



MEDIA STATEMENT

ABS statement on the use of NRIC numbers for authentication

Singapore, 2 February 2026 – The statement below can be attributed to

Mrs Ong-Ang Ai Boon, Director, The Association of Banks in Singapore:

“Banks are committed to phasing out the use of NRIC numbers for authentication, in line with advisories from PDPC^[1] and MAS.

Currently, NRIC numbers alone cannot be used to effect financial transactions like payments and funds transfers, where multi-factor authentication is used.

Most banks no longer use NRIC numbers for authentication in non-transactional situations such as opening encrypted email attachments. Those that still do will transition to alternative authentication methods in the coming months.

^[1] PDPC media release issued on 2 February 2026 on “Organisations to cease the use of NRIC numbers for authentication by 1 January 2027”.”

[END]

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About The Association of Banks in Singapore

The Association of Banks in Singapore (ABS) plays an active role in promoting and representing the interests of the banking community in Singapore. In doing so, ABS works closely with the relevant government authorities and other stakeholders towards the development of a sound financial system in Singapore. Since its establishment in 1973, ABS has promoted common understanding and trust among its members and projected a unifying voice on banking issues. It has brought its members closer together through various guidelines and banking practices as well as the support of projects of mutual benefit to face the challenges of the financial and banking communities in Singapore. Today, ABS has a membership of over 150 local and foreign banks. More information on the ABS is available on the association’s website, www.abs.org.sg.