

## Part 8

### Transitional and Saving Provisions in relation to Appeal under Pre-amended PAO

#### 78. Interpretation of Part 8

In this Part—

*relevant decision* (有關決定) means—

- (a) a decision that an application for a practising certificate made under the pre-amended PAO be refused;
- (b) an order that an application for registration of a firm name or firm made under the pre-amended PAO be rejected;
- (c) an order that a firm name be removed from the former CPA register;
- (d) an order that an application for registration as a corporate practice made under the pre-amended PAO be rejected;
- (e) an order that the name of a corporate practice be removed from the former CPA register;
- (f) the removal of the name of a corporate practice from the former CPA register; or
- (g) an order made by a Disciplinary Committee under the pre-amended PAO;

*specified appeal* (指明上訴) means an appeal referred to in section 79 or 80.

#### 79. Appeal not made before transition date

- (1) This section applies in relation to a person's right to appeal to the Court of Appeal under the pre-amended PAO against a relevant decision.
- (2) On and after the transition date, the right to appeal may be exercised as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation if, at the transition time—
  - (a) the person has not exercised the right; and
  - (b) the period for exercising the right has not ended.
- (3) Subject to section 81, the pre-amended PAO applies in relation to an appeal made pursuant to subsection (2).

#### 80. Appeal not yet finally determined before transition date

- (1) This section applies if, before the transition date—
  - (a) an appeal against a relevant decision was made to the Court of Appeal under the pre-amended PAO; but
  - (b) the appeal has not yet been finally determined as described in section 2(2) of the pre-amended PAO.
- (2) On and after the transition date, subject to section 81, the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to the appeal.

#### 81. Application of section 28D of pre-amended PAO in relation to specified appeal

Section 28D of the pre-amended PAO applies in relation to a specified appeal with the following modifications—

- (a) the following provision is substituted for subsection (9)(e)(i) of that section—

“(i) order the AFRC to register the appellant as a corporate practice under Division 3 of Part 2A of the AFRC Ordinance;”;

(b) the following provision is substituted for subsection (9)(e)(iii) of that section—

“(iii) confirm the relevant direction under this section.”; and

(c) the following provision is added after subsection (9) of that section—

“(9A) Despite section 20AAZQ(1)(a) of the AFRC Ordinance, the registration of a person pursuant to an order made under subsection (9)(e)(i) takes effect on the date of the order.”.

**82. Determination of Court of Appeal not affected**

Nothing in the 2021 Amending Ordinance affects the validity of the determination of the Court of Appeal made on a specified appeal.

**83. Informing AFRC of determination of Court of Appeal**

The HKICPA Council or the Disciplinary Committee (as the case requires) must inform the AFRC of the determination of the Court of Appeal made on a specified appeal.

**Part 9**

**Miscellaneous Matters in relation to Pre-amended PAO  
and its Subsidiary Legislation**

**84. Direction given under section 18B of pre-amended PAO**

To avoid doubt, for the purposes of sections 3B(1)(f)(i) and 4(2)(a)(vi), (3)(b), (4)(b) and (5)(g) of the amended Ordinance, a direction given under section 18B of the pre-amended PAO is a direction lawfully given by the HKICPA Council.

**85. List and certificate under section 32 of pre-amended PAO**

(1) On and after the transition date, section 32(3) of the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to a list published in the Gazette under section 32(1) or (2) of the pre-amended PAO before that date as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

(2) On and after the transition date, section 32(4) of the pre-amended PAO continues to apply in relation to a certificate purporting to be signed by the HKICPA Registrar before that date as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

**86. No new application for restoration of name under section 39(1) of pre-amended PAO on and after transition date**

Despite any provision of this Regulation that provides for the continued application of the pre-amended PAO, no new application for the restoration of a person's name may be made under section 39(1) of the pre-amended PAO on and after the transition date.



**87. Pending application for restoration of name under section 39(1)  
of pre-amended PAO**

- (1) This section applies if—
  - (a) before the transition date, an application was made under section 39(1) of the pre-amended PAO for the restoration of—
    - (i) the name of a person who was a certified public accountant before the name was removed from the former CPA register;
    - (ii) the firm name of a person who held a practising certificate issued under the pre-amended PAO;
    - (iii) the firm name of a firm of certified public accountants (practising); or
    - (iv) the name of a company that was a corporate practice under the pre-amended PAO before the name was removed from the former CPA register; and
  - (b) the application was pending immediately before the transition date.
- (2) The application is to continue to be dealt with under the pre-amended PAO as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.
- (3) If the application is a CPA(P) application, firm application or CP application, the HKICPA Council must inform the AFRC of its decision on the application.
- (4) If a CPA(P) application is allowed—
  - (a) the AFRC must register the firm name under Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance as if the application were—

- (i) made under section 20AAS(1) of the amended Ordinance; and
    - (ii) granted under section 20AAT of the amended Ordinance; and
  - (b) despite section 20AAW(1)(a) of the amended Ordinance, the registration of the firm name takes effect on the day on which the application is allowed.
- (5) If a firm application is allowed—
- (a) the AFRC must register the firm (including the firm name) under Division 2 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance as if the application were—
    - (i) made under section 20AAS(2) of the amended Ordinance; and
    - (ii) granted under section 20AAT of the amended Ordinance; and
  - (b) despite section 20AAW(1)(a) of the amended Ordinance, the registration of the firm (including the firm name) takes effect on the day on which the application is allowed.
- (6) If a CP application is allowed—
- (a) the AFRC must register the company as a corporate practice under Division 3 of Part 2A of the amended Ordinance as if the application were—
    - (i) made under section 20AAZM(1) of the amended Ordinance; and
    - (ii) granted under section 20AAZN of the amended Ordinance; and
  - (b) despite section 20AAZQ(1)(a) of the amended Ordinance, the registration of the company takes effect on the day on which the application is allowed.

(7) In this section—

**CP application** (執業法團申請) means an application referred to in subsection (1)(a)(iv);

**CPA(P) application** (執業會計師申請) means an application referred to in subsection (1)(a)(ii);

**firm application** (事務所申請) means an application referred to in subsection (1)(a)(iii).

**88. Resignation tendered by certified public accountant under section 49 of pre-amended PAO before transition date**

(1) This section applies if, before the transition date—

(a) a certified public accountant tendered to the HKICPA Council the accountant's resignation from the HKICPA under section 49(1) of the pre-amended PAO (*pending matter*); but

(b) no decision has been made by the HKICPA Council regarding the pending matter.

(2) On and after the transition date, section 49(3) of the PA Ordinance as amended by the 2021 Amending Ordinance applies in relation to the pending matter.

**89. Saving of Part VIII of pre-amended By-laws**

(1) This section applies in relation to a complaint referred to in by-law 34(1) of the pre-amended By-laws that was made before the transition date.

(2) Part VIII of the pre-amended By-laws continues to apply on and after the transition date in relation to the complaint as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

(3) In this section—

**pre-amended By-laws** (《原有附例》) means the Professional Accountants By-laws (Cap. 50 sub. leg. A) as in force immediately before the transition date.

## Part 10

### Miscellaneous Matters in relation to Ordinance

#### 90. Practice irregularity committed before transition date

- (1) This section applies in relation to any practice irregularity (within the meaning of section 4 of the pre-amended Ordinance) that—
  - (a) was committed before the transition date; and
  - (b) is still being, or has not yet been, dealt with under the pre-amended Ordinance at the transition time.
- (2) The practice irregularity—
  - (a) is, on and after the transition date, taken to be a practice irregularity under section 4 of the amended Ordinance; and
  - (b) is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance.

#### 91. Misconduct committed before transition date

- (1) This section applies in relation to any misconduct (as defined by section 2(1) of the pre-amended Ordinance) that—
  - (a) was committed before the transition date; and
  - (b) is still being, or has not yet been, dealt with under the pre-amended Ordinance at the transition time.
- (2) The misconduct—
  - (a) is, on and after the transition date, taken to be FR misconduct; and
  - (b) is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance.

#### 92. Interpretation of section 10B of, and Part 4A of Schedule 2 to, Ordinance before transition date

Before the transition date, section 10B of, and Part 4A of Schedule 2 to, the Ordinance apply with the following modifications—

- (a) the references to the AFRC in that section and that Part are to be construed as references to the FRC; and
- (b) the references to regulatory objectives and functions in that section are to be construed as references to the regulatory objectives and functions of the AFRC under the amended Ordinance.

#### 93. AFRC's powers to give directions to relevant persons

- (1) The AFRC may, in connection with the performance of a function under the amended Ordinance, give directions to relevant persons.
- (2) A direction under subsection (1) may require—
  - (a) a person whose registration as a certified public accountant ceased to be valid before the transition date—
    - (i) to produce or provide to the AFRC a document or information in connection with the registration of the person as a certified public accountant; or
    - (ii) to deliver to the AFRC the certificate of registration issued to the person and in the possession, custody or control of the person;
  - (b) a person who has been issued with a practising certificate that ceased to be valid before the transition date—
    - (i) to produce or provide to the AFRC a document or information in connection with the issue of the practising certificate; or
    - (ii) to deliver to the AFRC the practising certificate in the possession, custody or control of the person;

- (c) a person who practised on the person's own account as a certified public accountant (practising), or practised in partnership as a firm of certified public accountants (practising), under a firm name the registration of which ceased to be valid before the transition date—
- (i) to produce or provide to the AFRC a document or information in connection with the registration of the firm name; or
  - (ii) to deliver to the AFRC the certificate of registration issued to the person and in the possession, custody or control of the person; or
- (d) a former director of a company the registration of which as a corporate practice ceased to be valid before the transition date—
- (i) to produce or provide to the AFRC a document or information in connection with the registration of the company as a corporate practice; or
  - (ii) to deliver to the AFRC the certificate of registration issued to the company in the possession, custody or control of the former director.
- (3) Also, a direction under subsection (1) may require a relevant person to give to the AFRC an explanation for an act or omission of the person, committed at a time when the relevant registration or practising certificate (as appropriate) was valid, that appears to the AFRC to be—
- (a) conduct unbecoming of a member of the accountancy profession;
  - (b) conduct that may affect the reputation, integrity and status of the AFRC or of the accountancy profession; or

- (c) conduct that may fall within section 34(1)(a)(iii) to (xvi) and (b) of the pre-amended PAO.
- (4) Nothing in this section is to be taken to compel the production or provision by a person of any document or information containing privileged communication by or to a legal practitioner in that capacity.
  - (5) For the purposes of sections 3B(1)(f)(ii) and 4(2)(a)(vi), (3)(b), (4)(b) and (5)(g) of the amended Ordinance, a direction given under subsection (1) is a direction lawfully given by the AFRC.
  - (6) This section does not limit section 10 or 10A of the amended Ordinance.
  - (7) In this section, each of the following expressions has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the pre-amended PAO—  
*certified public accountant*;  
*certified public accountant (practising)*;  
*corporate practice*;  
*firm name*;  
*practising certificate*.
  - (8) In this section—  
*former director* (舊有董事), in relation to a company, means a person who was a director of the company at the time of its registration as a corporate practice;  
*relevant person* (有關人士) means a person referred to in subsection (2)(a), (b), (c) or (d).

94. **Saving of section 50C of, and Schedule 7 to, pre-amended Ordinance**

- (1) This section applies if—

- (a) before the transition date, the HKICPA specified under section 50C of the pre-amended Ordinance the way in which and the time within which a PIE auditor must pay the levy payable under that section; but
  - (b) at the transition time, the levy has not yet been paid.
- (2) Section 50C of, and Schedule 7 to, the pre-amended Ordinance continue to apply on and after the transition date in relation to the levy with the modification that a reference to the HKICPA in those provisions is to be construed as a reference to the AFRC.

**95. Saving of section 52 of pre-amended Ordinance**

- (1) This section applies in relation to the proceedings referred to in section 52(1) of the pre-amended Ordinance that—
- (a) commenced before the transition date; but
  - (b) have not been concluded at the transition time.
- (2) Section 52 of the pre-amended Ordinance continues to apply on and after the transition date in relation to the proceedings as if the 2021 Amending Ordinance had not come into operation.

**96. Application of section 55 of amended Ordinance**

- (1) Section 55 of the amended Ordinance does not apply in relation to any communication described in that section that was made before the transition date to the FRC.
- (2) In this section—
- FRC* (財匯局) has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the pre-amended Ordinance.

**97. Saving of 2019 pre-amended Ordinance in relation to certain investigations**

- (1) An investigation may be initiated under Part 3 of the 2019 pre-amended Ordinance in relation to any audit, or the preparation of any specified report, that had been completed for a listed entity before the 2019 Ordinance commencement date.
- (2) The 2019 pre-amended Ordinance continues to apply on and after the transition date, with the modifications specified in subsection (3), in relation to—
- (a) an investigation that was initiated under Part 3 of that Ordinance before the transition date; and
  - (b) an investigation initiated pursuant to subsection (1).
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2), the modifications are—
- (a) a reference to the Council in the 2019 pre-amended Ordinance (*that Ordinance*) is to be construed as a reference to the AFRC;
  - (b) in section 2(1) of that Ordinance, the definition of *specified enforcement agency* is to be construed as if paragraph (c) of that definition were repealed;
  - (c) a reference in that Ordinance to any proceedings under Part V of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50) is to be construed as a reference to—
    - (i) any appeal under section 41 of the PA Ordinance; or
    - (ii) any complaint before a Disciplinary Committee;
  - (d) section 36(1)(c) of that Ordinance is to be construed as excluding referral of the case concerned under section 9(f) of that Ordinance to the HKICPA;

- (e) section 36 of that Ordinance is to be construed as if provisions to the following effect were included in that section—
- (i) a relevant irregularity found from an investigation is to be regarded as a professional irregularity within the meaning of section 3B of the amended Ordinance; and
  - (ii) the auditor concerned or the reporting accountant concerned is to be regarded as a professional person as defined by section 2(1) of the amended Ordinance; and
- (f) section 53 of that Ordinance is to be substituted by section 53 of the amended Ordinance.

(4) In this section—

*2019 pre-amended Ordinance* (《2019 年原有本條例》) means the Ordinance as in force immediately before the 2019 Ordinance commencement date;

*specified report* (指明報告) has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the 2019 pre-amended Ordinance.

**98. HKICPA to provide records and assistance to Council**

- (1) The HKICPA must provide the Council with records and assistance that the Council requires for—
- (a) preparing to perform its functions under the amended Ordinance;
  - (b) dealing with—
    - (i) any pending application made under the pre-amended PAO—
      - (A) for the issue of a practising certificate;

- (B) for registration of a firm or firm name; or
  - (C) for registration as a corporate practice;
- (ii) any ongoing practice review or investigation carried out under the pre-amended PAO;
  - (iii) any complaint made under the pre-amended PAO;
  - (iv) any appeal made under the pre-amended PAO;
  - (v) any pending application made under the pre-amended Ordinance for registration as a registered PIE auditor;
  - (vi) any pending proposal made by a registered PIE auditor under the pre-amended Ordinance to add an additional registered responsible person;
  - (vii) any matter that is being dealt with under section 20T or 20X of the pre-amended Ordinance at the transition time; and
  - (viii) any of the following matters that is being dealt with under the pre-amended PAO at the transition time—
    - (A) cancellation or suspension of a practising certificate;
    - (B) removal of a firm name from the former CPA register;
    - (C) removal of the name of a corporate practice from the former CPA register; or
- (c) establishing—
- (i) the AFRC register under section 20AAZZI of the amended Ordinance; and
  - (ii) the PIE auditors register under section 20ZX of the amended Ordinance.

- (2) The records and assistance must be provided to the Council in the way, and within the time, specified by the Council.
- (3) The Council must ensure that there are in place proper procedures and systems to safeguard against unauthorized access to, or unauthorized use of, the records provided under this section.
- (4) In relation to any personal data provided under this section, the Council must ensure that the data is used, disclosed and retained for the purposes set out in subsection (1).
- (5) The provision of records by the HKICPA to the Council under this section does not amount to—
  - (a) a breach of duty of confidentiality or secrecy to which the HKICPA is subject immediately before the provision; or
  - (b) a contravention by the HKICPA or the Council of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486).
- (6) In this section—

*Council* (局方) means—

  - (a) before the transition date—the Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of the pre-amended Ordinance; and
  - (b) on and after that date—the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6 of the amended Ordinance;

*personal data* (個人資料) has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486).

## Part 11

### Consequential Amendments

#### Division 1—Enactments Amended

##### 99. Enactments amended

- (1) The enactments specified in Divisions 2 to 35 and 37 to 56 are amended as set out in those Divisions.
- (2) The Ordinance is amended as set out in Division 36.
- (3) In addition, the provisions of the Ordinance set out in column 2 of the Schedule are amended by repealing the words and characters set out in column 3 of that Schedule and substituting the words and characters set out in column 4 of that Schedule.

#### Division 2—Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap. 32)

##### 100. Section 262B amended (persons disqualified from being appointed etc. as provisional liquidator or liquidator)

Section 262B(5)(b)—

###### Repeal

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

###### Substitute

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**101. Section 278A amended (inducement affecting appointment etc.  
as provisional liquidator or liquidator)**

(1) Section 278A(2)(b)(ii)—

**Repeal**

“32I(1) of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“20ZZF(6) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council  
Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

(2) Section 278A(3), definition of *practice unit*—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap.  
588)”.

**102. Section 297B amended (inducement affecting appointment etc.  
as receiver or manager)**

(1) Section 297B(2)(b)(ii)—

**Repeal**

“32I(1) of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“20ZZF(6) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council  
Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

(2) Section 297B(3), definition of *practice unit*—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap.  
588)”.

**103. Third Schedule amended (matters to be specified in prospectus  
and reports to be set out therein)**

Third Schedule, paragraph 43—

**Repeal**

“accountants qualified under the Professional Accountants  
Ordinance (Cap. 50) for”

**Substitute**

“persons who are not prohibited under section 20AAZZR of the  
Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap.  
588) from holding any”.

**Division 3—Companies (Forms) Regulations (Cap. 32 sub.  
leg. B)**

**104. Regulation 6 amended (translations)**

Regulation 6(2)(b)(iii)—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of section 2 of the Professional  
Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial  
Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.



**Division 4—Insurance Ordinance (Cap. 41)**

**105. Section 15 amended (appointment of auditor and actuary)**

Section 15(1)(a)(i)—

**Repeal**

“qualified for appointment as auditor of a company under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“not prohibited under section 20AAZZR of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) from holding any appointment as an auditor of a company”.

**106. Section 53A amended (secrecy)**

Section 53A(3B)(d)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of the”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6 of the Accounting and”.

**107. Section 72 amended (licensed insurance broker company must appoint auditor)**

Section 72(1)(a)—

**Repeal**

“qualified for appointment as auditor of a company under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“not prohibited under section 20AAZZR of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) from holding any appointment as an auditor of a company”.

**108. Section 95ZF amended (auditor must be appointed)**

Section 95ZF(2)(a)—

**Repeal**

“qualified for appointment as an auditor of a company under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“not prohibited under section 20AAZZR of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) from holding any appointment as an auditor of a company”.

**109. Section 123 amended (exceptions to sections 64G and 120)**

Section 123(1)(c)(i)—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**110. Schedule 3 amended (accounts and statements)**

Schedule 3, Part 1, paragraph 4(1A)—

**Repeal**

“qualified for appointment as auditor of a company under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“not prohibited under section 20AAZZR of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) from holding any appointment as an auditor of a company”.

### **Division 5—Legal Aid Ordinance (Cap. 91)**

#### **111. Schedule 3 amended (proceedings for which legal aid may be given under section 5A)**

Schedule 3, Part 1, paragraph 5(a)(i)—

##### **Repeal**

“2 of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

##### **Substitute**

“2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

### **Division 6—Betting Duty Regulations (Cap. 108 sub. leg. A)**

#### **112. Regulation 2 amended (interpretation)**

Regulation 2, definition of *qualified person*—

##### **Repeal**

“qualified for appointment as auditor of a company under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

##### **Substitute**

“not prohibited under section 20AAZZR of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) from holding any appointment as an auditor of a company”.

### **Division 7—Gambling Regulations (Cap. 148 sub. leg. A)**

#### **113. Schedule 2 amended**

Schedule 2, Form 1A, condition 6(b)—

##### **Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

##### **Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

### **Division 8—Banking Ordinance (Cap. 155)**

#### **114. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2(1), definition of *auditor*—

##### **Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

##### **Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

#### **115. Section 120 amended (official secrecy)**

Section 120(5A)(e)—

##### **Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of the”

##### **Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6 of the Accounting and”.

**Division 9—Accountant’s Report Rules (Cap. 159 sub. leg. A)**

**116. Rule 3 amended (qualifications of accountant)**

- (1) Rule 3(1)(a)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

- (2) Rule 3(2)(a)—

**Repeal**

everything after “guilty”

**Substitute**

“of—

- (i) professional misconduct or dishonourable conduct under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50) as in force from time to time before the day on which section 3 of the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (41 of 2021) comes into operation; or
- (ii) CPA misconduct under section 37AA of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588); or”.

**Division 10—Solicitors’ Accounts Rules (Cap. 159 sub. leg. F)**

**117. Rule 7A amended (authority required for drawing money from client account)**

Rule 7A(1)(b)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 11—Solicitors (Professional Indemnity) Rules (Cap. 159 sub. leg. M)**

**118. Rule 2 amended (interpretation)**

Rule 2, definition of *certified public accountant (practising)*—

**Repeal**

everything after “has”

**Substitute**

“the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.

**119. Rule 8 amended (production of documents and information)**

- (1) Rule 8(1A)(a)—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

- (2) Rule 8(1B)(a)—

**Repeal**

everything after “guilty”

**Substitute**

“of—

- (i) professional misconduct or dishonourable conduct under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50) as in force from time to time before the day on which section 3 of the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (41 of 2021) comes into operation; or
- (ii) CPA misconduct under section 37AA of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588); or”.

**Division 12—Prevention of Bribery Ordinance (Cap. 201)**

120. **Schedule 1 amended (public bodies)**

Schedule 1, item 106—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council”.

121. **Schedule 2 amended (public bodies specified for purposes of definition of *public servant*)**

Schedule 2, item 8—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council”.

**Division 13—Education Ordinance (Cap. 279)**

122. **Section 40BB amended (accounts of incorporated management committee)**

Section 40BB(6)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 14—Post Secondary Colleges Regulations (Cap. 320 sub. leg. A)**

123. **Regulation 2 amended (constitution)**

Regulation 2(i)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

### **Division 15—Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344)**

**124. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2, definition of *accountant*—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

### **Division 16—Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362)**

**125. Schedule 3 amended (exempt persons)**

(1) Schedule 3—

**Repeal item 1**

**Substitute**

“1. A certified public accountant as defined by section 2(1) of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50).

1A. A corporate practice as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

(2) Schedule 3—

**Repeal item 2**

**Substitute**

“2. A person who falls within paragraph (a) of the definition of *CPA firm* in section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

### **Division 17—Ocean Park Corporation Ordinance (Cap. 388)**

**126. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2, definition of *auditor*—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of section 2 of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

### **Division 18—The Ombudsman Ordinance (Cap. 397)**

**127. Schedule 1 amended (organizations to which this Ordinance applies)**

(1) Schedule 1, Part 1—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council.”.

(2) Schedule 1, Part 1—

**Add in alphabetical order**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council.”.

**Division 19—Occupational Retirement Schemes Ordinance  
(Cap. 426)**

**128. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2(1), definition of *Hong Kong accountant*—

**Repeal**

everything after “accountant”

**Substitute**

“(practising) as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and  
Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.

**129. Section 78 amended (disclosure by Registrar)**

Section 78(1)(eb)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of  
the”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under  
section 6 of the Accounting and”.

**Division 20—The Legislative Council Commission  
Ordinance (Cap. 443)**

**130. Section 13 amended (financial year, accounts and annual report  
of the Commission)**

Section 13—

**Repeal subsection (6)**

**Substitute**

“(6) In this section—

*auditor* (核數師) means a certified public accountant  
(practising) as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting  
and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 21—Hong Kong Arts Development Council  
Ordinance (Cap. 472)**

**131. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2, definition of *auditor*—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of section 2 of the Professional  
Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial  
Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 22—Airport Authority Ordinance (Cap. 483)**

**132. Section 32 amended (accounts and audits; Authority’s report)**

Section 32(4)(d)—

**Repeal**

“29(2) of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“20AAZZR(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting  
Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 23—Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes  
Ordinance (Cap. 485)**

**133. Section 34M amended (exceptions to section 34L)**

Section 34M(4)(c)(i)—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**134. Section 42 amended (Authority may disclose certain information despite section 41)**

Section 42(1)(d)(xii)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of the”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6 of the Accounting and”.

**135. Section 42AA amended (Insurance Authority, Monetary Authority and Securities and Futures Commission may disclose information obtained under Part 4A despite section 41)**

Section 42AA(3)(e)(ix)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of the”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6 of the Accounting and”.

**Division 24—Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes  
(General) Regulation (Cap. 485 sub. leg. A)**

**136. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2, definition of *accounting practice unit*—

**Repeal**

“2 of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**137. Section 98 amended (qualifications for auditor)**

Section 98(1)(b)—

**Repeal**

“2 of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 25—Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486)**

**138. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2(1), definition of *financial regulator*, paragraph (gb)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of  
the”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under  
section 6 of the Accounting and”.

**Division 26—Estate Agents Ordinance (Cap. 511)**

**139. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2(1), definition of *certified public accountant*  
(*practising*)—

**Repeal**

“assigned to it in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap.  
50)”

**Substitute**

“given by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial  
Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 27—Electoral Affairs Commission (Financial  
Assistance for Legislative Council Elections and District  
Council Elections) (Application and Payment Procedure)  
Regulation (Cap. 541 sub. leg. N)**

**140. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2(1), definition of *auditor*—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting  
Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 28—Legislative Council Ordinance (Cap. 542)**

**141. Section 60A amended (interpretation: Part 6A)**

Section 60A(1), definition of *auditor*—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting  
Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 29—District Councils Ordinance (Cap. 547)**

**142. Section 60A amended (interpretation: Part VA)**

Section 60A(1), definition of *auditor*—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting  
Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 30—Urban Renewal Authority Ordinance (Cap.  
563)**

**143. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2, definition of *auditor*—

**Repeal**



everything after “(practising)”

**Substitute**

“, or a corporate practice, as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.

**Division 31—Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks  
Corporation Ordinance (Cap. 565)**

**144. Section 23 amended (annual reports, accounts and audits)**

Section 23—

**Repeal subsection (7)**

**Substitute**

“(7) In this section—

*auditor* (核數師) means a certified public accountant (practising), or a corporate practice, as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 32—Chief Executive Election Ordinance (Cap. 569)**

**145. Schedule amended (Election Committee)**

(1) The Schedule, section 12(19B)(b), before “Financial”—

**Add**

“Accounting and”.

(2) The Schedule, section 39S—

**Repeal**

everything after “2(1) of the”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)) that is a registered PIE auditor as defined by section 3A(1) of that Ordinance.”.

**Division 33—Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571)**

**146. Section 23 amended (rules by recognized exchange company)**

Section 23(8)—

**Repeal**

“Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants”  
(wherever appearing)

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council”.

**147. Section 257 amended (orders, etc. of Tribunal)**

(1) Section 257(1)(fa)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588), an order that the person pay to the Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588), an order that the person pay to the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6”.

(2) Section 257(1)(g)—

**Repeal**

everything after “members”

**Substitute**

“or regulatees be recommended to take disciplinary action against the person.”.

- (3) After section 257(1)—

**Add**

“(1A) In subsection (1)(fa), the reference to an investigation under the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) includes an investigation under the Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) as in force from time to time before the day on which section 3 of the Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (41 of 2021) comes into operation.”.

**148. Section 262 amended (report of Tribunal)**

Section 262(2)(b)(v), after “members”—

**Add**

“or regulatees”.

**149. Section 303 amended (penalties)**

Section 303(2)(c), after “members”—

**Add**

“or regulatees”.

**150. Section 307N amended (orders of Tribunal)**

Section 307N(1)(g), after “members”—

**Add**

“or regulatees”.

**151. Section 307Q amended (report of Tribunal)**

Section 307Q(2)(b)(iii), after “member”—

**Add**

“or regulatee”.

**152. Section 378 amended (preservation of secrecy, etc.)**

- (1) Section 378(3)(f)(xia)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of the”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6 of the Accounting and”.

- (2) Section 378(3)(g)—

**Repeal subparagraph (ii)**

**Substitute**

“(ii) to any body prescribed by rules made under section 397 for the purposes of this subparagraph, with a view to its taking of, or otherwise for the purposes of, any disciplinary action against any of its members or regulatees;”.

**153. Section 381 amended (immunity in respect of communication with Commission by auditors of listed corporations, etc.)**

Section 381(5), definition of *auditor*, paragraph (a)—

**Repeal**

“irrespective of whether such person is qualified for the appointment under the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“whether or not the person is prohibited under section 20AAZZR of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) from holding the appointment”.

**154. Section 381C amended (disclosure if Monetary Authority considers condition satisfied)**

Section 381C(1)(m)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council established by section 6(1) of the”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6 of the Accounting and”.

**155. Schedule 1 amended (interpretation and general provisions)**

Schedule 1, Part 1, section 1, definition of *auditor*—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**156. Schedule 5 amended (regulated activities)**

- (1) Schedule 5, Part 2, definition of *advising on corporate finance*, paragraph (vii)—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

- (2) Schedule 5, Part 2, definition of *advising on futures contracts*, paragraph (vii)—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

- (3) Schedule 5, Part 2, definition of *advising on securities*, paragraph (vii)—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

- (4) Schedule 5, Part 2, definition of *securities or futures contracts management*, paragraph (g)—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 34—Securities and Futures (Miscellaneous) Rules  
(Cap. 571 sub. leg. U)**

**157. Section 5 amended (persons prescribed as auditors for purposes  
of section 179 of Ordinance)**

(1) Section 5(1)(a)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

(2) Section 5(1)(b)—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 35—Securities and Futures (Open-ended Fund  
Companies) Rules (Cap. 571 sub. leg. AQ)**

**158. Rule 2 amended (interpretation)**

(1) Rule 2(1)—

**Repeal the definition of *certified public accountant*  
(*practising*).**

(2) Rule 2(1), definition of *process agent*, paragraph (c)—

**Repeal**

“or certified public accountants (*practising*)”.

(3) Rule 2(1), definition of *process agent*, after paragraph (c)—

**Add**

“(d) a CPA firm as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.

**159. Rule 128 amended (eligibility for appointment)**

Rule 128(3), definition of *practice unit*—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 36—Accounting and Financial Reporting Council  
Ordinance (Cap. 588)**

**160. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

(1) Section 2(1), definition of *specified decision*, paragraph (a)(ii)(A)—

**Repeal**

“application”

**Substitute**

“application (PIE auditor)”.

(2) Section 2(1), definition of *specified decision*, paragraph (a)(ii)(B)—

**Repeal**

“(registration)”

**Substitute**

“(PIE auditor registration)”.

- (3) Section 2(1), definition of *specified decision*, paragraph (b)(i)—

**Repeal**

“application”

**Substitute**

“application (PIE auditor)”.

- (4) Section 2(1), definition of *specified decision*, paragraph (b)(ii)—

**Repeal**

“(recognition)”

**Substitute**

“(PIE auditor recognition)”.

- (5) Section 2(1)—

- (a) definition of *inspector*;
- (b) definition of *investigator*;
- (c) definition of *misconduct*;
- (d) definition of *recognition application*;
- (e) definition of *registration application*;
- (f) definition of *renewal application (recognition)*;
- (g) definition of *renewal application (registration)*—

**Repeal the definitions.**

- (6) Section 2(1)—

**Add in alphabetical order**

“*FR inspector* (財匯查察員) means a person appointed as an FR inspector under section 21A;

*FR investigator* (財匯調查員) means—

- (a) the Investigation Board; or
- (b) a person appointed as an FR investigator under section 22A;

*FR misconduct* (財匯失當行為)—

- (a) for a PIE auditor—see section 37A; or
- (b) for a registered responsible person of a registered PIE auditor—see section 37B;

*recognition application (PIE auditor)* (公眾利益實體核數師認可申請) means an application made under section 20ZE;

*registration application (PIE auditor)* (公眾利益實體核數師註冊申請) means an application made under section 20G;

*renewal application (PIE auditor recognition)* (公眾利益實體核數師認可續期申請) means an application made under section 20ZK;

*renewal application (PIE auditor registration)* (公眾利益實體核數師註冊續期申請) means an application made under section 20K;”.

**161. Section 12 amended (assistance, etc. to specified authorities under certain circumstances)**

Section 12(5)(b)(i), after “members”—

**Add**

“or regulatees”.

**Division 37—Registration of Determinations and Orders of  
Public Interest Entities Auditors Review Tribunal Rules  
(Cap. 588 sub. leg. A)**

**162. Title amended**

The title—

**Repeal**

“Public Interest Entities Auditors”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting”.

**163. Schedule amended (form of notice)**

(1) The Schedule—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council” (wherever appearing)

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council”.

(2) The Schedule—

**Repeal**

“*FRCO*” (wherever appearing)

**Substitute**

“*AFRCO*”.

(3) The Schedule—

**Repeal**

“Public Interest Entities Auditors” (wherever appearing)

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting”.

(4) The Schedule—

**Repeal**

“FRCO” (wherever appearing)

**Substitute**

“AFRCO”.

**Division 38—West Kowloon Cultural District Authority  
Ordinance (Cap. 601)**

**164. Section 29 amended (Authority to appoint auditor)**

Section 29—

**Repeal subsection (5)**

**Substitute**

“(5) In this section—

*auditor* (核數師) means a certified public accountant (practising), or a corporate practice, as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 39—Race Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 602)**

**165. Schedule 3 amended (authorization or qualification specified for  
the purposes of section 19(2) of this Ordinance)**

(1) Schedule 3, paragraph (j)—

**Repeal**

“or”.

(2) Schedule 3, paragraph (k)—

**Repeal**

“(Cap. 549).”

**Substitute**

“(Cap. 549); or”.

- (3) Schedule 3, after paragraph (k)—

**Add**

“(l) Part 2A of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 40—Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance (Cap. 603)**

166. Section 39 amended (registered supplier must submit annual audit report)

Section 39(2)—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 41—Independent Police Complaints Council Ordinance (Cap. 604)**

167. Schedule 1 amended (provisions with respect to members, proceedings, committees and finances of, and execution of documents by, and other miscellaneous matters of, Council)

Schedule 1, section 29(1)—

**Repeal**

everything after “who is”

**Substitute**

“a certified public accountant (practising) as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 42—Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing Ordinance (Cap. 615)**

168. Section 53ZK amended (permitted disclosures by Registrar)

After section 53ZK(1)(d)(viii)—

**Add**

“(viiiia) the AFRC;”.

169. Schedule 1 amended (interpretation)

- (1) Schedule 1, Part 2, section 1, definition of *accounting professional*—

**Repeal paragraph (a)**

**Substitute**

“(a) a certified public accountant as defined by section 2(1) of the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50), or a certified public accountant (practising) as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.

- (2) Schedule 1, Part 2, section 1, definition of *accounting professional*, paragraph (b)—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

- (3) Schedule 1, Part 2, section 1, definition of *accounting professional*—

**Repeal paragraph (c)**

**Substitute**

“(c) a CPA firm as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.

- (4) Schedule 1, Part 2, section 1, definition of *regulatory body*, paragraph (a)—

**Repeal**

everything after “means”

**Substitute**

“—

- (i) (subject to subparagraphs (ii) and (iii)) the AFRC;
- (ii) (for the purposes of section 4) the AFRC or the HKICPA; or
- (iii) (for the purposes of section 7(1), (2) and (3)) the HKICPA as overseen by the AFRC under section 9(b) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.

- (5) Schedule 1, Part 2, section 1—

**Add in alphabetical order**

“*AFRC* (會財局) means the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council continued under section 6 of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.

**Division 43—Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622)**

**170. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2(1), definition of *certified public accountant (practising)*—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**171. Section 392 amended (interpretation)**

Section 392, definition of *practice unit*—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**172. Section 774 amended (interpretation)**

(1) Section 774(1), definition of *authorized representative*, paragraph (c)—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50); or”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588);”.



- (2) Section 774(1), definition of *authorized representative*, paragraph (d)—

**Repeal**

“or certified public accountants (practising),”

**Substitute**

“; or”.

- (3) Section 774(1), definition of *authorized representative*, after paragraph (d)—

**Add**

“(e) a CPA firm as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588),”.

**173. Section 881 amended (permitted disclosure and restrictions)**

Section 881(2)(a)(xi)—

**Repeal**

“Financial Reporting Council”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council”.

**Division 44—Companies (Residential Addresses and Identification Numbers) Regulation (Cap. 622 sub. leg. N)**

**174. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2, definition of *certified public accountant (practising)*—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 45—Limited Partnership Fund Ordinance (Cap. 637)**

**175. Section 21 amended (duty to appoint auditor)**

Section 21(2)—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 46—Morrison Scholarships Fund Ordinance (Cap. 1037)**

**176. Section 11 amended (accounts and audit)**

Section 11(6)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 47—Po Leung Kuk Ordinance (Cap. 1040)**

**177. Section 7 amended (accounts)**

Section 7(4)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting  
Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 48—Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Ordinance  
(Cap. 1051)**

**178. Section 7 amended (accounts)**

Section 7(4)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting  
Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 49—Chinese Permanent Cemeteries Ordinance  
(Cap. 1112)**

**179. Section 10 amended (accounts)**

Section 10(2)—

**Repeal**

“in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting  
Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 50—Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden  
Corporation Ordinance (Cap. 1156)**

**180. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2, definition of *auditor*—

**Repeal**

“within the meaning of section 2 of the Professional  
Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“as defined by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial  
Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 51—Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Ordinance (Cap.  
1157)**

**181. Section 13 amended (audit)**

Section 13—

**Repeal subsection (3)**

**Substitute**

“(3) In this section—

*certified public accountant (practising)* (執業會計師) has the  
meaning given by section 2(1) of the Accounting and  
Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 52—Church Body of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung  
Hui Ordinance (Cap. 1158)**

**182. Section 11 amended (audit)**

Section 11—

**Repeal subsection (3)**

**Substitute**

“(3) In this section—

*certified public accountant (practising)* (執業會計師) has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 53—Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Foundation  
Ordinance (Cap. 1159)**

**183. Section 11 amended (audit)**

Section 11—

**Repeal subsection (3)**

**Substitute**

“(3) In this section—

*certified public accountant (practising)* (執業會計師) has the meaning given by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588).”.

**Division 54—The Orthodox Metropolitanate of Hong Kong  
and South East Asia Ordinance (Cap. 1163)**

**184. Section 2 amended (interpretation)**

Section 2, definition of *certified public accountant (practising)*—

**Repeal**

“assigned to it in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“given by section 2(1) of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 55—Securities and Futures (Amendment)  
Ordinance 2014 (6 of 2014)**

**185. Section 53 amended (Schedule 5 amended (regulated activities))**

(1) Section 53(22), new definition of *OTC derivative products management*, paragraph (bc)(iii)—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

(2) Section 53(23), new Part 2A, section 1(h)(iii)—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Division 56—Promotion of Recycling and Proper Disposal  
(Product Container) (Amendment) Ordinance 2016 (13 of  
2016)**

**186. Section 6 amended (Part 5 added)**

Section 6, new section 53(2)—

**Repeal**

“Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50)”

**Substitute**

“Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588)”.

**Schedule**

[s. 99(3)]

**Other Miscellaneous Consequential Amendments to  
Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance  
(Cap. 588)**

| Column 1 | Column 2            | Column 3                   | Column 4                                 |
|----------|---------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Item     | Provision           | Repeal                     | Substitution                             |
| 1.       | Section 9(f)(i)     | “misconduct”               | “FR misconduct”                          |
| 2.       | Section 9(g)(i)     | “misconduct”               | “FR misconduct”                          |
| 3.       | Section 12(1)(a)(i) | “misconduct”               | “FR misconduct”                          |
| 4.       | Section 12(1)(b)(i) | “misconduct”               | “FR misconduct”                          |
| 5.       | Section 20H(1)      | “application.”             | “application (PIE auditor).”             |
| 6.       | Section 20H(2)      | “registration application” | “registration application (PIE auditor)” |
| 7.       | Section 20I(1)(a)   | “registration application” | “registration application (PIE auditor)” |

Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

111

| Column 1 | Column 2                                 | Column 3            | Column 4                           |
|----------|--|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Item     | Provision                                | Repeal              | Substitution                       |
| 8.       | Section 20J,<br>English text,<br>heading | <b>“Validity”</b>   | <b>“Validity period”</b>           |
| 9.       | Section 20J(1)(a)(i)                     | “application—on”    | “application (PIE<br>auditor)—on”  |
| 10.      | Section 20L(1)                           | “(registration).”   | “(PIE auditor<br>registration).”   |
| 11.      | Section 20L(2)                           | “(registration)”    | “(PIE auditor<br>registration)”    |
| 12.      | Section 20M(1)(a)                        | “(registration)”    | “(PIE auditor<br>registration)”    |
| 13.      | Section 20N(1)                           | “(registration)”    | “(PIE auditor<br>registration)”    |
| 14.      | Section 20O,<br>English text,<br>heading | <b>“Validity”</b>   | <b>“Validity period”</b>           |
| 15.      | Section 20O(a)(i)                        | “(registration)—on” | “(PIE auditor<br>registration)—on” |

Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

112

| Column 1 | Column 2           | Column 3                                       | Column 4  |
|----------|--------------------|--|---|
| Item     | Provision          | Repeal   | Substitution  |
| 16.      | Section 20P(1)     | “or renewal<br>application<br>(registration)”  | “(PIE auditor) or<br>renewal application<br>(PIE auditor<br>registration)”  |
| 17.      | Section 20R(1)     | “or renewal<br>application<br>(registration)—” | “(PIE auditor) or<br>renewal application<br>(PIE auditor<br>registration)—” |
| 18.      | Section 20R(2)     | “or renewal<br>application<br>(registration)—” | “(PIE auditor) or<br>renewal application<br>(PIE auditor<br>registration)—” |
| 19.      | Section 20S(1)(a)  | “or renewal<br>application<br>(registration);” | “(PIE auditor) or<br>renewal application<br>(PIE auditor<br>registration);” |
| 20.      | Section 20ZB(1)(a) | “application”                                  | “application (PIE<br>auditor)”  |
| 21.      | Section 20ZF(1)    | “application.”                                 | “application (PIE<br>auditor).”   |

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and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

113

| Column 1 | Column 2                                  | Column 3                              | Column 4                                |
|----------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Item     | Provision                                 | Repeal                                | Substitution                            |
| 22.      | Section 20ZF(2)                           | “recognition application”             | “recognition application (PIE auditor)” |
| 23.      | Section 20ZG(1)(a)                        | “recognition application”             | “recognition application (PIE auditor)” |
| 24.      | Section 20ZH,<br>English text,<br>heading | “Validity”                            | “Validity period”                       |
| 25.      | Section 20ZH(1)                           | “recognition application”             | “recognition application (PIE auditor)” |
| 26.      | Section 20ZH(2)                           | “recognition application”             | “recognition application (PIE auditor)” |
| 27.      | Section 20ZI(1)                           | “application,”                        | “application (PIE auditor),”            |
| 28.      | Section 20ZI(4)                           | “application”<br>(wherever appearing) | “application (PIE auditor)”             |

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and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

114

| Column 1 | Column 2                                  | Column 3                               | Column 4   |
|----------|---|--|--|
| Item     | Provision                                 | Repeal                                 | Substitution   |
| 29.      | Section 20ZJ,<br>English text,<br>heading | “Validity”                             | “Validity period”  |
| 30.      | Section 20ZL(1)                           | “(recognition).”                       | “(PIE auditor recognition).”                                     |
| 31.      | Section 20ZL(2)                           | “(recognition)”                        | “(PIE auditor recognition)”                                      |
| 32.      | Section 20ZM(1)(a)                        | “(recognition)”                        | “(PIE auditor recognition)”                                      |
| 33.      | Section 20ZN(1)                           | “(recognition)”                        | “(PIE auditor recognition)”                                      |
| 34.      | Section 20ZO,<br>English text,<br>heading | “Validity”                             | “Validity period”  |
| 35.      | Section 20ZO(a)(i)                        | “(recognition)”                        | “(PIE auditor recognition)”                                      |
| 36.      | Section 20ZP(1)                           | “or renewal application (recognition)” | “(PIE auditor) or renewal application (PIE auditor recognition)” |

Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

115

| Column 1 | Column 2   | Column 3                                | Column 4  |
|----------|--|---|---|
| Item     | Provision  | Repeal                                  | Substitution  |
| 37.      | Section 20ZQ(1)                                    | “or renewal application (recognition)—” | “(PIE auditor) or renewal application (PIE auditor recognition)—” |
| 38.      | Section 20ZQ(2)                                    | “or renewal application (recognition)—” | “(PIE auditor) or renewal application (PIE auditor recognition)—” |
| 39.      | Section 20ZR(1)(a)                                 | “or renewal application (recognition);” | “(PIE auditor) or renewal application (PIE auditor recognition);” |
| 40.      | Section 20ZR(3)(a)                                 | “or renewal application (recognition)”  | “(PIE auditor) or renewal application (PIE auditor recognition)”  |
| 41.      | Section 20ZT(1)                                    | “application”                           | “application (PIE auditor)”                                       |
| 42.      | Section 21, definition of <i>inspection report</i> | “inspector”                             | “FR inspector”  |

Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

116

| Column 1 | Column 2  | Column 3                         | Column 4          |
|----------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Item     | Provision   | Repeal                           | Substitution      |
| 43.      | Section 21, definition of <i>investigation report</i> | “investigator”                   | “FR investigator” |
| 44.      | Section 21A, heading                                  | “inspectors”                     | “FR inspectors”   |
| 45.      | Section 21A(1)  | “inspector”                      | “FR inspector”    |
| 46.      | Section 21A(2)  | “inspector”                      | “FR inspector”    |
| 47.      | Section 21A(3)  | “inspector”                      | “FR inspector”    |
| 48.      | Section 21B(1)  | “inspector”                      | “FR inspector”    |
| 49.      | Section 21B(3)  | “inspector”                      | “FR inspector”    |
| 50.      | Section 21C, heading                                  | “inspector”                      | “FR inspector”    |
| 51.      | Section 21C(1)  | “inspector”                      | “FR inspector”    |
| 52.      | Section 21C(2)  | “inspector” (wherever appearing) | “FR inspector”    |
| 53.      | Section 21C(3)  | “inspector”                      | “FR inspector”    |

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and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

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| Column 1 | Column 2   | Column 3                               | Column 4           |
|----------|--|--|--------------------|
| Item     | Provision  | Repeal                                 | Substitution       |
| 54.      | Section 21C(4)                                       | “inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 55.      | Section 21D,<br>heading                              | “Inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 56.      | Section 21D(1)                                       | “inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 57.      | Section 21D(2)                                       | “inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 58.      | Section 21D(3)                                       | “inspector”<br>(wherever<br>appearing) | “FR inspector”     |
| 59.      | Section 21G(1)                                       | “inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 60.      | Section 21G(2)                                       | “inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 61.      | Section 21G(3)                                       | “inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 62.      | Section 21G(4)                                       | “inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 63.      | Section 21H(c)                                       | “inspector”                            | “FR inspector”     |
| 64.      | Part 3A,<br>Division 3,<br>Subdivision 1,<br>heading | “Investigators”                        | “FR Investigators” |

Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

118

| Column 1 | Column 2                | Column 3  | Column 4   |
|----------|-------------------------|---|--|
| Item     | Provision               | Repeal  | Substitution   |
| 65.      | Section 22A,<br>heading | “investigators”   | “FR investigators”   |
| 66.      | Section 22A(1)          | “investigator”  | “FR investigator”  |
| 67.      | Section 22A(2)          | “investigator”  | “FR investigator”  |
| 68.      | Section 23(1)(c)        | “a misconduct.”   | “FR misconduct.”   |
| 69.      | Section 23(2)           | “investigator to carry<br>out an investigation<br>into the way in<br>which the PIE<br>engagement was<br>carried out, or into<br>the possible<br>contravention or” | “FR investigator to<br>carry out an<br>investigation into<br>the way in which<br>the PIE engagement<br>was carried out, or<br>into the possible<br>contravention or<br>FR” |
| 70.      | Section 23(3)           | “investigator”  | “FR investigator”  |
| 71.      | Section 23A(1)          | “investigator”  | “FR investigator”  |
| 72.      | Section 23A(2)          | “investigator”  | “FR investigator”  |
| 73.      | Section 23B(1)          | “investigator”  | “FR investigator”  |
| 74.      | Section 23B(2)          | “investigator”  | “FR investigator”  |



Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

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| Column 1 | Column 2            | Column 3                                  | Column 4          |
|----------|---------------------|---|-------------------|
| Item     | Provision           | Repeal                                    | Substitution      |
| 75.      | Section 24(1)(a)    | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator” |
| 76.      | Section 25, heading | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator” |
| 77.      | Section 25(1)       | “investigator”<br>(wherever<br>appearing) | “FR investigator” |
| 78.      | Section 25(2)(a)    | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator” |
| 79.      | Section 25(2)(b)    | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator” |
| 80.      | Section 26, heading | “Investigator”                            | “FR investigator” |
| 81.      | Section 26(1)       | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator” |
| 82.      | Section 26(2)       | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator” |
| 83.      | Section 26(3)       | “investigator”<br>(wherever<br>appearing) | “FR investigator” |
| 84.      | Section 29, heading | “Investigator”                            | “FR investigator” |
| 85.      | Section 29          | “investigator”<br>(wherever<br>appearing) | “FR investigator” |

Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

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| Column 1 | Column 2                        | Column 3                                  | Column 4                |
|----------|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Item     | Provision                       | Repeal                                    | Substitution            |
| 86.      | Section 30(1)                   | “investigator”<br>(wherever<br>appearing) | “FR investigator”       |
| 87.      | Section 30(2)(a)                | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator”       |
| 88.      | Section 31A(1)                  | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator”       |
| 89.      | Section 31A(2)                  | “investigator”<br>(wherever<br>appearing) | “FR investigator”       |
| 90.      | Section 31A(3)                  | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator”       |
| 91.      | Section 31A(4)(a)               | “investigator”                            | “FR investigator”       |
| 92.      | Section 31B(1),<br>Chinese text | “調查員”                                     | “財匯調查員”                 |
| 93.      | Section 32(1)                   | “inspector or”                            | “FR inspector or<br>FR” |
| 94.      | Section 33                      | “inspector or”<br>(wherever<br>appearing) | “FR inspector or<br>FR” |
| 95.      | Section 34(1)                   | “inspector or”                            | “FR inspector or<br>FR” |

Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

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| Column 1 | Column 2                    | Column 3              | Column 4                 |
|----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Item     | Provision                   | Repeal                | Substitution             |
| 96.      | Section 34(6)               | “inspector or”        | “FR inspector or<br>FR”  |
| 97.      | Section 37AA(3)(c)          | “misconduct”          | “FR misconduct”          |
| 98.      | Section 37A,<br>heading     | “ <b>Misconduct</b> ” | “ <b>FR misconduct</b> ” |
| 99.      | Section 37A                 | “a misconduct”        | “FR misconduct”          |
| 100.     | Section 37B,<br>heading     | “ <b>Misconduct</b> ” | “ <b>FR misconduct</b> ” |
| 101.     | Section 37B                 | “a misconduct”        | “FR misconduct”          |
| 102.     | Section 37D,<br>heading     | “ <b>misconduct</b> ” | “ <b>FR misconduct</b> ” |
| 103.     | Section 37D(1)              | “a misconduct.”       | “FR misconduct.”         |
| 104.     | Section 37D(2)              | “a misconduct”        | “FR misconduct”          |
| 105.     | Section<br>37D(3)(b)(iv)(B) | “misconduct.”         | “FR misconduct.”         |
| 106.     | Section 37E,<br>heading     | “ <b>misconduct</b> ” | “ <b>FR misconduct</b> ” |

Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (Transitional and Saving Provisions  
and Consequential Amendments) Regulation

Schedule

122

| Column 1 | Column 2   | Column 3          | Column 4                |
|----------|--|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Item     | Provision  | Repeal            | Substitution            |
| 107.     | Section 37E(1)   | “a misconduct.”   | “FR misconduct.”        |
| 108.     | Section 37E(2)   | “a misconduct”    | “FR misconduct”         |
| 109.     | Section<br>37E(3)(b)(iii)(B)   | “misconduct.”     | “FR misconduct.”        |
| 110.     | Section 51(13)(ab)   | “inspector or”    | “FR inspector or<br>FR” |
| 111.     | Section 52(6)(a)   | “an investigator” | “an FR<br>investigator” |
| 112.     | Section 52(6)(b)   | “an investigator” | “an FR<br>investigator” |
| 113.     | Section 55(3),<br>definition of<br><i>specified matter</i> ,<br>paragraph (a)(iii) | “misconduct”      | “FR misconduct”         |
| 114.     | Schedule 3A,<br>section 1(h)   | “inspector”       | “FR inspector”          |
| 115.     | Schedule 3A,<br>section 1(i)   | “investigator”    | “FR investigator”       |

Secretary for Financial Services and  
the Treasury

2022

### Explanatory Note

The Financial Reporting Council (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 (41 of 2021) (*2021 Amending Ordinance*) amends the Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) (*FRCO*) and the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Cap. 50) (*PAO*) to, among other things, transfer certain key aspects of the regulatory regime for the accountancy profession from the PAO to the FRCO. The amendments mainly—

- (a) rename the Financial Reporting Council as the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (*AFRC*) and make it the authority responsible for—
    - (i) the registration of PIE auditors, CPA firms and corporate practices;
    - (ii) the issuing of practising certificates for the practice of accountancy; and
    - (iii) the inspection, investigation and discipline of accounting professionals; and
  - (b) rename the FRCO as the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (*AFRCO*).
2. The main purposes of this Regulation are—
    - (a) to provide for transitional and saving arrangements for the amendments made by the 2021 Amending Ordinance; and
    - (b) to make consequential amendments to various enactments that are necessary on the enactment of the 2021 Amending Ordinance.
  3. Section 1 provides for commencement.
  4. Section 2 contains the definitions for the interpretation of this Regulation.

5. Section 3 provides that the coming into operation of any provision of the 2021 Amending Ordinance does not affect any decision, determination, order, direction, sanction or action, or any other act, that was made, given, imposed, taken or done under the FRCO as in force immediately before the transition date (*pre-amended Ordinance*) or the PAO as in force immediately before the transition date (*pre-amended PAO*).
6. Section 4 provides that the provisions in this Regulation are in addition to and not in derogation of section 23 of the Interpretation and General Clauses Ordinance (Cap. 1).
7. Part 2 provides for transitional and saving arrangements in relation to the registration of PIE auditors. In particular—
  - (a) sections 6, 7 and 8 save pre-existing registrations as a PIE auditor;
  - (b) section 9 provides that any pending pre-existing application for registration as a PIE auditor is to be dealt with under the AFRCO as amended by the 2021 Amending Ordinance and this Regulation (*amended Ordinance*);
  - (c) sections 10, 11 and 12 provide that conditions that are, or are to be, imposed in relation to the registration of pre-existing PIE auditors are not affected;
  - (d) section 13 provides that a registered responsible person of a pre-existing registered PIE auditor continues to be such a registered responsible person;
  - (e) section 15 provides that any pending proposal to add new registered responsible persons for a pre-existing registered PIE auditor is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance;
  - (f) section 16 saves the revocations and suspensions of pre-existing PIE auditor registrations under sections 20T and

- 20X of the pre-amended Ordinance that have not yet taken effect;
  - (g) section 17 provides that any pending matter under section 20T or 20X of the pre-amended Ordinance is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance;
  - (h) section 19 provides that a copy of the PIE auditors register established under the pre-amended Ordinance continues to be admissible in legal proceedings; and
  - (i) sections 21 and 22 deal with the review and appeal of certain decisions made before the transition date.
8. Part 3 provides for transitional and saving arrangements in relation to practising certificates. In particular—
    - (a) section 24 saves pre-existing practising certificates;
    - (b) sections 25, 26 and 27 deal with applications for a practising certificate made under the pre-amended PAO;
    - (c) section 28 provides that any pending matter under the pre-amended PAO that could result in the cancellation or suspension of a pre-existing practising certificate is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance;
    - (d) section 29 deals with the first application for the renewal of a certificate deemed as a practising certificate issued under the amended Ordinance; and
    - (e) section 30 deals with the cancellation and suspension of such certificates.
  9. Part 4 provides for transitional and saving arrangements in relation to the registration of firm names and firms. In particular—
    - (a) sections 32 and 33 respectively save—
      - (i) pre-existing certified public accountants (practising) who practise accountancy on the accountants' own

- account under a firm name registered under the pre-amended PAO as certified public accountants (practising) who practise accountancy on the accountants' own account under a firm name registered under the amended Ordinance; and
- (ii) pre-existing firms of certified public accountants (practising) registered under the pre-amended PAO as firms of certified public accountants (practising) registered under the amended Ordinance;
  - (b) section 34 provides that any pending pre-existing application for registration of a firm name or firm is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance;
  - (c) sections 35, 36 and 37 deal with other matters that relate to pre-existing applications for registration of a firm name or firm under the pre-amended PAO;
  - (d) section 38 provides that any pending matter under the pre-amended PAO that could result in the removal of a firm name is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance;
  - (e) sections 39 and 40 save orders for the removal of firm names (including the removal) under the pre-amended PAO;
  - (f) section 41 deals with the first application for the renewal of a registration deemed as a registration of firm name or firm under the amended Ordinance; and
  - (g) section 42 deals with the revocation and suspension of such registrations.

10. Part 5 provides for transitional and saving arrangements in relation to the registration of corporate practices. In particular—

- (a) section 44 saves pre-existing corporate practices as companies registered as a corporate practice under the amended Ordinance;
  - (b) section 45 provides that any pending pre-existing application for registration as a corporate practice is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance;
  - (c) sections 46, 47 and 48 deal with other matters that relate to pre-existing applications for registration as a corporate practice under the pre-amended PAO;
  - (d) section 49 provides that any pending application for removal of the name of corporate practices is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance;
  - (e) sections 50 and 51 provide that any pending matter under the pre-amended PAO that could result in the removal of the name of a corporate practice is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance;
  - (f) sections 52 and 53 save orders and directions for the removal of the name of corporate practices (including the removal) under the pre-amended PAO;
  - (g) sections 54, 55, 56 and 57 provide for how various notification requirements in relation to corporate practices are to be dealt with on and after the transition date;
  - (h) section 58 deals with the first application for the renewal of a registration deemed as a registration as a corporate practice under the amended Ordinance; and
  - (i) section 59 deals with the revocation and suspension of such registrations.
11. Section 60, which is the only section contained in Part 6, saves pre-existing practice units as practice units under the amended Ordinance.

12. Part 7 provides for transitional and saving arrangements in relation to practice reviews, investigations and disciplinary proceedings under the pre-amended PAO. In particular—
- (a) section 62 provides that ongoing practice reviews are to continue to be dealt with under the pre-amended PAO;
  - (b) section 65 provides that an investigable matter that allegedly occurred before the transition date is to be dealt with under the amended Ordinance if the HKICPA Council did not exercise its power under section 42C(2) of the pre-amended PAO in relation to the matter before the transition date;
  - (c) section 66 provides that any investigation in progress at the transition time is to continue to be dealt with under the pre-amended PAO, but any resulting disciplinary follow-up can only be dealt with by the AFRC under the amended Ordinance;
  - (d) section 67 provides that any disciplinary follow-up that results from an investigation under the pre-amended PAO but has not been dealt with under that Ordinance can only be dealt with by the AFRC under the amended Ordinance;
  - (e) section 71 provides that any misconduct that could be, but was not, complained of under the pre-amended PAO may be followed up under the amended Ordinance;
  - (f) section 72 provides that any complaint made, but not yet submitted to the HKICPA Council, under the pre-amended PAO is to be dealt with by the AFRC under the amended Ordinance;
  - (g) section 73 provides that any complaint being dealt with under the pre-amended PAO at the transition time is to continue to be dealt with under that Ordinance;

- (h) sections 74 and 75 provide for the continued application of the pre-amended PAO to disciplinary orders that were made under section 35(1) or 35B(3) of that Ordinance but have not yet taken effect at the transition time; and
  - (i) sections 76 and 77 respectively provide for the taking effect of disciplinary orders made under the pre-amended PAO and for the effect of such orders.
13. Part 8 provides for transitional and saving arrangements in relation to appeals under the pre-amended PAO. In particular—
- (a) section 79 saves the right to appeal to the Court of Appeal under the pre-amended PAO against certain decisions of the HKICPA Council or a Disciplinary Committee constituted under that Ordinance; and
  - (b) section 80 provides that any appeal under the pre-amended PAO not yet finally determined before the transition date is to continue to be dealt with under that Ordinance.
14. Part 9 deals with miscellaneous transitional and saving matters in relation to the pre-amended PAO and its subsidiary legislation. These matters include—
- (a) directions given under section 18B of the pre-amended PAO;
  - (b) lists of certified public accountants etc. published under section 32 of the pre-amended PAO;
  - (c) pending applications for the restoration of names under section 39 of the pre-amended PAO;
  - (d) resignations tendered by certified public accountants under section 49 of the pre-amended PAO; and

- (e) complaints referred to in by-law 34(1) of the Professional Accountants By-laws (Cap. 50 sub. leg. A) as in force immediately before the transition date.
15. Part 10 deals with miscellaneous transitional and saving matters in relation to the AFRCO. These matters include practice irregularities and misconduct committed before the transition date and the saving of various provisions of the pre-amended Ordinance. In addition—
- (a) section 93 empowers the AFRC to give directions to certain persons to produce and provide documents and information in connection with their registrations under the pre-amended PAO that ceased to be valid before the transition date;
  - (b) section 94 makes provision so that a PIE auditor required by the HKICPA under section 50C of the pre-amended Ordinance (*that section*) to pay the levy payable under that section (but has not paid) is to pay the levy to the AFRC on and after the transition date; and
  - (c) section 98 empowers the AFRC to require the HKICPA to provide records and assistance for the AFRC to prepare to perform the AFRC's functions under the amended Ordinance and to deal with the transitional and saving arrangements resulting from the 2021 Amending Ordinance.
16. Part 11 and the Schedule contain consequential amendments to various enactments.

**Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance  
(Amendment of Schedule 3B) Notice 2022**

(Made by the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury under section 61(1) of the Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588))

**1. Commencement**

This Notice comes into operation on 1 October 2023.

**2. Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance amended**

The Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) is amended as set out in section 3.

**3. Schedule 3B amended (fees)**

(1) Schedule 3B—

**Repeal item 1A**

**Substitute**

“1A. Issue of a practising certificate under section 20AAD on an application made—

- |                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| (a) before 1 October 2023      | 0       |
| (b) on or after 1 October 2023 | 3,500”. |

(2) Schedule 3B—

**Repeal item 1AB**

**Substitute**

“1AB. Issue of a renewed practising certificate under section 20AAI on an application made—

- |                                |         |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| (a) before 1 October 2023      | 0       |
| (b) on or after 1 October 2023 | 5,050”. |

(3) Schedule 3B, item 1AC, column 3—

**Repeal**

“0”

**Substitute**

“3,500”.

(4) Schedule 3B—

**Repeal item 1AD**

**Substitute**

“1AD. Application for renewal of registration of a firm name or firm—

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| (a) by a certified public accountant (practising) under section 20AAX(1)          | 5,050                           |
| (b) by a firm of certified public accountants (practising) under section 20AAX(2) | 5,050 per partner of the firm”. |

(5) Schedule 3B, item 1AE, column 3—

**Repeal**

“0”

**Substitute**

“5,250”.

(6) Schedule 3B—



**Repeal item 1AF**

**Substitute**

“1AF. Application for renewal of registration as a corporate practice under section 20AAZR 5,050 per director of the practice”.

Secretary for Financial Services and  
the Treasury

2022

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**Explanatory Note**

This Notice amends Schedule 3B to the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council Ordinance (Cap. 588) to increase the fees payable for—

- (a) the issue of a practising certificate;
- (b) the issue of a renewed practising certificate;
- (c) the application for registration of a firm name or firm;
- (d) the application for renewal of registration of a firm name or firm;
- (e) the application for registration as a corporate practice; and
- (f) the application for renewal of registration as a corporate practice.