Circular No: 32/97 dated 8 Nov 97

All Traders and Declaring Agents

## IMPLEMENTATION OF CUSTOMS VALUATION CODE

- 1. Singapore has adopted the Agreement on Implementation of Article VII of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT), known as the Customs Valuation Code (CVC), with effect from 17 Oct 97. The enabling legislation for implementing the CVC are the Customs (Amendment) Act 1997 and the Customs (Valuation)(Import Duty) Regulations 1997.
- 2. The CVC will replace the present valuation system under which the customs value of imported goods is determined according to their open market value with a valuation system based on the transaction value of the imported goods which include the cost, insurance and freight. However, the present valuation system under section 22 of the Customs Act is still applicable for the valuation of all goods subject to excise duty.
- 3. The CVC is only applicable in the assessment of **import duty levied on ad valorem rates**. It is therefore not applicable for any assessment of duty based on specific rates or excise rates. There is no change to the valuation of imported goods for the purposes of levying Goods and Services Tax (GST), which is provided for under section 18 of the GST Act.