

SINGAPORE, 3 February 2017 – The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) has received the report from the Hawker Centre 3.0 Committee ('the Committee').

Hawker Centre 3.0 Committee

2 The Committee was formed in January 2016 to review and make recommendations to the Government on the management of hawker centres and the sustainability of the hawker trade. The vision is for our hawker centres to be appealing and vibrant social spaces where people from all walks of life can enjoy affordable and tasty food in a clean and hygienic environment and where hawkers can continue to make a decent livelihood. Chaired by the Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources Dr Amy Khor, the 14-member Committee looked into four key areas, namely sustaining the hawker trade, improving productivity in hawker centres, enhancing hawker centres as social spaces, and promoting graciousness.

3 Over the course of 2016, the Committee had received feedback from more than 800 stakeholders, including hawkers, members of public, cleaning contractors, and other industry players.

The Committee's Recommendations

4 The Committee's recommendations under the four key areas are as follows:

On sustaining the hawker trade and supporting new entrants

5 The Committee recommends that the Government develop sustainable, dedicated training programmes that would help facilitate and encourage the entry of aspiring hawkers into the trade. The programmes should involve a pathway in which participants could learn about the hawker trade, acquire culinary and business management skills, as well as have some opportunity to experience being a hawker and eventually becoming one.

6 In view of this, the Committee also recommends that the Government allocate a number of stalls in various hawker centres as incubation stalls for aspiring individuals to experience being a hawker for a limited period of time. These incubation stalls should be fitted with basic equipment to reduce the capital investment required to start a hawker stall, and it would be useful if there are supervisors or mentors to guide and enhance the incubation stall-holder's learning experience and success in mastering the relevant culinary and management skills. The Committee recommends that a panel of supervisors or mentors who may be veteran hawkers be formed to provide coaching and guidance to these aspiring hawkers.

7 The Committee proposes that the Government set up a comprehensive one-stop information centre that would function as a service centre for hawker trade-related enquiries on hawker stall licence application, regulatory requirements, relevant courses and supplier contacts, etc. Apart from guiding new hawkers, the centre should also function as a resource centre for existing hawkers where they could find information on the latest developments and best practices relevant to the hawker trade, such as kitchen equipment and automation, training courses, networks, etc.

8 To make the hawker trade more attractive to our younger generation, the Committee recommends that the Government consider partnering relevant parties to develop suitable promotional programmes to raise the profile of hawkers and the hawker trade. These initiatives could also celebrate and promote hawker centres as a uniquely Singaporean icon. Outstanding hawkers with inspiring stories could be featured through such platforms to raise the profile of the hawker trade and reinforce the hawker culture.

On improving productivity in hawker centres

9 The Committee recommends that the Government continue to explore ways to improve the productivity in hawker centres – both at the centre-level and the stall-level. On the former, the Committee proposes that the Government explore, for instance, the viability of centralised dishwashing, cashless payment and bulk purchasing of common ingredients. Such measures would not only raise productivity, but also address manpower constraints and cut costs, especially over the medium to long term.

10 At the stall-level, the Committee recommends that the Government promote and encourage more widespread adoption of more efficient and productive equipment in the hawkers' operations. This recommendation arises from feedback and suggestions received during the engagement sessions with hawkers – that there is potential to raise hawkers' productivity by automating certain tedious and repetitive tasks, such as cutting chilli, chopping onions, mixing dough, etc. However, it is observed that currently there is very little attempt to automate at the stall-level to ease the hawkers' workload and improve productivity.

On enhancing hawker centres as social spaces and improving the vibrancy of hawker centres

11 The Committee recommends that the National Environment Agency (NEA) and hawker centre operators facilitate regular, organised activities, such as music performances and festive celebrations within hawker centres to enhance the hawker centres' vibrancy and the customers' dining experience. To achieve this goal, the Committee suggests that community groups, such as the grassroots organisations, arts groups, schools or tertiary institutions adopt or partner their preferred hawker centres to hold relevant and regular activities there over a sustained period. This will further strengthen the use of hawker centres as social spaces for communities to come together not just to dine but enjoy and/or participate in community activities.

12 To further enhance the dining experience of the patrons, the Committee recommends that the Government continue to improve the amenities within the hawker centres, such as providing free WIFI access as well as child-friendly spaces.

13 In order to cater to the diverse needs of the population, the Committee is of the view that hawker centres should continue to have a good mix of food. To this end, the Committee recommends that the Government more proactively manage vacant stalls in existing hawker centres which are not managed by third party operators to ensure that a good variety of food is available at these hawker centres.

On promoting graciousness in hawker centres

14 The Committee's engagement sessions with various stakeholders indicate that there was a universal desire for a clean and hygienic dining environment and that most saw tray-return as a desirable social habit that should be cultivated. A good tray-return culture would facilitate faster turnover of tables and reduce waiting time for the next diner and thus, potentially increasing sales for the hawkers. It would also result in a cleaner and more pleasant dining environment. One of the often quoted reasons for not returning trays is the misperception that this would deprive the table-cleaners of their jobs. Yet another common reason cited is that the table-cleaners would remove the tray and crockery even before the patrons could return them to the tray-return station. Hence, to cultivate and entrench a tray-return culture, the Committee recommends that NEA and hawker centre operators work with key stakeholders, such as the cleaning companies to dispel the misperception that the cleaners will be made redundant. The Committee also calls for NEA to conduct more campaigns to propagate the virtue and habit of tray-return and other gracious and considerate behaviour. The Committee also suggests that improvements be made to the current tray-return facilities in terms of design, layout and location of these facilities to make it easier and more convenient for patrons to use and for cleaners to do their work.

15 As hawker centres are community spaces shared by everyone, the Committee is of the view that the Government and other stakeholders should continue to use posters, murals or campaigns to encourage kind and considerate behaviour, such as the sharing of tables and keeping our hawker centres clean by not littering when dining there.

Ministry's response

16 On receiving the Report, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli said, "I would like to thank the Hawker Centre 3.0 Committee for their hard work over the past year and providing valuable feedback and recommendations to improve our hawker centres. Of course, this report would not be complete without the ideas and suggestions from the various stakeholders, such as our hawkers and members of the public. I also want to thank everyone who contributed their feedback and ideas during the various engagement sessions. We are currently studying the report and will give our response in due course."

17 The report can be accessed [here](#).

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore Mr Masagos Zulkifli will visit the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 11- 15 February 2017 to meet with his counterparts to enhance bilateral relations in the areas of environmental and water cooperation.

2 While in Saudi Arabia, Minister Masagos will speak at the Saudi Water and Environment Forum and witness the signing ceremony between Hyflux and Saudi Water Conversion Corporation for the new Sea Water Reverse Osmosis Plants and Water Transmission Systems projects in the cities of Al Wajh, Duba and Haql.

3 In the UAE, Minister Masagos will attend the inaugural Climate Change Session at World Government Summit to discuss the issue of food security and diversification in face of climate change. He will sign a MOU on Environment and Water Cooperation with his counterpart from the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment and also visit Sembcorp's Integrated Water and Power Plant in Fujairah.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
10 February 2017

Singapore's Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Masagos Zulkifli made an official visit to Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 11-15 Feb 2017.

2 In Saudi Arabia, Minister Masagos met with Riyadh Governor Prince Faisal Bin Bandar Al Saud and the Saudi Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture Abdulrahman Al Fadhli. Minister Masagos noted that the shared water challenges between Saudi Arabia and Singapore presented opportunities for collaborations between both countries in the areas of technology and research. Both countries are already exchanging knowledge on desalination technologies and should continue the momentum and step-up the engagements.

3 Minister Masagos also delivered a keynote address at the Saudi Water and Environment Forum (SWEF) where he reiterated the same points. At SWEF, he also witnessed the signing of an MoU between SWCC and Hydrochem which is the Saudi subsidiary of Singapore-based Hyflux. The agreement calls for Hyflux to build three seawater reverse osmosis desalination plants in Duba, Wajh, and Al Haql. Besides Hyflux, some of the companies which have successfully completed projects in the Middle East and around the world are Sembcorp, Boustead Salcon, Keppel and Meinhardt. Their expertise includes membrane-based desalination and integration of wastewater treatment, water reclamation and industrial water supply into a closed loop.

4 In the UAE, Minister Masagos attended the inaugural Climate Change Session at World Government Summit to discuss the issue of food security and diversification in face of climate change. On the sidelines, Minister Masagos signed a MoU on Environment and Water Cooperation with his counterpart from the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, Minister Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, to promote cooperation in the areas of environmental conservation, climate change and sustainable development. The MoU focuses on capacity building, monitoring and reducing environmental impact, developing innovative solutions to environmental challenges, engaging the youth and raising awareness among the public on the environment. Under its terms, the two parties will share experience and best practices, exchange information, arrange visits by experts, and organise meetings and workshops.

5 Minister Masagos also met with Ruler of Fujairah Sheikh Hamad Bin Mohammed Al-Sharqi. Minister Masagos noted that the UAE and Singapore faced similar challenges such as water scarcity and managing water demand, and looked forward to closer collaboration with Fujairah on environmental and water issues. In Fujairah, Minister Masagos also visited Sembcorp's Integrated Water and Power Plant.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

16 February 2017

Singapore, 20 February 2017 – Water prices will be revised from 1 July 2017. Tariffs will go up in two steps, in July 2017 and in July 2018. Water prices have remained unchanged since 2000.

2 Heavy investments in water infrastructure, coupled with rising operational costs, have made the increase in water prices necessary. We are upgrading our water system to make it more resilient, especially to face the challenges posed by climate change. The revised water prices will enable PUB, the National Water Agency, to cater to future demand, strengthen Singapore's water security, and continue to deliver a high-quality and reliable supply of water.

3 The water price goes towards meeting the cost of water treatment, reservoir operations, NEWater production, desalination, used water collection and treatment, and the maintenance and expansion of the island-wide network of water pipelines.

4 It also includes the Water Conservation Tax (WCT), which is imposed on the potable water tariff. The WCT reinforces the message that water is precious. It is also to reflect the full incremental cost of producing more potable water (likely by desalination and NEWater) beyond PUB's present output, so that consumers are conscious of the scarcity value of the water they use.

5 The key revisions to the water prices are:

- A 30% increase in water price, phased over 2 years, starting from 1 Jul 2017;
- Restructuring of the Sanitary Appliance Fee and the Waterborne Fee into a single, volume-based fee; and
- Imposition of WCT on NEWater, which is 10% of the NEWater tariff.

Please refer to [Annex A](#) for details.

Water supply and demand

6 Over the last 50 years, Singapore has built a robust and diversified water supply based on the "Four National Taps" strategy (local catchment water, imported water, NEWater and desalinated water).

7 Singapore's water demand has risen significantly since the last price adjustments 17 years ago, from 300 million gallons per day (mgd) in 2000 to 430 mgd today. Water demand is expected to more than double by 2060. To meet increasing demand, PUB has expanded water infrastructure by building new plants, upgrading existing ones and expanding the potable and used water networks.

Need for further investments in water infrastructure

8 Investing in water infrastructure is even more critical in the face of looming challenges to water security. For example, water levels at the Linggiu Reservoir have fallen to historic lows in recent months. To make our water supply more resilient against weather uncertainties as well as to meet future demand, we need to invest heavily in water sources such as desalination and NEWater that do not depend on rainfall. PUB plans to progressively increase NEWater and desalination capacity to meet 85% of our water needs by 2060.

9 Today, we have five NEWater plants and two desalination plants. A third desalination plant in Tuas will commence operations this year, and two more desalination plants in Marina East and on Jurong Island are expected to be operational by 2020. A sixth NEWater plant will be built in tandem with the Tuas Water Reclamation Plant under Phase 2 of the Deep Tunnel Sewerage System (DTSS) project. Please refer to [Annex B](#) for more information on investments in water infrastructure.

10 PUB is also laying many new water pipelines to meet growing demand in existing and upcoming population centres. At the same time, ageing sewers and water pipes have to be rehabilitated or replaced, so that assets in our water system do not fall into disrepair.

11 Altogether, PUB will be doubling its investment to about \$4 billion in total in the next 5 years.

Rising costs of supplying water

12 At the same time, higher costs of manpower, materials and chemicals, and more difficult and expensive development techniques (e.g. going underground) due to greater urbanisation, are raising the costs of producing and delivering water.

13 PUB has been managing its costs over the years by improving technology and productivity. However, much of the incremental improvements have already been reaped. What remain are longer term technological breakthroughs which may take years to be proven operationally and become deployable. Hence the need to revise the price of water to reflect the latest costs of our water supply.

Revised water prices for households

14 One key revision is the restructuring of used water charges. Currently, the Sanitary Appliance Fee (SAF) and the Waterborne Fee (WBF) go towards meeting the cost of treating used water and maintaining the used water network. From July 2017 onwards, the SAF and the WBF will be restructured into a single, volume-based fee. This is more reflective of the volume of used water discharged. The WBF will be increased to \$0.92/m³ for households with water consumption of 40m³ or less per month. A second tier WBF at a rate of \$1.18/m³ will be introduced for households with monthly consumption above 40m³ to further discourage excessive use of water.

15 We will also revise the potable water tariff and WCT (details are in [Annex A](#)). Taking everything together (water tariff, WCT, and used water charges), the total price of water will go up by 30%.

16 With these adjustments, 75% of households will see an increase of less than \$18 in their monthly water bills (see [Annex C](#)). On average, the household water bill as a percentage of household income will remain low at around 1% even after the price adjustments.

17 Singapore's water prices, as compared to other countries, can be found in [Annex D](#).

Assistance for eligible HDB households

18 To help households manage the higher water prices, the Government will provide eligible HDB households with additional U-Save rebates, ranging from \$40 to \$120 per annum, depending on HDB flat type.

19 Families living in 1- and 2-room HDB flats will now receive \$380 of U-Save rebates each year compared to \$260 previously, while families living in 3- and 4-room HDB flats respectively will receive \$340 and \$300 annually, compared to \$240 and \$220 previously.

20 Taking into account these higher U-Save rebates, 75% of all HDB households will see an increase of less than \$12 in their monthly water bills (see [Annex C](#)). 1- and 2-room HDB households will on average see no increase in their water bills.

Revised water prices for non-domestic sector

21 From July 2018 onwards, the water tariff for non-domestic consumers¹¹ using potable water will be increased to \$1.21/m³. The WCT will be increased to 50% of total water consumption, and the WBF increased to \$0.92/m³. The adjustments will be made over two years.

22 Non-domestic consumers using NEWater will pay the revised tariff of \$1.28/m³, and \$0.92/m³ for the WBF from July 2018. A WCT of 10% will be imposed on the total NEWater consumption to encourage water conservation. The NEWater tariff and the WCT will be raised in one step while the WBF increase will be phased over two years.

23 Non-domestic consumers using Industrial Water will pay the revised tariff of \$0.66/m³ from July 2017, and \$0.92/m³ for the WBF from July 2018. The Industrial Water Tariff will be raised in one step while the WBF increase will be phased over two years.

24 With these adjustments, 75% of businesses will see an increase of less than \$25 in their monthly water bill. Businesses can tap on PUB's Water Efficiency Fund (WEF) to implement water saving measures. PUB will also continue to work with businesses to improve their water efficiency through the Water Efficiency Management Plan (WEMP) and the Water Efficient Building (WEB) Certification programme.

Use water wisely

25 Everyone, whether households or businesses, has to do their part to use water prudently. This way, we can make our scarce water resources last longer. Every drop saved is one drop fewer that needs to be supplied. Consumers will also enjoy lower water bills if they conserve water (see [Annex E](#) for water conservation tips).

26 The Government will continue to promote water efficient appliances and water-saving habits to drive even more water savings in households and encourage greater water efficiency in commerce and industry.

27 For more information on the price revisions, please visit www.pub.gov.sg.

[1] These prices are not applicable to shipping customers. The new potable water prices for shipping customers can be found in [Annex A](#).

Minister of Development of Brunei Darussalam, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah will visit Singapore from 20 to 21 April 2017 for the 11th Brunei-Singapore Annual Exchange of Visits (BSAEV) at the invitation of Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore.

2 The BSAEV is an annual meeting between the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore and the Ministry of Development, Brunei Darussalam. The two Ministers and their officials will exchange information and views on environmental and water issues of mutual interest and review the progress of joint activities and collaboration in the areas of solid waste management, air quality monitoring, environmental youth exchange programme, sustainable consumption and production, and water resource management. The two Ministries will also exchange views regarding environmental issues on the regional and international agenda and discuss how Singapore and Brunei Darussalam can further cooperate to address common challenges to promote environmental sustainability.

3 The 11th BSAEV will conclude with friendly sports games involving the two Ministries.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

19 April 2017

The Eleventh Meeting of Brunei-Singapore Cooperation on the Environment under the Annual Exchange of Visit, instituted by the 2015 Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Partnership in Environmental Affairs, was held in Singapore on 21 April 2017.

2 The Brunei Darussalam delegation was led by Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah, Minister of Development, and comprised Awang Haji Muhammad Lutfi bin Abdullah, Permanent Secretary (Administration & Finance), and other senior officials from the Ministry of Development and Ministry of Education.

3 Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources led the Singapore delegation, comprising Mr Choi Shing Kwok, Permanent Secretary, and other senior officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, National Environment Agency and PUB, Singapore's national water agency.

4 During the 11th BSAEV, the Ministers reaffirmed the outstanding bilateral relations between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore and reiterated their commitment to foster continual progress and deepen cooperation on environmental and water issues.

5 The Ministers welcomed the steady progress of collaborative activities between the two countries in the areas of solid waste management, air quality management, water resources management, land-use planning and environment youth exchange. The Ministers also exchanged views on environmental issues on the regional and international agenda such as sustainable consumption and production, and reiterated their commitment to cooperate with other ASEAN member states to advance regional environmental interests to achieve sustainable development and provide a healthy and clean living environment for the people.

6 The Ministers endorsed the continued collaboration in waste management in both countries, in particular, the exchange of experiences in the areas of recycling food waste and e-waste as well as waste collection and disposal. The Ministers welcomed the useful exchange of information on air quality management and monitoring, which included air quality reporting systems pertaining to PM10 and PM2.5 for air pollution and haze monitoring in our region. The Ministers also supported the active participation of youths from Brunei Darussalam and Singapore in both countries' youth environmental programmes, which will not only promote greater environmental awareness but also deepen people-to-people ties.

7 The Ministers noted that Brunei Darussalam and Singapore will further strengthen exchanges in water resources management through the sharing of knowledge in technological advancements in drainage and sewerage management, and water supply management. Brunei Darussalam and Singapore will continue to collaborate to enhance water resilience and overcome future challenges in water resources management.

8 In conjunction with the 11th Brunei-Singapore Annual Exchange of Visits, the delegates also participated in friendly games to build camaraderie among officials of both countries.

9 Brunei Darussalam will host the Twelfth Brunei-Singapore Annual Exchange of Visits in 2018.

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1 Minister for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore Mr Masagos Zulkifli will visit the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 24-25 April 2017 to meet with his counterparts from the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. The visit will be an opportunity to reaffirm Singapore's commitment to deepen knowledge sharing and technical exchanges in the areas of environment and water with Vietnam, and to discuss ways in which both countries can strengthen bilateral and ASEAN-level cooperation to overcome key environmental challenges.

2 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
23 April 2017

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore Mr Masagos Zulkifli visited Vietnam from 24 to 25 April 2017 to strengthen relations between the two countries in the areas of environment and water. During the visit, Minister Masagos called on the President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Tran Dai Quang and met with the Chairman of Hanoi People's Committee Nguyen Duc Chung, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Tran Hong Ha and Permanent Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Ha Cong Tuan.

President Tran Dai Quang and Minister Masagos reaffirmed the strong bilateral relations between Singapore and Vietnam, following Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's recent visit to Vietnam. President Tran Dai Quang commended Singapore for its achievements in environmental protection, and noted that Vietnam could learn from Singapore's expertise in this area. They also discussed emerging environmental challenges faced by both countries and the region, including climate change and transboundary environmental pollution such as haze. They noted that pollution will be the focus of the Third Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly that would take place in December 2017 in Nairobi.

Chairman Nguyen Duc Chung and Minister Masagos underscored the need to foster closer public and private collaboration in areas such as water, waste and pollution management. Minister Masagos invited Chairman Nguyen Duc Chung to speak at the biennial CleanEnviro Summit Singapore (CESS) and Singapore International Water Week in July 2018, organised by NEA and PUB respectively.

Minister Tran Hong Ha and Minister Masagos expressed satisfaction over the firm relations enjoyed between Vietnam and Singapore, and set forth their vision to deepen environmental ties between the two ministries. To this end, they agreed to work towards a Memorandum of Understanding on environmental and water cooperation between Singapore and Vietnam that would institutionalize and further strengthen bilateral ties between the two ministries. They also expressed commitment to continue working closely in the ASEAN Ministerial Meetings on the Environment, and noted the importance of holistically addressing environmental issues of concern in the region including transboundary haze. Both Ministers looked forward to a substantive and productive meeting at the upcoming ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Environment that would be held in Brunei Darussalam in September 2017.

Permanent Vice Minister Ha Cong Tuan and Minister Masagos acknowledged the impacts that climate change would bring in terms of reduced agricultural yield, increased salinity intrusion and more intense weather patterns in the region. They also recognized the importance of addressing transboundary haze pollution not only because of its immediate impact on health and environment, but also its long-term impact on climate change and consequently water resources and food security. In this regard, both Ministers acknowledged the importance of taking concrete actions to address these issues, and looked

forward to the close cooperation in ASEAN under the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution to prevent, mitigate and monitor transboundary haze pollution caused by land and forest fires. They also emphasised the importance for ASEAN to fully implement the Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control, and to explore ways to lend momentum to realising the vision of a Haze-Free ASEAN by 2020.

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli will attend the 19th Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 18 May 2017.

2 The Ministerial-level MSC, comprising Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, will continue to review and enhance cooperative measures to monitor, prevent and mitigate smoke haze arising from land and forest fires in the five countries.

3 The 19th MSC Meeting is expected to discuss key issues pertaining to haze prevention measures in the five MSC countries, including the implementation of the ASEAN Sub-Regional Haze Monitoring System, mobilisation of regional and international assistance to support fire-fighting efforts, and exchange of information among countries.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

17 May 2017

1 The public sector has unveiled an action plan to conserve resources and embark on green initiatives, and hopes it will inspire all Singaporeans to work towards greater environmental sustainability. The inaugural Public Sector Sustainability Plan 2017-2020 (PSSP) was launched by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister in Charge of the Public Service, Teo Chee Hean, at the opening ceremony of the Singapore Sustainability Academy on World Environment Day.

2 The public sector is Singapore's largest employer, comprising 16 ministries, 64 statutory boards and about 145,000 public officers. As a significant consumer of natural resources, the public sector is taking the lead to contribute to the nationwide Sustainable Singapore Movement, and the goals articulated in the Sustainable Singapore Blueprint.

3 The PSSP outlines the public sector's collective efforts to go green. This includes embarking on innovative initiatives and projects, such as government-wide green procurement of electronics and paper products, food waste recycling in public sector premises and a floating solar test-bed in Tengeh Reservoir.

4 To foster greater accountability and increase the transparency and disclosure of its environmental performance, the public sector has also set targets to reduce electricity and water consumption by 15% and 5% respectively by 2020. The public sector is currently on track to achieve these two targets. To achieve greener buildings, the public sector is aiming for all large public sector buildings to achieve at least BCA Green Mark Gold rating by 2020. To date, all new public sector buildings are on track to attain the highest Green Mark Platinum standard, and existing buildings are aiming to attain at least the Green Mark Gold standard. To reduce waste and support clean energy, targets will also be set for waste reduction and solar adoption in future.

5 With the launch of the PSSP and through sharing our efforts in environmental sustainability, the public sector strongly encourages the people and private sectors to adopt more green practices and make sustainability a way of life. Everyone has a part to play in building a Sustainable Singapore.

6 The PSSP is available for download at <http://www.mewr.gov.sg/grab-our-research>. More information on the Sustainable Singapore Movement can be found at www.sustainablesingapore.gov.sg.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
5 JUNE 2017

1 Minister for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore Mr Masagos Zulkifli will visit the cities of Palembang and Jakarta in Indonesia on 10-11 July 2017.

2 In Jakarta, Minister Masagos will meet Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs Wiranto and Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs Luhut Pandjaitan. In addition, Minister will meet senior regional officials in Palembang, including the Governor of South Sumatra Alex Noerdin.

3 During the visit, Minister Masagos will reaffirm Singapore's commitment and cooperation with Indonesia on addressing environmental challenges.

4 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the National Environment Agency and PUB, Singapore's Water Agency.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

9 July 2017

1 Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli visited Jakarta and Palembang on 10-11 July 2017 to reaffirm Singapore's commitment to work cooperatively with Indonesia in addressing environmental challenges, including tackling the haze issue. During the visit, Minister Masagos conveyed Singapore's commitment to assist Indonesia in the event that widespread fires occur this year. Apart from meeting officials from the central and provincial governments to explore potential areas of cooperation, he also met with representatives from environmental NGOs and the business community to understand their preparations to prevent large-scale forest fires.

2 In Jakarta, Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs Wiranto and Minister Masagos noted the long-standing and wide-ranging exchanges between Singapore and Indonesia that have contributed to the continued political and economic stability of the two countries. With regard to haze prevention, Minister Masagos expressed appreciation for the measures which had been put in place by the Indonesian Government, which helped to ensure that 2016 remained free of transboundary haze. In view of the need for continued vigilance in the upcoming dry season, Minister Masagos conveyed Singapore's commitment to assist in combatting fires should there be a need.

This assistance would consist of one C-130 aircraft for cloud seeding operations; a team from the Singapore Civil Defence Force to provide assessment and planning assistance in fire-fighting efforts; up to two C-130 aircraft to ferry the fire-fighting assistance team; and high resolution satellite pictures of fires and the coordinates of the fire sites. Coordinating Minister Wiranto thanked Minister Masagos for conveying the Singapore Government's support, and emphasized the need for close cooperation in combatting the haze.

3 Minister Masagos also met with Coordinating Minister for Maritime Affairs Luhut Pandjaitan where they discussed collaboration on water and waste management, in particular waste-to-energy (WTE) systems. Coordinating Minister Pandjaitan expressed interest in learning more about WTE processes and technologies, including conducting technical exchanges and capacity building initiatives. Both Ministers also noted the strengthening of bilateral ties, and the scope to build on this longstanding relationship to further advance cooperation in celebration of 50 years of bilateral relations.

4 In Palembang, South Sumatra Governor Alex Noordin briefed Minister Masagos on the efforts of the province to prevent fires during the upcoming dry season and beyond. These efforts included early warning alerts for hotspots, regional deployment of assets for quicker response to fires, and stronger coordination between all stakeholders. Provincial Parliamentary Assembly Speaker Giri Kiemas also shared that President Jokowi's directives were being judiciously implemented in the region. Minister Masagos encouraged South Sumatra to continue with these efforts and affirmed Singapore's willingness to collaborate with South Sumatra on training and sustainable development programmes.

Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore, Dr Amy Khor, will attend the Ministerial Meeting of the Oceans Meeting 2017 in Lisbon, Portugal from 7 – 8 September 2017. The Oceans Meeting 2017 is organised by Portugal, and is a follow-up to Blue Week 2015 and the Oceans Meeting 2016. Building on the momentum in relevant international fora, the Meeting aims to discuss common international policies for the Oceans. The Meeting will be hosted by the Portuguese Minister of the Sea Ana Paula Vitorino.

2 During the Oceans Meeting 2017, Dr Khor will deliver a national statement to share principles to achieve conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, as well as profile Singapore's efforts in addressing marine litter and microplastics. The Oceans Meeting Declaration will also be endorsed at the Meeting. The declaration is a non-legally binding political declaration with a focus on the need to recognise the relationship between oceans and human health, and calls for increased action to ensure healthy oceans and coastal ecosystems.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
5 SEPTEMBER 2017**

Singapore's Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Masagos Zulkifli, will attend the joint high-level segment (HLS) of the 2nd Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific (2nd A/P Forum) and the 7th session of the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia Pacific (7th MCED) on 7-8 Sep 2017, in Bangkok, Thailand. This is the first time that the A/P Forum and the MCED are held together.

The A/P Forum is organised by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and is part of the regional preparatory process for the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA). The A/P Forum serves as a platform for countries to provide input on regional priorities for the UN Environment, as well as review UN Environment's implementation of UNEA resolutions. Ministers and other Heads of Delegation are expected to use the A/P Forum to outline their national positions on key issues on the environment. The MCED is an intergovernmental meeting by the UN Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) that covers environmental and development issues, and is held every five years.

At the joint HLS meeting, Minister Masagos will deliver Singapore's national statement to outline Singapore's sustainable development strategies. Minister will also be part of a panel at a Ministerial Dialogue on Policy Perspectives on a Pollution-free Planet, as well as a special session on Strengthening Regional Ocean Governance and Partnerships towards Clean Seas.

Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
6 SEPTEMBER 2017

8th September 2017, Bangkok – Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Singapore’s Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, was elected as Chair of the 2nd Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia Pacific[1] (2nd A/P Forum) and the 7th session of the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia Pacific[2] (MCED-7), which took place in Bangkok, Thailand, from 7 to 8 September 2017. This is the first time that the A/P Forum and the MCED are held together. The meetings were jointly organised by the United Nations Environment Programme[3] (UN Environment) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific[4] (UN ESCAP).

At the event, environment ministers and high-level officials from over 30 countries in Asia-Pacific expressed collective will to move towards a more resource efficient and pollution-free Asia Pacific. This will help to advance global agendas like the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development[5], the United Nations Environment Assembly[6] (UNEA) resolutions and other global commitments. Many drew attention to their national efforts in working towards a resource-efficient and pollution-free Asia Pacific, and reiterated the critical nature of this work as there is only one planet Earth. The outcomes also highlighted the importance of adopting holistic strategies and building strong intergovernmental cooperation to address pollution in all forms, including transboundary ones.

The outcomes of the 2nd A/P Forum will feed into the deliberations for the third session of UNEA in December 2017. The MCED-7 saw the adoption of a Ministerial declaration which saw outcomes including the political commitment to promote regional dialogue to discuss environmental issues, including those that have transboundary impacts.

In addition to chairing the joint high-level segment of the 2nd A/P Forum and MCED-7, Minister Masagos also delivered Singapore’s National Statement, and spoke as a panellist at a Ministerial Dialogue titled “Towards a resource-efficient and pollution-free Asia-Pacific region” and a special event “Strengthening regional ocean governance and partnership towards clean seas”.

At these sessions, Minister Masagos underlined that Singapore takes pollution issues seriously. To make a case in point, he shared that shortly after Singapore’s independence in 1965, Singapore was one of the first countries in the world to form a dedicated environment ministry. Noting that this was a decisive move by the Singapore government to ensure that the environment was not compromised in the pursuit of economic development, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Director of United Nations Environment Programme Erik Solheim lauded Singapore’s model of sustainable development.

“I believe that Singapore provides a model for most of us. The thinking up until now for many countries is to develop first then take care of environment. However, that was a flawed model. But if you ask me on the answer to a good model of development, I will say Singapore,” said Solheim at the Ministerial

Dialogue titled “Towards a resource-efficient and pollution-free Asia-Pacific region”.

Minister Masagos also spoke on our domestic measures, including the policies related to air quality, waste management and water management. He highlighted that even though Singapore does its part in reducing its resource and pollution footprints, localised pollution control efforts alone are not enough in achieving a pollution-free planet because pollution crosses borders through carriers, such as air and water.

In this regard, he underscored the importance for countries to adopt holistic strategies, including implementing effective measures to control pollution at source as well as cooperating with each other to address transboundary pollution. He also added that multilateral and regional bodies, such as UN Environment and UN ESCAP, play vital roles in fostering cooperation in our region and beyond.

The full National Statement delivered by Minister Masagos is enclosed.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES, SINGAPORE
8 SEPTEMBER 2017**

[1] The A/P Forum is organised by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and is part of the regional preparatory process for the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA). The A/P Forum serves as a platform for countries to provide input on regional priorities for UN Environment, and review UN Environment’s implementation of UNEA resolutions. Ministers and other Heads of Delegation can also use the A/P Forum to outline their national positions on key issues on the environment.

[2] The MCED is an intergovernmental meeting that covers environmental and development issues, and is held every five years by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). The MCED aims to review the state of the regional environment for the previous five years and draw up a regional sustainable development plan for the next five years.

[3] UN Environment was created in 1972 by the United Nations General Assembly to coordinate environmental matters within the United Nations system and set the global environmental agenda. Singapore was accredited to UN Environment on 15 Feb 2016. The Government appointed Hazri Hassan, Director of International Policy from the Ministry of the Environment and Water

Resources, as Singapore's Non-Resident Permanent Representative to UN Environment.

[4] UN ESCAP is the regional development arm of the United Nations for the Asia-Pacific region. It was established in 1974 to encourage economic cooperation among its member states. UN ESCAP's regional focus is managing globalisation through programmes in environmentally sustainable development, trade, and human rights.

[5] The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit on 25 Sep 2015. The 2030 Agenda is a set of 17 aspirational sustainable development global goals covering a broad range of sustainable issues, with 169 targets between them. Each sustainable development goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years.

[6] UNEA represents universal membership and is the governing body of UN Environment. UNEA sets the global environmental agenda, and is the governing body of UN Environment and guides its work. UNEA-3 will take place in December 2017, and is expected to take decisions on resolutions and documents, including a declaration, aimed at reducing pollution.

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, and His Excellency Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Maximus Johnity Ongkili, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water will meet in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, for the 2nd Joint Committee Meeting between their ministries on 11 September 2017. During Minister Masagos' introductory visit to the Malaysian Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA) in February 2016, the two Ministers had agreed to hold regular meetings between the Ministries to exchange information and discuss water-related issues in both countries. The inaugural KeTTHA-MEWR Joint Committee Meeting was held on 12 July 2016 in Singapore.

2 While in Malaysia, Minister Masagos will also be participating in the Water Leaders Forum.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources
10 September 2017

Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources Dr Amy Khor will be attending the 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (14th AMME) and 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP COP-13) in Brunei Darussalam on 12 September 2017.

2 At the 14th AMME, the ASEAN Environment Ministers will discuss issues related to cooperation in the areas of climate change, chemicals and waste management, coastal and marine environment protection, water resources management, urban environmental management, environmental education as well as nature conservation and biodiversity. Dr Amy Khor will also participate in the ASEAN Environment Day celebrations where the North West District will be among the recipients of the 4th ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities Award.

3 The AATHP COP-13 will review the haze and fire occurrences in the ASEAN region over the past year and discuss the implementation of the AATHP, including measures to monitor, prevent and mitigate transboundary haze pollution. This includes the implementation of the Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with Means of Implementation which is a strategic framework for ASEAN to achieve the vision of a Transboundary Haze-Free ASEAN by 2020.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
11 September 2017

Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Maximus Johnity Ongkili, Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA) Malaysia and Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR), Singapore met in Kuala Lumpur for the 2nd KeTTHA-MEWR Joint Committee Meeting on 11 September 2017. The objective of the meeting was to discuss bilateral collaborations on water resources management for the benefit of both countries.

2 The Ministers discussed various measures to conserve Linggiu Reservoir stock.

3 In addition, the Ministers also discussed various schemes to increase the yield of Johor River and the resilience of the Linggiu Reservoir.

4 The Ministers acknowledged the impact of the newly-commissioned Johor River Barrage to the Linggiu Reservoir stock and the yield of the Johor River.

5 The Ministers took note that both countries will continue to discuss this matter at the Leaders Retreat on December 2017.

6 The Ministers look forward to the next Committee Meeting in 2018 in Singapore.

Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water, Malaysia
Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore
11 September 2017

Ministers responsible for the environment, for land, forest fires and haze, from ASEAN Member States (AMS), held their 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment and 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution on 12 September 2017 in Brunei Darussalam. The Ministers reviewed regional cooperation on a number of environmental issues, in particular actions taken on environmental sustainability under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, and discussed new initiatives to further promote environmental cooperation in the region.

2 The Ministers noted the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre's (ASMC's) weather outlook for the ASEAN region for the coming months, in particular, the prevailing Neutral (neither El Nino nor La Nina) conditions are forecast to persist for the rest of 2017. Rainfall for the region is forecast to be normal in the coming months. However, it was also noted that periods of drier weather can still be expected in the southern ASEAN region between September and early October 2017. The Ministers urged AMS to remain vigilant and continuously monitor and step up their haze preventive efforts to minimise any possible occurrence of transboundary smoke haze from land and forest fires during periods of drier weather.

3 The Ministers reaffirmed their commitment through concerted national efforts and regional cooperation to fully and effectively implement the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) and the Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with Means of Implementation to achieve a Haze-Free ASEAN by 2020. The Ministers commended the various initiatives and actions taken by ASEAN Member States and underscored the importance of stepping up technical cooperation to effectively implement the AATHP and the Roadmap in their entirety to increase the preparedness for and to mitigate the risks to human health and the environment arising from land and/or forest fires or haze pollution arising from such fires.

4 The Ministers agreed to conduct and looked forward to a mid-term review of the implementation of the Roadmap, at their next Meeting, to take stock of the progress and sustain momentum in ensuring demonstrable improvements so as to achieve the vision of a haze-free ASEAN by 2020. The Ministers noted the endorsement of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee on Transboundary Haze Pollution in the Mekong Sub-Region (MSC Mekong) of the Chiang Rai 2017 Plan of Action to identify a common set of priorities for the implementation of the Roadmap and encouraged further collaboration among MSC Mekong countries and synergies with other initiatives under AATHP.

5 The Ministers reiterated their full support to Indonesia in hosting the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution Control (ACC THPC), and noted with appreciation the on-going consultative process towards the finalisation of the Establishment Agreement and Host Country Agreement of the ACC THPC. The Ministers looked forward to faster and more effective implementation of all aspects of the AATHP after the ACC THPC is operational.

6 The Ministers noted the development of the Measurable Action for Haze-Free Sustainable Land Management in Southeast Asia (MAHFSA) supported by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The Ministers appreciated the valuable support and interest expressed by the Dialogue Partners and other external parties, and looked forward to their continued support of the implementation of the programmes/projects under ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems – APSMPE (2014-2020).

7 The Ministers also noted the report on the Study on the Economic, Health and Social Impact of Haze in 2015 on the ASEAN Region.

8 The Ministers welcomed the endorsement of the modality for sharing hotspot information among MSC countries as recommended by the 7th Meeting of the MSC Technical Task Force (MTTF). The Ministers also noted that the information sharing mechanism has been operationalised during the current dry season.

9 The Ministers noted that the ASEAN Joint Declaration on Hazardous Chemicals and Wastes Management was conveyed at the High Level Segment of the 2017 Meetings of the Conferences of the Parties of Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm (BRS) Conventions on 4-5 May 2017.

10 To better facilitate regional cooperation on environment in line with the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, the Ministers adopted the updated Terms of Reference of ASEAN Senior Officials on Environment (ASOEN) and its Working Groups. The Ministers looked forward to the finalisation of the ASEAN Strategic Plan on Environment (ASPEN) 2016-2025 which consists of action plans for ASEAN's strategic priorities on

environment. The ASPEN shall serve as a comprehensive guide for ASEAN cooperation on environment for the period of 2016 to 2025. The Ministers also adopted the ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Action Plan 2016-2020 and the ASEAN-UN Action Plan on Environment and Climate Change.

11 On the occasion of the 50th Golden Anniversary of ASEAN, the Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to environmental protection and sustainable development. As part of their contribution to the anniversary celebration, the Ministers launched the 5th ASEAN State of Environment Report and congratulated ten outstanding individuals from all ASEAN Member States who have been recognised and awarded as ASEAN Biodiversity Heroes on 7 August 2017 in Manila, Philippines, for their significant contribution to biodiversity conservation and advocacy efforts in their respective countries in the ASEAN region. The Ministers also supported other planned activities in light of the anniversary celebration, among others the publication of ASEAN Biodiversity Outlook 2, ASEAN Conference on Marine Debris and EAS Mangrove Planting Day.

12 Following the endorsement of Bai Tu Long National Park as the 38th ASEAN Heritage Park in 2016, the Ministers endorsed the nomination of (1) Kepulauan Seribu National Park and (2) Wakatobi National Park as the 39th and 40th ASEAN Heritage Parks respectively. These add to ASEAN's collective efforts in raising awareness, protection and conservation of the regional network of national protected areas for the benefit of current and future generations.

13 The Ministers presented, for the fourth time, the ASEAN Environmentally Sustainable Cities (ESC) Awards and, for the third time, the ASEAN Certificates of Recognition for Clean Air, Clean Water, and Clean Land, to selected cities in ASEAN Member States. The Awards and Certificates are added incentive to promote environmentally sustainable practices, education and partnerships towards environmental sustainability in ASEAN cities.

4th ESC ASEAN Award

No.	Country	City Nominations ESC Award 2017
1.	Brunei Darussalam	Bandar Seri Begawan
2.	Cambodia	Kep City
3.	Indonesia	Tulung Agung
4.	Lao PDR	Luang Prabang
5.	Malaysia	Putrajaya
6.	Myanmar	Nay Pyi Taw
7.	Philippines	San Carlos
8.	Singapore	North West District
9.	Thailand	Nan Municipality
10.	Viet Nam	Da Lat

3rd Certificates of Recognition

CATEGORY	INDICATORS		
	CLEAN AIR	CLEAN WATER	CLEAN LAND
BIG CITIES	Bandung (Indonesia)	Malang City (Indonesia)	Makassar (Indonesia)

	Can Tho (Viet Nam)		
SMALL CITIES	Malacca Historical City (Malaysia)	Phuket (Thailand)	Ampang Jaya (Malaysia)
	Khonkaen (Thailand)	Pursat (Cambodia)	Kalasin (Thailand)

14 The Ministers congratulated the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity for the new ACB Headquarters building in Los Banos, Philippines, which was inaugurated on 29 July 2017. The Ministers expressed appreciation to the Government of the Philippines for its continued support and commitment to ASEAN's cooperation on biodiversity conservation and the Centre.

15 The Ministers noted the development of the USD 8-million ASEAN-UNDP Project on Reducing Pollution and Preserving Environmental Flows in the East Asian Seas through the Implementation of Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM) in ASEAN.

16 The Ministers looked forward to a successful outcome of the 23rd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 23) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which will take place on 6-17 November 2017 in Bonn, Germany including convening of an ASEAN event under the Indonesia pavilion at the sideline of the COP23. In this regard, the Ministers endorsed the ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change to COP 23 to UNFCCC for the consideration by the Leaders.

17 The Ministers met their counterparts from the People's Republic of China, Japan and Republic of Korea at the 15th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers Meeting on 13 September 2017 to review current activities and discuss future strategic cooperation in such areas of biodiversity, climate change, environmental education, environmental science and technology, and environmentally sustainable cities, amongst others.

18 The Ministers agreed to meet again in Myanmar in 2018 on the occasion of the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution, and in Cambodia in 2019 on the occasion of the 15th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment, and 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution.

13 September 2017, Brunei Darussalam

Singapore ratified the Minamata Convention on Mercury (Minamata Convention) on 22 September 2017. Singapore's instrument of ratification was deposited by Singapore Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Vivian Balakrishnan at the 2017 United Nations (UN) Treaty Event in New York. Singapore signed the Minamata Convention on 10 October 2013 to demonstrate its commitment to safeguard public health and the environment.

2 As a Party to the Minamata Convention, Singapore will enhance domestic controls relating to the supply and trade of mercury and mercury compounds. This is to reduce the use of mercury in products and processes, and the releases of mercury into the environment. For instance, Singapore will no longer allow products that contain mercury such as non-electronic measuring devices including thermometers and blood pressure devices, to be imported for local use.

3 The Minamata Convention is an international treaty under the UN to protect human health and the environment from the man-made emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds. According to the UN, mercury is one of the top ten chemicals that endangers human health and the environment. The Minamata Convention was adopted in Kumamoto, Japan, on 10 October 2013 and entered into force on 16 August 2017. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention will convene from 24 to 29 September 2017, in Geneva, Switzerland. As at 20 September 2017, there were 76 Parties to the Minamata Convention.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES, SINGAPORE
23 SEPTEMBER 2017**

1 Dato Sri Dr Haji Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Malaysia, visited Singapore from 28 to 30 September 2017 at the invitation of Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore, for the Annual Exchange of Visits (AEV) between the Environment Ministries of Malaysia and Singapore. Since 1979, the AEV has established closer ties and co-operation between the two ministries in environment-related matters.

2 Mr Masagos Zulkifli led the Singapore delegation, comprising Permanent Secretary Mr Choi Shing Kwok and senior officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the National Environment Agency and other government agencies.

3 The Malaysia delegation was led by Dato Sri Dr Haji Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar, which comprised Secretary General Dato' Sri Azizan bin Ahmad and senior officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Department of Environment and other government agencies.

4 The two Ministers reviewed the progress achieved by the Malaysia-Singapore Joint Committee on the Environment (MSJCE). On 28 September 2017, the 31st MSJCE Meeting successfully deliberated and exchanged views on the following areas of cooperation:

a) Control of Vehicular Emissions

The two Ministers noted the close bilateral cooperation to reduce harmful vehicular emissions so as to achieve better air quality in both countries, and encouraged both sides to continue to update each other on policies, share best practices and identify areas of cooperation.

b) Joint Monitoring of Water Quality in the Straits of Johor

The two Ministers agreed on the importance of good water quality in the Straits of Johor, and encouraged both sides to continue efforts to improve water quality by implementing measures to control sources of pollution.

c) Progress Report on the Monitoring of Ecology and Morphology in and around the Straits of Johor

Both countries agreed to continue exchanging information on the monitoring of ecology and morphology in and around the Straits of Johor, for the purpose of conserving the marine biodiversity of both countries.

d) Emergency Response Plan for Chemical Spill at Malaysia-Singapore Second Crossing

The two Ministers reaffirmed the usefulness of conducting regular joint exercises to ensure emergency response agencies would be able to effectively respond to incidents involving spillage of hazardous chemicals. It was also noted that Malaysia would be

hosting the next joint field exercise of the emergency response plan for chemical spill at the Malaysia-Singapore Second Crossing this year.

e) Emergency Response Plan for Chemical Spill in the East Johor Strait

The two Ministers noted the increase in ship traffic in the Straits of Johor, and highlighted the importance of regular joint exercises to maintain the teamwork between both sides to facilitate and coordinate prompt response actions in the event of an accident. It was also noted that Singapore would be hosting the next joint field exercise of the emergency response plan for chemical spill in the East Johor Strait in 2018.

f) Collaboration between Malaysia and Singapore in the Area of Oil Spill Prevention and Control in the Straits of Johor

The two Ministers commended the good collaboration between both sides in information sharing and capacity building to prevent and control oil pollution in the Straits of Johor, and encouraged both sides to continue their work in protecting the shared marine environment from oil pollution.

g) Collaboration in Training between Environment Institute of Malaysia (EiMAS) and Singapore Environment Institute (SEI)

The two Ministers noted the continued cooperation between the two institutes in exchanging training opportunities and resources, which have helped the environment officers from Singapore and Malaysia to further develop their professional knowledge and skills.

h) Exchange of Information under the Settlement Agreement

Both countries discussed and exchanged information pursuant to the Settlement Agreement 2005 on matters affecting the environment in and around the Straits of Johor.

i) Other Matters

Both countries exchanged views on other matters pertaining to the transboundary movement of wastes and e-wastes, as well as land reclamation works in and around the Straits of Johor.

5 The Ministers discussed land reclamation works in the Straits of Johor and their potential adverse transboundary impact. The Ministers agreed that it is important for Singapore and Malaysia to continue to fulfil their obligations under international law, in particular the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. They also reaffirmed their commitment under the Settlement Agreement to monitor, exchange information on and discuss matters affecting their respective environments in the Straits of Johor, including reclamation works with potential adverse transboundary impact. In this regard, the Ministers urged the Danga Bay Joint Task Force to work closely and

resolve the issues pertaining to the findings of the bathymetry surveys at Danga Bay expeditiously.

6 The Ministers acknowledged the progress made by ASEAN Member States in addressing the perennial problem of transboundary pollution, and reaffirmed their commitment to work together and with other countries on such issues going forward.

7 The 30th AEV will conclude with the Annual Friendly Games on 30 September 2017 that will bring together officials from both countries to build camaraderie and forge closer friendships through sports.

8 The next AEV in 2018 will be held in Malaysia.

JOINTLY ISSUED BY:

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia

DATE: 29 SEPTEMBER 2017

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli will attend the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) ministerial meeting on climate change[1] in Malé, Maldives, on 10 October 2017.

2 The AOSIS ministerial meeting on climate change is an informal platform for Ministers of the AOSIS member states to exchange views on international climate change issues. The Maldives, in its capacity as the Chair of the AOSIS, is organizing this meeting in cooperation with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). It will focus on issues related to renewable energy in the context of the implementation of the nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement as well as preparation for the year-end 23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-23) and its associated meetings[2] under the Fijian presidency.

3 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Climate Change Secretariat, Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

9 OCTOBER 2017

[1] AOSIS is a coalition of small island and low-lying coastal countries. It functions as a negotiating bloc for small island developing States within the United Nations system, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Singapore is a member of AOSIS.

[2] These include the 13th Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP-13) and the second session of the 1st Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1-2).

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli will attend the Amsterdam International Water Week (AIWW) 2017 from 27 to 31 October 2017. Minister Masagos will also meet his counterparts and key Dutch officials.

2 The biennial AIWW is the Netherlands' flagship event on water resources management and brings together thought-leaders from government, industry, academia and civil society to address future water challenges. Minister Masagos will deliver a keynote address on Singapore's Water Story and outline Singapore's journey towards greater water sufficiency and sustainability.

3 Minister Masagos will co-host a Roundtable on Counter-Radicalisation with the Mayor of Rotterdam on 27 October 2017. This will focus on sharing experiences and perspectives by experts and practitioners on counter-radicalisation and strengthening social resilience. Minister Masagos will also visit environmental and water facilities to observe Dutch solutions and innovations.

4 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the National Environment Agency and PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

26 OCTOBER 2017

1 Singapore continues to make progress towards the Sustainable Singapore Blueprint (SSB) 2015, and remains on track to meet its targets three years on since its launch in November 2014.

2 Please refer to [Annex A](#) for the infographics on the progress of implementation for the SSB 2015, and [Annex B](#) for the indicators on the progress towards our 2030 targets.

About the SSB 2015

The SSB 2015 was launched in November 2014 and maps out strategies for Singapore's sustainable development. It sets out a collective vision for a Liveable and Endearing Home, a Vibrant and Sustainable City and an Active and Gracious Community. The SSB 2015 is guided by five focus areas, namely i) "Eco-smart" Endearing Towns; ii) A "Car-Lite" Singapore; iii) Towards a Zero Waste Nation; iv) A Leading Green Economy; and v) An Active and Gracious Community. The SSB was first released in 2009, and includes targets under these various areas to be attained by 2030. For more information on the SSB 2015, please visit www.sustainablesingapore.gov.sg.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
4 NOVEMBER 2017

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli will visit Copenhagen, Denmark on 12-14 Nov 2017. He will also attend the High-Level Segment of the 23rd session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP-23) and its associated meetings in Bonn, Germany, on 15-17 Nov 2017.

2. In Copenhagen, Minister Masagos will meet his Danish counterpart and officials from the Ministry of Immigration and Integration. He will visit facilities to observe Danish solutions and innovations in water management and waste management. Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the National Environment Agency and PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency.
3. The COP-23 and its associated meetings will focus on the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Minister Masagos will deliver Singapore's National Statement and attend various high-level events. He will be accompanied by officials from agencies in the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
11 NOVEMBER 2017**

NATIONAL STATEMENT OF SINGAPORE DELIVERED BY MASAGOS ZULKIFLI, MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES, AT THE UNFCCC COP-23/ CMP-13/ CMA1.2 HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT, NOVEMBER 2017, BONN, GERMANY

Mr President,

1 I congratulate you on your election as President of COP-23/ CMP-13/ CMA1.2. As a fellow member of AOSIS, we are proud to have Fiji at the helm at this critical time. We would like to thank Morocco for their very able stewardship this past year. We also express our appreciation to the Government of Germany for hosting us and making the first “Island COP” a reality.

2 Mdm Executive Secretary, we would also like to thank you and the Secretariat team for your tireless work.

Mr President,

3 The world has seen multiple records. 2016 was the warmest year on record, and the third consecutive year that record temperatures have been set. Sixteen of the 17 warmest years on record have occurred since 2001.^[1] This year has brought little relief with the severe drought in Africa, torrential floods in South Asia, hurricanes and cyclones that pounded the Caribbean, Northeast Asia, the Pacific and even North America. Our hearts go out to the families affected and we hope that these areas will return to normalcy soon. The global community needs to work together, urgently and resolutely to stem the warming trend.

4 The Paris Agreement sets a clear goal to bring the world towards climate safety. We have to stay within the 2°C/1.5°C global warming limits and achieve net zero emissions in the second half of this century. We are heartened by the resolute global support for the Paris Agreement, despite various challenges. Close to 170 Parties have ratified and the numbers are still rising – showing the continued strong global support for the Paris Agreement.

Advancing the Paris Agreement Work Programme

5 Last year, we set ourselves a deadline to complete the Paris Agreement Work Programme by the resumed session of the CMA-1^[2] in Katowice in December 2018. With just over a year remaining, we must stay focused to complete this complex task.

6 First, it is crucial that Parties start implementing their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) as soon as possible, and to progressively improve their transparency and ambition. We have to move expeditiously to finalise the modalities, procedures and guidelines (MPGs) necessary to guide the implementation of the NDCs. Provisions can be made to revisit and improve the MPGs over time.

7 Second, we should be flexible and creative in capturing progress. Each negotiating track will have its varying complexities and dynamics. The goal would be to capture progress in a way that can deepen understanding of one another's positions and clearly articulate options which would move us closer to an outcome.

8 Third, we look to the Fijian COP/ CMP/ CMA Presidency, APA Co-Chairs and Chairs of SBI and SBSTA to ensure an open, inclusive, transparent, and coordinated process, so that adequate and balanced progress is made on all tracks in the lead-up to Katowice.

9 The 2018 Facilitative Dialogue is a key weigh-station on the road to implementing our NDCs post-2020. We thank the Fijian and Moroccan Presidencies for their tireless efforts in consulting Parties regarding the modalities. We fully support the vision put forward by the Presidency. We are confident that the Pacific's "Talanoa" dialogue process will inspire our discussions towards greater ambition for global climate action and collaborations between all stakeholders.

Singapore's Efforts

10 As a small island city-state vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, Singapore is committed to the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. Since our early years of nation building, Singapore has placed considerable emphasis on sustainable development. Today, we are ranked the most sustainable city in Asia, and second in the world, according to the Sustainable Cities Index 2016.^[3] Even so, we want to do more to instil awareness of climate change amongst our citizens and inspire them to act in partnership. I am happy to announce that Singapore will designate 2018 as the Year of Climate Action.

11 This will complement the steps Singapore is taking to build resilience against climate change. The rate of warming over Singapore from 1951 to 2012 was 0.26°C per decade, more than double the global average over the same period (0.12°C). Our daily mean temperature is projected to rise by up to 4.6°C towards the end of the century, and our mean sea level is estimated to rise by up to about 1.0 metre by 2100. We have developed a resilience framework to guide our adaptation efforts - protecting our buildings, coasts, infrastructure and public health, as well as diversifying our water supply and enhancing food security.

12 Under the Paris Agreement, Singapore has committed to reduce our emissions intensity by 36% from 2005 levels by 2030, and to stabilise our emissions with the aim of peaking around then. Improving energy and carbon efficiency continue to be Singapore's key strategy to reduce emissions across all sectors. This year, we introduced several enhancements to the Energy Conservation Act, which mandates energy efficiency requirements and energy management practices from 2018. They include strengthening the measurement and reporting requirements for greenhouse gas emissions, requiring companies to undertake regular energy efficiency opportunity assessments, and introducing minimum energy performance standards for common industrial equipment and systems.

13 Earlier this year, we announced our plans to introduce a carbon tax from 2019. A carbon tax will send an economy-wide price signal to incentivise emissions reductions and adoption of low-carbon technologies. This will generate domestic resources, complement the other mitigation measures in Singapore's Climate Action Plan, and support domestic measures to reduce emissions and meet our pledge.

14 Given our unique challenges as a small island nation, innovation will be key for Singapore to continue to develop sustainably. We have developed the Research, Innovation and Enterprise (RIE) 2020 plan to spur innovation in the urban solutions and sustainability sector, including supporting the piloting, test-bedding, and accelerating the adoption of new technologies.

15 The scale of solar energy deployment in Singapore is limited by space constraints and issues with intermittency. But we are not easily deterred. Singapore is pushing ahead to increase our solar PV deployment to 350 MWp by 2020, and further to 1GWp beyond 2020. Last year, we launched one of the world's largest floating solar panel test-bed on one of our reservoirs. Singapore is now conducting engineering and environmental studies into the deployment of floating solar systems to be extended to other reservoirs. Our reservoirs will serve not only as a key source of our drinking water, but also contribute to clean energy as well.

16 We are making efforts in other sectors as well. Global forecasts show that electric cars could reach cost parity with internal combustion engine vehicles in the next decade.^[4] In a month's time, Singapore's first electric-vehicle car sharing programme will be rolled out. We will progressively deploy 1,000 electric cars and 2,000 charging points island-wide by 2020. This July, the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) launched a new research collaboration to transform BCA's Zero Energy Building into a positive energy building which will serve as a unique living laboratory for smart building technologies, or an "Office of the Future". These efforts can serve as references for many other cities, particularly those in the tropics, to adopt similar technologies.

International Collaboration

17 Singapore collaborates actively with other international partners to exchange these experiences and best practices on climate change and green growth. Under the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP), more than 112 000 officials from fellow developing countries have undergone training in key areas such as sustainable development, urban planning, water and transport management. Singapore also joined the NDC Partnership this June. Going forward, we will work with others in the partnership to organise training programmes to promote regional exchanges of best practices on the design and implementation of NDCs. We are also pleased to announce that Singapore will join the Ministerial Declaration on Carbon Markets. International market mechanisms will play an important role in facilitating enhanced delivery of mitigation contributions under the Paris Agreement.

18 Singapore is assuming the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2018. We will work with fellow ASEAN members and our Dialogue Partners to advance the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation 2016-2025, which among other objectives, seeks to reduce energy intensity in the ASEAN region by 20% from 2005 levels by 2020, and to increase the component of renewable energy in the ASEAN energy mix to 23% by 2025. As Chair of the ASEAN Regional Energy Policy and Planning Sub-Sector Network, and the Chair of the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change, we will continue to work with fellow ASEAN members and international partners to expand capacity building programmes and technical exchanges to enhance and drive the respective work programmes under these platforms.

19 Singapore is also pleased to host the World Meteorological Organisation's (WMO) Regional Office for Asia and the South-West Pacific. It will bring WMO closer to the 58 states

and territories in the two regions, enhance cooperation among national meteorological and hydrological services. This will help WMO better implement its capacity development programmes, particularly those that focus on less developed countries and small island states.

Conclusion

20 Mr President, I conclude with Singapore's commitment and support for climate action, a successful conclusion to this week's very important work and to the work programme leading to Katowice next year. To quote an African proverb, "If you want to go fast, go alone. But if you want to go far, go together." We can be true to the Talanoa spirit, have frank discussion, and work towards the sustained and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement – that we may go both fast and far together.

Thank you Mr President.

[1] NASA, "NASA, NOAA Data Show 2016 Warmest Year on Record Globally" [Press release], 18 Jan 2017, accessed 9 October 2017.

[2] The resumed first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA-1).

[3] Joe Myers, "These are the world's most sustainable cities", World Economic Forum, 20 Sept 2016, accessed 9 October 2017.

[4] Jess Shankleman, "Pretty soon electric cars will cost less than gasoline", Bloomberg, 26 May 2017, accessed 9 October 2017.

21 November 2017 - The **President's Award for the Environment (PAE)** will be awarded to three environmental champions by **President Halimah Yacob** on 21 November 2017. The recipients of the PAE are **Dr Shawn Kaihekulani Yamauchi Lum, Anchor Green Primary School and Khoo Teck Puat Hospital**. Inspiring green consciousness in every facet of the community, these environmental champions are symbols for fellow Singaporeans to contribute to a clean, green and sustainable Singapore.

PAE 2017 Award Recipients

2 **Dr Shawn Kaihekulani Yamauchi Lum** – Dr Shawn Lum is an influential and well respected leader within the nature community. Dr Lum's leadership at the Nature Society (Singapore) since 2008 had been associated with many conservation and outreach initiatives that aim to make nature part of the Singaporean identity. Aiding in climate protection efforts, Dr Lum facilitated the production of a cost-effective monitoring system to monitor carbon stock changes in land use sector, thus allowing regular sending of findings to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Dr Lum also partnered Sentosa Development Corporation and many schools to rescue valuable seeds in the Sentosa Green Wave project, which saved several endangered tree species.

3 **Anchor Green Primary School** – Anchor Green Primary School (AGPS) grooms its pupils to be aspiring and gracious learners who actively contribute to the environment and the community within a culture of care, collaboration and innovation. For example, AGPS ignites school-wide environmental consciousness by training Environment Champions and Green Club members who go on to educate others on green initiatives. With a strong tradition of sustained commitment in recycling, AGPS collaborates with IKEA, Brother, WWF-Singapore and National Parks Board to promote school-wide recycling efforts and resource conservation. AGPS is one of the first 10 schools to use a food digester under Love Your Food @ AGPS 2017 initiative by the National Environment Agency (NEA) to minimise waste.

4 **Khoo Teck Puat Hospital** – Khoo Teck Puat Hospital (KTPH) builds on its strong foundation in sustainability since its opening in 2010 to instil green values beyond its staff, by involving patients and the Yishun community. KTPH works closely with the Yishun community for its Eco-garden, with sales of their produce subsidising the operation of the Eco-garden. As a champion for biodiversity, KTPH conscientiously conserves and documents about 700 local and native trees, 700 indoor potted plants, 70 species of birds and 80 species of butterflies, which in turn enhances the natural environment of the hospital. KTPH embraces green technology by implementing the first Energy Display Dashboard within the healthcare industry in 2016 to measure unusual energy usage and promote energy conservation among staff.

5 Professor Leo Tan, a member of the PAE 2017 Judging Panel and a recipient of PAE 2007 said: "Environmental sustainability first begins with individuals or organisations that think about the Earth they want to live behind for others. With the reality of climate change and urgent need to conserve the environment, it is heartening to see that the PAE 2017 recipients, who represent different strata of the community, had taken the time to chart and execute their plans to contribute to environmental sustainability. It sends a strong message that there is a role everyone can play to champion environmental sustainability and a robust network of green enthusiasts that you can tap on to further your green cause".

6 This year marks the award's twelfth anniversary since it commenced in 2006. From 2017, PAE will be held biennially to better guide and cultivate potential nominees. As National Environment Agency (NEA)'s EcoFriend Award and Singapore's national water agency, PUB's Watermark Award are held annually, the PAE judging panel can take into account this collective pool of winners to award the highest environmental accolade.

END

21 November 2017

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

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Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli will attend the High-Level Segment of the UNEA-3 on 5-6 December 2017, in Nairobi, Kenya. He will deliver Singapore's National Statement and also participate in the inaugural Leadership Dialogue.

2 Minister Masagos will deliver a National Statement to share Singapore's approach to sustainable development and underline the importance of intergovernmental cooperation in tackling transboundary pollution. During the Leadership Dialogue, he will speak on the topic of 'Practical solutions towards a pollution-free planet'.

3 The UNEA meeting involves all United Nations (UN) member states. At the High-Level Segment, Minister Masagos will be joined by over 100 environment ministers who will discuss current and emerging global environmental issues. UNEA-3 is expected to adopt more than 10 resolutions and a Ministerial Declaration on the commitment to address pollution.

4 UNEA-3 will also feature a Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue which will complement the process of collecting voluntary commitments by providing an opportunity for people to present how pollution affects them and the initiatives they have taken to beat it. Three non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) from Singapore – Singapore Environmental Council, WWF Singapore and the National Youth Achievement Award Council will be participating in UNEA-3.

5 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Environment Agency.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

4 December 2017

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About the United Nations Environment Programme

The UNEP was created in 1972 by the United Nations General Assembly to coordinate environmental matters within the UN system and set the global environmental agenda.

The UNEP has been instrumental in establishing multilateral environmental agreements, such as the Vienna Convention for the protection of the ozone layer, the Basel Convention on hazardous wastes, and the recently concluded Minamata Convention on mercury management. The UNEP also spearheaded the establishment of other Conventions, such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species. The UNEP, in partnership with

the World Meteorological Organisation, also established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the global body on climate science.

In 2012, at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), the international community agreed to strengthen and upgrade the UNEP. The UNEP's governing body was renamed the "United Nations Environment Assembly of the UNEP" or UNEA and expanded from just 58 members to universal membership of all UN member states. While all UN member states can participate in the UNEA, only accredited members can become part of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the key body that shapes the agenda and decisions of the UNEA.

Singapore was accredited to the UNEP on 15 February 2016. The Government appointed Mr Hazri Hassan, Director of International Policy at the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, as Singapore's first Non-Resident Permanent Representative to the UNEP.

1. Singapore's Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli met European Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Mr Miguel Arias Cañete at the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium on Mon, 9 April 2018.

2. Relations between the European Union (EU) and Singapore are longstanding and warm. The EU-Singapore bilateral meeting served as an important opportunity for both parties to underscore their shared commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. In view of Singapore's current Chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and role as incoming country coordinator for ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations from August 2018, Mr Masagos and Mr Arias Cañete also discussed possible areas of collaboration between ASEAN and the EU on climate change issues, in support of the Paris Agreement.

3. Mr Masagos and Mr Arias Cañete had a substantive exchange of views on how the EU and Singapore could work together to take forward the ongoing discussions at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This included issues such as expectations for the 24th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP-24), which will take place in Katowice, Poland on 3 to 14 December 2018, the 2018 Talanoa Dialogue, and the negotiations under the Paris Agreement Work Programme. Mr Masagos also shared with Mr Arias Cañete Singapore's efforts to fulfill its commitment under the Paris Agreement, including various initiatives under the Year of Climate Action that Singapore has designated for 2018, and putting into effect a carbon tax to help achieve a low-carbon economy.

4. Mr Masagos and Mr Arias Cañete agreed on the need for COP-24 to conclude a durable, effective, and pragmatic set of rules for the Paris Agreement that facilitates implementation and improvement over time. In this regard, the Ministerial Meeting on Climate Action (MOCA), which is co-organised by the EU, China, and Canada, the Petersburg Climate Dialogue hosted by Germany, and other dialogue platforms would help advance negotiations and facilitate a successful outcome at COP-24. Singapore looked forward to actively participating in and contributing to the MOCA process.

Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore Dr Amy Khor will attend the Third Asia-Pacific Rainforest Summit in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 23 April 2018. The Summit, themed “Protecting Forest and People, Supporting Economic Growth”, is part of the Asia-Pacific Rainforest Partnership, an Australian initiative to promote dialogue and action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation in the Asia-Pacific region. The Summit is intended to help countries meet their commitments under the Paris Agreement on climate change. It is jointly organised by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia and the Department of the Environment and Energy of Australia.

2 Senior Minister of State Amy Khor will deliver a national statement on Singapore’s contribution to sustainable forest management through measures such as sustainable consumption, as part of our efforts on climate action as well as resource and biodiversity conservation. She will also join other participating Ministers, including Indonesia’s Minister of Environment and Forestry Siti Nurbaya Bakar and Australia’s Minister for the Environment and Energy Josh Frydenberg, at a closed-door Ministerial Meeting to discuss the challenges of sustainable forest management in the region and effective approaches to address this issue.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
22 APRIL 2018

1 Minister for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore Mr Masagos Zulkifli will visit China from 2 to 4 May 2018.

2 During his visit, Minister Masagos will meet Minister of Ecology and Environment Li Ganjie; Minister of Water Resources E Jingping; Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development Wang Menghui; and Chairman of the National People's Congress Environmental Protection and Resources Conservation Committee Gao Hucheng. Minister Masagos will discuss ways for Singapore and China to further deepen environmental and water cooperation through bilateral platforms as well as the Belt and Road Initiative.

3 Minister Masagos will visit the Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city which is celebrating its 10th year anniversary this year.

4 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the National Environment Agency and PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

1 MAY 2018

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources of Singapore, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, will visit Brunei Darussalam from 8 to 10 May 2018 for the 12th Brunei Darussalam-Singapore Annual Exchange of Visits (BSAEV) at the invitation of the Minister of Development of Brunei Darussalam Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Suhaimi Bin Haji Gafar.

2 The two Ministers will exchange information and views on environmental and water issues of mutual interest and will also review the progress of joint activities and collaboration in the areas of solid waste management, air quality monitoring, environmental youth exchange programmes and water resource management.

3 During the visit, Minister Masagos will also call on other Brunei leaders.

4 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the National Environment Agency and PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
7 MAY 2018**

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the 20th Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution in Bangkok, Thailand on 1 June 2018.

2 The Ministerial-level MSC, comprising Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, will review and discuss measures to monitor, prevent and mitigate smoke haze arising from land and forest fires in the five countries.

3 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Environment Agency.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

31 May 2018

The Sustainable Singapore Gallery at the Marina Barrage was re-opened today by Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources. The revamped Gallery presents an overview of Singapore's commitment to sustainable development. While there are exhibits that chart the milestones which brought about the high quality living environment Singaporeans enjoy today, the focus in many parts of the Gallery is on the challenges ahead, and the steps we need to take together as a nation to keep Singapore smart and green.

2 The Gallery is organised into six zones, tracing Singapore's response to climate change, our water management strategies, zero waste initiatives, and efforts to keep Singapore clean, green and sustainable, including investments in renewable energy. The interactive panels and multi-sensory exhibits will appeal to the young and old. There are also interesting artefacts such as a porcelain figurine presented to Dutch economist Dr Albert Winsemius in 1993 after he famously lost a wager, with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and his team, that the Singapore River could not sustain life. (More details on the zones at Annex.)

3 Minister Masagos Zulkifli said, "We have designed the Gallery to be an interactive, multi-sensory showcase of Singapore's environmental transformation, and our sustainability story. As you journey through the different zones in the Gallery, I hope you will feel a sense of pride in how far we have come, and develop a deeper awareness of the work we still have to accomplish in our sustainability journey."

4 To celebrate the re-opening of the Gallery, the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources has organised a weekend of activities for the public to enjoy. Billed as the Climate Action Carnival, the line-up includes free guided tours of the Gallery, upcycling workshops, an eco-fair, a concert with local bands, talks, screenings, sail rides in the Marina Channel, a 30-metre obstacle course for all ages, picnics and a dance battle. Visitors will also have the opportunity to chat with passionate volunteers from NGOs, schools, and corporate sectors championing climate change in a Partners Showcase. Members of public attending the Carnival are encouraged to bring their own water bottles and food containers to minimise the need for disposable single-use plastics. Full details at climateaction.sg/carnival.

Quick facts on the Gallery

Floor space: 1,618 sqm

Admission: Free

Opening hours: 9am to 6pm daily, from 4 June 2018 (Closed on Tuesdays)

Free guided tours available for booking through [PUB website](#).

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

2 June 2018

Annex

Zones of the Sustainable Singapore Gallery

Zone Name	Synopsis	Key Features
Foyer	Introduction to Singapore's sustainability journey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· A short video on Singapore's efforts to balance rapid growth with sustainable development.· The Screening Room, which features videos related to sustainability. The playlist will be refreshed every quarter.
River	This central white ribbon weaves through the whole Gallery, and showcases various environmental milestones through the years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Display of a range of historical artefacts, including a replica of the gold medal given to the 10 men in charge of cleaning up the Singapore River, and a porcelain figurine presented to Dutch economist Dr Albert Winsemius by former Minister Howe Yoon Chong after Dr Winsemius famously lost a bet that the Singapore River could not sustain life.
Zone A: Red Dot	Our earth's climate is changing and Singapore is vulnerable. This zone shows	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Singapore's Climate Action Plan, which can be explored using touch screens.· A panel on Climate Change and Singapore, which includes projections of

	<p>Singapore's efforts to tackle climate change and what climate change means for our future.</p>	<p>Singapore's climate in future (up to 2100).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · An interactive game to help users understand how they can reduce their carbon footprint. · A 'Climate Chamber', which poses a central question to visitors: will you take action for the climate?
<p>Zone B: From The First Drop</p>	<p>Water is life and our future depends on it. This zone tells the Singapore water story and how we took action to make our water supply diverse and resilient.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A replica of a night soil bucket placed next to a life-size replica of the cross section of the tunnel of the Deep Tunnel Sewerage System illustrate how our sewage management has evolved over the years. · An illustration of the "Source-Pathway-Receptor" approach which looks at catchment-wide solutions to achieve higher flood protection for Singapore in the face of challenges such as climate change and urbanisation.
<p>Zone C: A First World Oasis</p>	<p>Our City in a Garden needs everyone's help to keep it clean, green and blue. This zone shows the various green and blue spaces in Singapore and encourages everyone to play their part to make Singapore a liveable and endearing home.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · An interactive multi-touch map which shows Singapore's extensive green and blue networks/waterways. · An introduction to our City in a Garden and the importance of preserving Singapore's greenery to reduce the Urban Heat island effect. This area includes two rotoscope features providing fun facts on 5 native species of trees and flowers. · The Eco Champions showcase highlights our environmental, water and nature stewards who help make Singapore a clean, green and sustainable city.
<p>Zone D: City of the</p>	<p>Facing land, water and energy constraints, Singapore must</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · An Augmented Reality exhibit to showcase some of the green and sustainable buildings we have in Singapore.

Future	<p>optimise resources and limit pollution. This zone shows how we are powering our way to remain a vibrant, smart and sustainable city.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Pedal at an interactive cycling station to experience features of a car-lite Singapore.
Zone E: The Journey to Zero	<p>Singapore is working towards becoming a Zero Waste Nation by reducing waste, and reusing and recycling materials to give them a second lease of life. This zone provides information about our waste management strategies and Singapore's Journey to Zero.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Recycling Twist is a sculpture made from waste materials contributed by pupils of River Valley Primary School. Displayed among the materials are fun facts on recyclables and good recycling habits. · A floor display illustrates how much Semakau Landfill has been filled up. It reminds visitors that we will run out of space in Semakau by 2035 and calls on everyone to reduce, reuse and recycle to extend Semakau Landfill's lifespan.
Zone F	<p>A sustainable Singapore can only be realised if we all work together as one. This final zone in the Gallery invites visitors to think about how they can make a difference by being a part of the Sustainable Singapore Movement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A trick-eye mural provides visitors an Instagrammable photo opportunity · Visitors are invited to type their pledge for a sustainable Singapore and have it projected on a wall

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the 9th Petersberg Climate Dialogue (PCD) in Berlin, Germany from 17 to 19 June 2018, and the 2nd Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA) in Brussels, Belgium from 20 to 21 June 2018.

2 The Ministerial-level PCD and MoCA will discuss international climate action measures and the implementation of the Paris Agreement, in the lead up to the 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP-24) in December 2018. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will have bilateral meetings with other Ministers in attendance, on the sidelines of PCD and MoCA.

3 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Climate Change Secretariat, Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources
16 June 2018

Region reaffirms commitment to Paris Agreement

Climate Action Package launched to develop region's capacity in climate action

1. Ministers and representatives from the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) – ASEAN, China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea (ROK) – met in Singapore on 10 July 2018 to attend the SAMCA and E-SAMCA. The meetings were an initiative by Singapore, as the 2018 ASEAN Chair, to provide ASEAN and the Plus Three countries a platform to: (a) engage one another on their climate action plans in a regional “*Talanoa*” dialogue setting; (b) reaffirm their commitment to the Paris Agreement; and (c) galvanise regional action to address climate change.

2. Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Singapore’s Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, said: “*As one of the regions most vulnerable to climate change, it is crucial that ASEAN remains committed to taking action. SAMCA and E-SAMCA provided a good platform for countries in the region to exchange views, learn from one another and reaffirm the region’s commitment to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement. I look forward to greater cooperation among ASEAN Plus Three countries on climate action.*”

3. To support the region’s climate action efforts, Minister Masagos announced that Singapore would launch a Climate Action Package (CAP), which aims to develop capacity in ASEAN in key areas such as disaster risk reduction, climate science, climate finance, flood management, and long-term mitigation and adaptation strategies, through programmes and courses.

4. Singapore will also continue to do its part to enhance the region’s resilience to climate risks through the following initiatives:

(i) Singapore is supporting the establishment of the Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF), which will be set up in Singapore in 2019. As ASEAN’s first regional catastrophe risk pool, the Facility will provide immediate liquidity to cover emergency response costs in the aftermath of catastrophes. SEADRIF would thus play a significant role in strengthening the region’s economic resilience to disaster risks and mitigate the adverse economic impacts of climate change.

(ii) Singapore is also supporting efforts to improve the region’s meteorological capabilities to better plan for climate change. The Meteorological Service Singapore, as host of the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC), will be investing S\$5 million in a 5-year regional capability development programme, which will begin this year. The programme aims to benefit ASEAN countries through the sharing of technical knowledge and skills in weather and climate prediction, to help the region better formulate climate change adaptation planning.

5. In addition to the ASEAN Plus Three, the meeting was attended by Ms Patricia Espinosa, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Dato Lim Jock Hoi, the ASEAN Secretary-General, Mr Michal

Kurtyka, Poland's Secretary of State for the Environment and Conference of Parties (COP)-24 President-Designate, and Mr Luke Daunivalu, the Fijian COP-23 Presidency's Representative and Chief Negotiator for Climate Change.

6. Delegates from ASEAN Plus Three also called on Mr Teo Chee Hean, Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister, Coordinating Minister for National Security and Chair of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change. They discussed the region's climate change priorities and how the region can strengthen its cooperation on climate change.

7. Singapore, as 2018 ASEAN Chair and convenor of the meetings, will submit a summary of the discussions at the SAMCA and E-SAMCA to the UNFCCC as input to the Talanoa Dialogue.

SINGAPORE – Singapore’s Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on environmental cooperation with Republic of Korea’s Minister of Environment Ms Kim Eunkyung today at the Istana.

The signing of the MoU, which was witnessed by Prime Minister of Singapore Mr Lee Hsien Loong and the President of the Republic of Korea Mr Moon Jae-in, marks a significant step in environmental cooperation between the two countries.

The MoU will promote bilateral collaboration in areas such as air and noise pollution, water resource management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as waste and hazardous waste management. This will be done through the exchange of views, best practices and expertise, and joint review of the implementation of public-private demonstration projects in the various areas of cooperation.

With bilateral relations further enhanced through the MoU, environmental cooperation between Singapore and ROK will be stronger in the promotion and development of a sustainable future.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES, SINGAPORE
12 JULY 2018

1. Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will be in New York City, USA, from 15 to 19 July 2018, to attend the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

2. The HLPF is a global forum for providing political leadership, guidance and recommendations on implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the forum, 47 countries including Singapore will present their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) over three days of ministerial meetings from 16 to 18 July. (Please see [Annex](#) for more details on the HLPF.)

3. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will deliver Singapore's National Statement on 16 July, Monday, and VNR on 18 July, Wednesday. He will also hold bilateral meetings with other key personalities in attendance, on the side-lines of the HLPF.

4. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Representatives from the National University of Singapore, Singapore Environment Council, and the Sustainable Living Lab will also be joining the delegation.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore

14 JULY 2018

Annex

Factsheet on 2018 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

9 to 18 July 2018, New York

1. The High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) first met on 24 September 2013. The forum replaced the Commission on Sustainable Development, which had met annually since 1993.

2. The HLPF provides an opportunity for countries, civil society and businesses to highlight the efforts they are making to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)^[1] which were unanimously adopted by world leaders in September

2015. It is also a platform for exchanging ideas and best practices, and reviewing progress on the SDGs.

3. The theme for this year's forum is: "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies". HLPF 2018 will review progress on the following SDGs:

- Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

- Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

- Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

- Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

- Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, that will be considered each year.

4. 47 countries including Singapore will present their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at HLPF 2018. The VNRs aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learnt, to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments, and to mobilise multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the SDGs. The reviews demonstrate the commitment of countries to mobilise efforts towards achieving the SDGs.

5. Singapore's VNR page can be found [here](#)^[2].

[1] The list of the 17 SDGs, which contain 169 targets, can be found at <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

[2] <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=526&menu=3170>

Consolidation of functions and integration of expertise will enhance service delivery and deepen capabilities

The Singapore Food Agency (SFA), a new statutory board, will be formed under the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) to oversee food safety and security. SFA will bring together food-related functions currently carried out by the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA), the National Environment Agency (NEA) and the Health Sciences Authority (HSA). The integration will enhance regulatory oversight over all food related matters from farm to fork and further strengthen our food safety regime. It will facilitate better partnership with food businesses to develop new capabilities and solutions, and seize future opportunities. SFA will also provide better services to Singaporeans and businesses by harmonising regulations across the three agencies.

2 In parallel, all non-food plant and animal related functions of AVA will be transferred to the National Parks Board (NParks) under the Ministry of National Development (MND). NParks will become the lead agency for animal and wildlife management, as well as animal and plant health, and will work closely with the community and other stakeholders to enhance Singapore's positioning as a City in a Garden.

3 Mr Lim Kok Thai, Chief Executive Officer of AVA, will be concurrently appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (Designate) of SFA.

Lead Agency to Develop Food Supply and Industry – “From Farm to Fork”

4 As the lead agency for food-related matters, SFA will partner food businesses to strengthen capabilities, tap on technologies to raise productivity, undertake research to develop new lines of business, and catalyse industry transformation. This will be done in collaboration with economic agencies such as EDB, Enterprise Singapore and A*STAR. Our local producers can provide vegetables and fish supplies that are protected from adverse environmental conditions by tapping into innovative technologies in high-tech farming and aquaculture that enable intensified production via controlled processes. Examples include vertical vegetable farms that optimise space, and indoor fish farming that reuse treated water. By working closely with all stakeholders, SFA will strengthen Singapore's food security and resilience against geopolitical risks and climate change, and position our companies to seize exciting opportunities in the future economy.

5 SFA will also facilitate more business-friendly regulations with oversight of all food safety and food security policies. For example, by harmonising licensing standards and combining existing licenses for food businesses, including farmers, food manufacturers, food retailers and food service operators, businesses will be able to adapt and transform their business models seamlessly and look at new ways to grow their operations. SFA will be better positioned to engage food establishments that are currently licensed by NEA and AVA, and support them on their plans.

6 AVA, NEA and HSA have been working together to regulate food safety across the food supply chain, from production, import and manufacturing to retail. SFA brings together all food-related resources and capabilities to enhance food safety, and will oversee food safety regulations across the entire chain. A dedicated agency will strengthen our management of foodborne disease outbreaks to protect public health, through closer coordination of responses to food-related issues, including product tracing and recall, and engagement of various stakeholders and the public. This enables the SFA to address lapses more quickly and more holistically, and streamline public feedback to one point of contact.

7 To deepen our capabilities in food safety, a National Centre for Food Science (NCFS) will be established under SFA to consolidate the food laboratory capabilities of the three agencies under one roof. The NCFS will bring together key competencies in food diagnostics, and research and development in food safety to ensure that food continues to be safe for consumption and standards are benchmarked internationally.

8 Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Masagos Zulkifli said: “Safeguarding Singapore's food supply is increasingly challenging due to the complexities of global food supply chains as well as the impacts of climate change. We are already seeing the effects of climate change, such as plankton blooms from warmer sea waters and increasingly erratic rainfall patterns. The formation of the SFA is timely as Singapore aims to turn our food challenges into strategic advantages. The SFA will work closely with industry and R&D partners to develop new solutions and products, and seize global opportunities in the food industry. These could include climate-resilient farming solutions, advanced food manufacturing techniques,

and food products with the Singapore quality assurance. Doing this will help make our food supply future-ready, and provide good jobs to Singaporeans in the food industry.”

City in a Garden

9 Singaporeans appreciate living in a City in a Garden. However, given our dense urban living environment, there is a need to carefully manage how people co-exist harmoniously with wildlife and domestic animals. The transfer of AVA’s plant and animal related functions will allow NParks to provide one-stop service to Singaporeans and stakeholders on animal management and animal welfare issues, manage human-animal interactions, and improve the detection of and response to zoonotic diseases.

10 A new Animal and Veterinary Service (AVS) will be formed under NParks, as the main touch-point on animal-related issues for pet owners and businesses, and animal welfare groups. It will also take on AVA’s current role as the first responder for animal-related feedback, and continue to uphold high standards in animal welfare and health.

11 With a comprehensive overview of urban and natural ecologies, NParks will be better positioned to manage human-animal interactions as they become increasingly complex and interrelated in the future. Combining NParks’ expertise in wildlife conservation and horticultural science, and AVA’s in animal and plant health, and animal management, will ensure that efforts to conserve Singapore’s natural heritage are holistic and science-based.

12 Second Minister for National Development Desmond Lee said: “While we have done well to balance urban development and conservation of our natural heritage, there are opportunities to achieve greater synergy by bringing together the plant and animal roles. All of us have a collective responsibility to protect our flora and fauna. With NParks as the lead agency for animal and wildlife management, as well as animal and plant health, we will work more closely with stakeholders to develop a science-based management approach, with holistic strategies and more effective responses.”

13 The formation of SFA and the transfer of functions to NParks will take effect on 1 April 2019. In the interim, AVA, NEA, HSA and NParks will continue to carry out their existing functions. The agencies will continue to consult and engage stakeholders and industry partners. As part of the re-organisation, they will also revisit and fine-tune regulations and processes.

**Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources & Ministry of National Development
26 July 2018**

APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

Mr Tan Meng Dui will be appointed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the National Environment Agency (NEA) with effect from 2 October 2018. He will succeed Mr Ronnie Tay, who will be retiring from the Administrative Service.

Contributions of Mr Ronnie Tay

Mr Ronnie Tay, 54, has been the Chief Executive Officer of the National Environment Agency (NEA) since 1 July 2013. Under his leadership, NEA made significant achievements in reviewing key policies, building new capabilities and rolling out new programmes to ensure that Singapore's environment remains clean and sustainable. He also led NEA in transforming to be more responsive and resourceful in tackling both present and future environmental challenges.

Under Ronnie's guidance, NEA successfully managed the dengue and Zika outbreaks in Singapore. He oversaw the development of innovative measures to fight dengue, such as leveraging data from Gravitrap and embarking on trials using the novel Wolbachia technology.

Ronnie also drove the development of waste management infrastructure, including planning for new waste-to-energy plants, and various initiatives to address food waste, e-waste and packaging waste. He played a key role in managing transboundary haze, including the enactment of the Transboundary Haze Pollution Act. He also led the implementation of higher emission standards for industry, vehicles and motorcycles. During his tenure, the energy efficiency requirements for industry were enhanced, the system for measuring, reporting and verifying industry greenhouse gas emissions for implementing carbon tax was established, and new capabilities to monitor and analyse ambient radiation developed.

Ronnie also played a key role in steering the development of 20 new hawker centres, and the formulation and implementation of the Hawker 3.0 Masterplan to sustain the hawker trade, enhance the vibrancy of hawker centres and raise their productivity level. He also

oversaw the review of food and environmental hygiene policies, as well as the development of after-death services infrastructure and policies to ensure the adequate provision of these facilities and services.

Ronnie also led the development of the Environmental Services Industry Transformation Map, in partnership with industry, unions and other government agencies, to uplift productivity, jobs and skills in the cleaning and waste management sectors.

Under Ronnie's leadership, NEA established research and development programmes for waste to energy, waste management and robotics, and leveraged data analytics, sensors and technology for smart enforcement and effective delivery of environmental services.

Incoming CEO Mr Tan Meng Dui

Mr Tan Meng Dui, 50, is currently Deputy Secretary (Development) in the Ministry of National Development. Prior to this appointment, he was Deputy Secretary (Technology) in MINDEF HQ and held the rank of Brigadier General in the Singapore Armed Forces.

Mr Tan graduated with a Bachelor of Science (Mathematics) First Class Honours from the University of London, Imperial College of Science and Technology, United Kingdom in 1989. He subsequently obtained a Master in Public Administration from Harvard University, USA in 2001. He was awarded the Public Administration Medal (Silver) (Military) in 2006, and the Long Service Medal (Military) in 2011.

Registration of appreciation

MEWR would like to place on record our deep appreciation for Mr Ronnie Tay's invaluable contributions to NEA and the MEWR Family, and welcome Mr Tan Meng Dui.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

21 Aug 2018

Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, will be attending the 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-14) to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP) in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, from 4 - 5 October 2018. He will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, and the National Environment Agency.

The AATHP COP-14 will review the haze and fire occurrences in the ASEAN region over the past year and discuss the implementation of the AATHP. This includes the implementation of the Roadmap on ASEAN Cooperation towards Transboundary Haze Pollution Control with Means of Implementation, which is a strategic framework for ASEAN to achieve the vision of a haze-free region by 2020.

The Meeting is attended by ASEAN Member States, which are all Parties to the AATHP. The AATHP aims to prevent, monitor, and mitigate land and forest fires to control transboundary haze pollution through concerted national efforts and regional and international cooperation.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
3 October 2018

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the Informal Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change (Pre-COP) in Krakow, Poland from 22 to 24 October 2018 at the invitation of HE Michal Kurtyka, Secretary of State in Poland's Ministry of Environment and incoming President of the 24th Conference of the Parties (COP-24) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its associated meetings.¹

2 At the meeting, participating Ministers and representatives from about 40 countries will discuss the possible outcomes for the UNFCCC COP-24 meeting, which will be held in Katowice, Poland, in December. A key issue that will be discussed is the guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, which was ratified by 181 countries and entered into force on 4 November 2016.

3 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Climate Change Secretariat, Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
21 October 2018

[1] The 14th Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP-14) and the resumed 1st Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1-3) will also be taking place alongside COP-24.

Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the Sixth Ministerial Forum of the East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress 2018 in Iloilo City, Philippines, on 29 November 2018. The EAS Congress is a triennial international event organised by the Partnerships in Environmental Management of the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA).^[1] This year's Congress marks the 25th anniversary of PEMSEA. Its theme is "25 Years of Partnerships for Healthy Ocean, People and Economies: Moving as One with the Global Ocean Agenda". The EAS Congress aims to galvanise regional actions that are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the United Nation's 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. It will be chaired by Philippine Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources, Mr Roy Cimatu.

2 At the Congress, Dr Khor will deliver a national statement to highlight Singapore's policies on sustainable development and coastal and ocean management. The statement will outline Singapore's initiatives in Integrated Urban Coastal Management and our approach to addressing marine litter. The meeting will adopt a Ministerial Declaration to affirm the participating countries' commitment to sustainable development in the seas of East Asia. It also acknowledges the strong momentum to tackle marine debris globally.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

28 NOVEMBER 2018

^[1] PEMSEA is a regional seas programme established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) to address coastal and marine environment issues in the East Asian Seas region. Singapore is one of the 11 participating countries, which also include Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, Vietnam, China, Japan, Republic of Korea (ROK), Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea (DPRK) and Timor-Leste.

1. Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will be in Katowice, Poland, from 11 to 15 December 2018, to attend the High-Level Segment of the 24th Conference of the Parties (COP-24) to the United Nations Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and its associated meetings.^[1]

2. At COP-24, countries are expected to finalise the package of guidelines to operationalise the Paris Agreement, which was adopted in Paris in December 2015. The guidelines will facilitate the implementation of the Paris Agreement in a transparent and clear way, and encourage increased ambition by all Parties over time to meet the agreed long-term temperature goals. Parties will also be engaging in a Talanoa Dialogue, which is an exercise to take stock of collective progress made in relation to the goals of the Paris Agreement.

3. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will deliver Singapore's National Statement and attend various High-Level events. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will also hold meetings with other key personalities in attendance. He will be accompanied by officials from agencies in the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Climate Change.

^[1] The 14th Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP-14) and the resumed 1st Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1-3) will also take place alongside COP-24.

1. The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) has designated 2019 as the Year Towards Zero Waste. In this Year Towards Zero Waste, we aim to raise awareness of waste issues in Singapore; and work with partners to rally Singaporeans to treasure our precious resources and build a strong 3R (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) culture in Singapore. This will pave our way towards a circular economy and a zero waste nation.

2. Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, launched the year-long campaign at Our Tampines Hub (OTH) today. The launch will be followed by a weekend of activities at OTH, which will include: sharing sessions on the circular economy by Mr Arthur Huang, National Geographic Emerging Explorer and CEO, Founder of Miniwiz; exhibition booths by MEWR's Partners promoting the 3Rs; and tours of OTH's eco-friendly facilities. The launch was attended by 250 guests from the 3P (People, Public and Private) sectors and the diplomatic corps.

Our Vision of a Zero Waste Nation

3. Over the years, Singapore has put in place an effective and efficient waste management system to safeguard our health and protect the environment. But with an increasing population, urbanisation and economic growth, we are faced with new challenges to manage increasing amounts of waste.

4. Singapore generated 7.7 million tonnes of waste in 2017. This is a seven-fold increase from 40 years ago, and enough to fill 15,000 Olympic-size swimming pools. Based on the current rate of waste generation, our only landfill, the Semakau landfill, will run out of space by 2035.

5. With limited land for waste disposal and landfilling, we need to reduce our waste and adopt a circular economy approach to waste and resource management. Under this approach, we aim to reuse and recycle resources for as long as possible by turning trash into treasure, and engaging in sustainable production and consumption. Besides protecting the environment, a circular economy approach will also create new jobs and economic opportunities for Singaporeans and our businesses.

Singapore's Inaugural Zero Waste Masterplan

6. MEWR and the National Environment Agency (NEA) will be publishing our inaugural Zero Waste Masterplan in the second half of this year. The Masterplan will chart our adoption of a circular economy approach to sustainable waste and resource management. It will detail the key policies and strategies that the Government will be implementing in the next few years, supported by industry transformation and research and development. Examples of policies include the introduction of the Extended Producer Responsibility approach to managing e-waste by 2021. We will consult the public and industry stakeholders on the development of the Masterplan.

Call for Collective Effort

7. Our vision of a Zero Waste Nation can only be achieved through our collective efforts. Over the course of the year, the MEWR Family will work with 3P partners to engage various stakeholders – individuals, schools, businesses and community groups – on actions everyone can take to help move Singapore towards a Zero Waste Nation. Examples include: buying only what you need; and bringing your own bag.

8. A #RecycleRight movement will be launched to encourage everyone to recycle the right way. We will engage partners to help educate public on the items that can go into the blue recycling bin, and the importance of ensuring the items are clean and free of food/liquid waste. To support relevant ground-up projects, a ‘Towards Zero Waste Grant’ will also be set up.

9. More information on the Zero Waste Masterplan public consultations, #RecycleRight movement and ‘Towards Zero Waste Grant’ will be provided later in the year. More information on the Year Towards Zero Waste can be found at www.towardszerowaste.sg.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
12 JANUARY 2019**

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Key waste statistics and calls to action

	E-Waste	Food Waste	Packaging Waste
Key statistics	<p>Singapore generates 60,000 tonnes of e-waste annually. This is equivalent to every person disposing 73 mobile phones a year.</p> <p>60% of people do not know how to recycle their e-waste.</p>	<p>Food waste is one of the biggest waste streams in Singapore and it has grown by 40% over the last 10 years.</p> <p>810 million kg of food waste was generated in 2017. This is equivalent to the weight of 55,000 double decker buses.</p> <p>Households generate 50% of total food waste.</p>	<p>Of the 1.6 million tonnes of domestic waste disposed in 2017, one third consisted of packaging waste (includes plastics).</p>

Calls to Action	Buy only what you need. Repair instead of replace. Donate your usable items. Recycle your e-waste at designated collection points.	Buy, order and cook only what you can finish. Turn leftovers into new meals. Donate your excess food.	Avoid single-use disposables where possible. Bring your own reusable bags, containers and utensils. Choose products with less/green packaging.
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Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will be in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 12 to 16 January 2019 for the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (ADSW).

The ADSW is a global forum for advancing critical issues on the environmental sustainability agenda. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will deliver a speech at The Future Summit on 16 January, officiate a Zero Waste workshop jointly organised by Singapore's Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) and the UAE's Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCA), and meet other UAE officials.

At the invitation of MOCCA, MEWR will contribute to the Sustainable Development Goal 13 Global Council, an initiative by the UAE to share innovative practices and discuss implementation of climate action at national and global levels.

Minister Masagos Zulkifli will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR), Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA), National Environment Agency (NEA) and PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
12 JANUARY 2019**

- *40 member states in the UN Environment Programme's Asia and the Pacific region are expected to attend the Forum, with a record number of high-level attendees, including a Head of State and a Head of Government.*
- *This signifies the strong commitment of the regional countries to come together to address transboundary environmental challenges.*

22 January 2019, Singapore – Heads of state, ministers and environmental authorities from 40 countries across Asia and the Pacific will meet in Singapore from 23 to 25 January 2019. They will discuss environmental issues in the world's fastest-growing region, and identify key priorities and solutions. This is the first time that the Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia and the Pacific is held outside of Bangkok.

2 Held under the auspices of the UN Environment Programme and hosted by the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore, the Forum will bring together governments, businesses, scientists, academia, NGOs, and UN agencies to address critical environmental challenges. The Forum will be held at the Marina Bay Sands Convention and Expo Centre.

3 “Home to four billion people, the Asia and the Pacific is highly vulnerable to climate change. Global warming, pollution and ecosystem degradation are putting lives and livelihoods at risk. However, the region is also the source of some of the most innovative approaches to addressing these challenges, particularly in changing the way we consume and produce,” said Joyce Msuya, UN Environment Programme’s Acting Executive Director.

4 “Singapore is honoured to host the Third Forum of Ministers and Environment Authorities of Asia and the Pacific. The Forum will advance the global conversation on combatting key environmental issues, including climate change and the sustainable use of resources. Given that the Asia Pacific region is particularly vulnerable, countries of our region must come together to identify solutions. I am heartened to see the strong participation from Asia-Pacific governments at this Forum, which signals our joint commitment to address key environmental challenges,” said Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore.

5 The Forum will discuss and decide on the most important environmental issues and innovations of the region to bring to the upcoming United Nations Environment Assembly, the world’s highest-level decision-making body on the environment.

6 There will be an exhibition showcasing solutions and progress. There will also be dialogues on major challenges, such as the participation of youth and women in achieving environmental goals, electrifying the transport sector,

increasing green finance, reducing plastic pollution and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Understanding these challenges and preserving and rehabilitating our environment is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

7 In the run-up to the Assembly, the UN Environment Programme is also leading a global campaign to #SolveDifferent. This campaign will focus on an informative and emotive approach to communicating the environmental costs of key consumption and production models. A number of these #SolveDifferent approaches will be highlighted at the Forum.

About the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR), Singapore

MEWR is committed to providing Singaporeans with a high quality living environment. Having achieved a clean and green environment, and a system to maintain and safeguard it, the Ministry's goal is long-term environmental sustainability.

Together with its two statutory boards, the National Environment Agency (NEA) and PUB, the National Water Agency, MEWR continues to manage Singapore's limited resources and address Singapore's environmental sustainability challenges through innovation, vibrant partnerships and co-operation across the private, public and people sectors.

Come 1 April 2019, a new statutory board, the Singapore Food Agency (SFA), will be formed under MEWR to oversee food safety and security.

About UN Environment

UN Environment is the leading global voice on the environment. It provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UN Environment works with governments, the private sector, civil society and with other UN entities and international organisations across the world.

About the UN Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly is the world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment. It addresses the critical environmental challenges facing the world today. Understanding these challenges and preserving and rehabilitating our environment is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Environment Assembly meets biennially to set priorities for global environmental policies and develop international environmental law. Through its resolutions and calls to action, the Assembly provides leadership and catalyses intergovernmental action on the environment. Decision-making requires broad participation, which is why the Assembly provides an opportunity for all peoples to help design solutions for our planet's health.

The fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly will take place in Nairobi from 11 to 15 March 2019 under the theme "Innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production".

MR MASAGOS ZULKIFLI, MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES, TO ATTEND THE SPECIAL ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON MARINE DEBRIS IN BANGKOK, THAILAND, ON 5 MARCH 2019.

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Marine Debris in Bangkok, Thailand, on 5 March 2019.

The Special Meeting is convened by Thailand as part of its 2019 ASEAN Chairmanship themed “Advancing Partnership for Sustainability”. ASEAN Environment Ministers are expected to discuss partnerships and actions to address the issue of marine debris in the region, which will contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This will build on the East Asia Summit Leaders’ Statement on Combating Marine Plastic Debris adopted in Singapore in November 2018. At the meeting, Minister Masagos Zulkifli will highlight Singapore’s policies on sustainable development, waste and pollution management, and Singapore’s approach to addressing marine litter.

Minister Masagos Zulkifli will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Environment Agency.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
4 MARCH 2019**

Singapore, 7 March 2019 - During the Committee of Supply debate on 7 March 2019, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli and Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources Dr Amy Khor outlined MEWR's key initiatives to ensure a sustainable and resource-resilient Singapore.

Challenges ahead

2 As a small island state, Singapore has many existential threats. We have overcome our challenges by planning decades ahead. We have invested in research and development and innovative solutions, and scaled them up effectively to address challenges. In the process, we have created good jobs for Singaporeans and helped our companies to tap on opportunities. This is evident in our water story.

3 However, we cannot rest on our laurels. Climate change will bring new threats and put pressure on essential resources like water, food and energy. We must continue to plan ahead, invest, and strengthen our capacity to meet challenges posed by climate change as well as external developments. We will do so in close partnership with stakeholders and Singaporeans.

Towards Zero Waste: A Circular Economy Approach

4 We will strive towards becoming a Zero Waste Nation by adopting circular economy strategies. These include reusing and recycling resources, turning trash into treasure and producing and consuming sustainably. This will help us to overcome our resource constraints, and ensure the future Singapore economy is vibrant and sustainable. A whole-of-nation effort involving government, industry, the community, households and individuals is required.

5 We will release the inaugural Zero Waste Masterplan later this year. The Masterplan will detail our upcoming policies and plans, including in infrastructure and R&D. It has been shaped by numerous engagements and consultations. Just last year alone, NEA consulted more than 250 companies. We will launch the final phase of consultations with online consultations today, followed by focus group discussions in April.

6 The Masterplan will cover the management of three waste streams:

Electrical and electronic waste

From 2021, producers that supply covered electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) to the local market will be responsible for the end-of-life collection and treatment of their products. Suppliers of consumer EEE will be required to join a Producer Responsibility Organisation (PRO), which will be appointed by NEA, to collect and send e-waste for recycling. A single PRO will benefit from economies of scale, and lower the overall cost of the system. Collection targets will be imposed on the PRO, but penalties for failure to meet collection targets will only be enforced from 2024 to allow transition time.

Packaging waste

From 2020, producers of packaging and packaged products (i.e., brand owners, manufacturers, importers, and supermarkets) with an annual turnover of more than \$10 million will be required to report on the amounts and types of packaging they put on the market, and their plans to reduce, reuse and recycle them.

This will lay the foundation for the introduction of an Extended Producer Responsibility framework which will be implemented by 2025.

Food waste

From 2024, large commercial and industrial food waste generators will be required to segregate their food waste for treatment. Such premises include large hotels and malls, and large industrial developments housing food manufacturers, food caterers and food storage warehouses.

MEWR/NEA will work with the public sector to take the lead in segregating food waste for treatment in large public sector buildings where a significant amount of food waste is generated, from 2021 onwards.

From 2021, developers of new developments which are expected to be large food waste generators will be required to allocate and set aside space for on-site food waste treatment in their design plans. They will also be required to implement on-site food waste treatment from 2024.

7 We will continue to fine-tune the details and implement the above measures through the Resource Sustainability Bill, which will be introduced later this year.

8 The new regulations will send an economic signal to producers to take into account environmental externalities and facilitate resource recovery. It will also incentivise them to design products to last longer, improve recyclability, and reduce packaging. We will work closely with the economic agencies and businesses to reap economic opportunities in these industries, and create good jobs for Singaporeans.

Enhancing Food Security: 30-by-30 Vision

9 Singapore imports more than 90 per cent of our food supply today. This makes us vulnerable to the volatilities of the global food market, including sudden disruptions to transport routes or export bans by food exporting countries, and the impacts of climate change. To build up our food security, we will pursue three strategies: Diversify Import Sources; Grow Local; and Grow Overseas. These three Food Baskets will assure we have a resilient food supply, just as we have four National Taps for our water supply.

10 Our “Grow Local” food basket will help mitigate our reliance on imports and serve as a buffer during supply disruptions. Our vision is to develop the capability and capacity of our agri-food industry to produce 30 per cent of Singapore’s nutritional needs locally by 2030 (i.e., 30 by 30). This will require the industry to transform, be highly productive and employ climate-resilient and sustainable technologies to grow more food with less resources.

11 Beyond land-based farming, we aim to develop a productive and sustainable local aquaculture ecosystem. Our aspiration is to make Singapore an agri-food hub which exports sustainable solutions. The transformation of our food production industry will create new opportunities for employment and enterprises.

A Smart, Resilient and Sustainable Water System

12 We will continue to invest in enhancing our water system to make it even more resilient and sustainable. Another \$400 million will be invested in the next few years on drainage improvement works. Upgrading works at two major waterways, the Bukit Timah First Diversion Canal and Sungei Pandan Kechil, will be completed this year. We will continue to invest in key water infrastructure. Our fourth and fifth desalination plants in Marina East and Jurong Island will be completed by 2020, while works on the Deep Tunnel Sewerage System Phase 2 are on track. Even as we plan ahead to ensure our water security, Singaporeans must continue to treat water as a precious resource and conserve it.

Building Resilience against Climate Change

13 We will continue to invest in research and build up our climate science capabilities. The Centre for Climate Research Singapore (CCRS) will initiate the National Sea Level Programme this year. This research programme aims to bring together researchers from CCRS, our local universities as well as international experts, to deepen our understanding of sea level science and how sea level rise could impact Singapore.

An Endearing Home with a High Quality Living Environment

14 Hawker centres are a central part of Singaporeans’ lives; they are our community dining rooms. To ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy our hawker culture, we have been developing and enhancing hawker centres and the hawker trade by engaging hawkers and key stakeholders. We will enhance our incubation stall programme to get new hawkers into the trade, by extending the 50% discount off rental rates for the incubation stalls from six to nine months. We will also extend the productive hawker centre grant, for stallholders in existing centres, from the current two-year grant period to four years, with

step-down funding of 50% and 30% in the third and fourth year respectively. This will allow stallholders a more gradual transition towards assuming the full cost of the centralised dishwashing service.

15 Building a sustainable and endearing home can only be achieved through collective effort. We will continue to engage key stakeholders to seek their feedback on various issues, gather ideas, and work towards co-creating solutions together. Together, we can ensure Singapore remains strong and sustainable for us and generations to come.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

7 March 2019

Enclosed Annexes

Towards a Zero Waste Nation

- A. [Details on mandatory waste reporting framework for packaging and plastics \(Factsheet\)](#)
- B. [Details on mandatory waste reporting framework for large industrial premises \(Factsheet\)](#)
- C. [Update on E-waste Management System \(Factsheet\)](#)
- D. [Mandatory food waste segregation for treatment/recycling \(Media Release\)](#)

Enhancing Food Security

- E. [Singapore Food Story and 30-by-30 vision](#)

An Endearing Home with a High Quality Living Environment

- F. [Hawker Centres \(Factsheet\)](#)

1. Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will be in Nairobi, Kenya, from 14 to 15 March 2019 to attend the High-Level Segment of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4).
2. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will deliver Singapore's National Statement and join over 80 environment ministers and high-level representatives to discuss current and emerging global environmental issues.
3. The UNEA is the United Nations' key decision-making body on global environment issues. The theme of UNEA-4 is "Innovative Solutions for Environment Challenges and Sustainable Consumption and Production". UNEA-4 is expected to adopt decisions and/or resolutions on issues such as sustainable consumption and production, food waste management, and marine litter and microplastics. UNEA-4 is also expected to adopt a Ministerial Declaration.
4. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Environment Agency.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
13 MARCH 2019**

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will be in Beijing, China, from 25 to 26 March 2019 to attend the “Friends of the Paris Agreement - High-Level Dialogue Meeting” at the invitation of Special Representative for Climate Change of China, Mr Xie Zhenhua, and CEO of European Climate Foundation, Mr Laurence Tubiana.

2 At the meeting, Ministers and high-level representatives from participating countries will discuss ways to enhance the implementation of the Paris Agreement, following the successful outcome of the UN Climate Conference in Katowice, Poland in December 2018.

3 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Climate Change Secretariat, Strategy Group, Prime Minister’s Office.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
24 March 2019

1. The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) has appointed 14 members to the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) Board of Directors. The SFA will be established on 1 April 2019 under MEWR to oversee food security and food safety from farm to fork. SFA will bring together food-related functions carried out by the Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA), the National Environment Agency (NEA) and the Health Sciences Authority (HSA).

2. Chairman of the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*Star) Mr Lim Chuan Poh will be appointed as Chairman of the SFA Board from 1 April 2019.

3. Mr Lim Kok Thai, Chief Executive Officer of AVA, was concurrently appointed as the CEO (Designate) of SFA in July 2018. Mr Lim's appointment as CEO of SFA will take effect on 1 April 2019. He will concurrently be appointed to the SFA Board.

SFA Board

4. The following will be appointed to the SFA Board with effect from 1 April 2019:

(i) Mr Lim Chuan Poh, Chairman, SFA Board

(ii) Mr Lim Kok Thai, CEO, SFA

(iii) Dr Ho Kim Wai, Associate Professor, Division of Banking and Finance, Nanyang Business School NBS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU)

(iv) Ms Toh Hwee Tin, Executive Secretary, Food, Drink, and Allied Workers Union; Executive Secretary, Attractions, Resorts and Entertainment Union

(v) Mr Jim Lim, Partner and Head of Department, Intellectual Property & Technology, Withers KhattarWong LLP

(vi) Ms Samsiah Suliman, Managing Director, Jumain Sataysfaction Pte Ltd

(vii) Ms Han Yong May, Editor, Chinese Media Group (CMG) NewsHub, Singapore Press Holdings (SPH)

(viii) Mr Ong Chao Choon, Deputy Chairman, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Singapore; Managing Partner, PwC Myanmar

(ix) Dr John Lim, Executive Director, Centre of Regulatory Excellence, Duke-NUS Medical School; Chairman, Singapore Clinical Research Institute; Senior Advisor, Ministry of Health

(x) Dr Ralph Graichen, Director, Food and Consumer Care, A*STAR

(xi) Ms Thien Kwee Eng, Assistant Managing Director, Singapore Economic Development Board

(xii) Mr Krishnan Muthappan, Chief Executive Officer, Markham Agro Pte Ltd

(xiii) Mr Andrew Kwan, Managing Director, Commonwealth Capital Group

(xiv) Mr Pier Luigi Sigismondi, President, Worldwide Packaged Foods, Dole Asia Holdings.

(More information on the Board members is provided in the Annex.)

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

26 March 2019

For more info: [Annex](#)

The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) welcomes the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) as a new statutory board under the Ministry with effect from 1 April 2019. The SFA brings together food-related functions carried out by the former Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority of Singapore, the National Environment Agency and the Health Sciences Authority.

2. The SFA will strengthen food safety and security by enhancing regulatory oversight along the entire food supply chain, and streamline processes for food safety. By consolidating resources, SFA will be able to employ a more targeted approach towards food safety issues.

3. The SFA has set an ambitious goal to meet 30% of Singapore's nutritional needs by 2030. This represents a multi-fold increase to our current production, and will require our agri-food industry to transform into one that is highly productive and employs climate-resilient and sustainable technologies that will enable us to overcome our land, water, energy and manpower constraints. SFA will work hand-in-hand with the industry and consumers to achieve this ambitious target, and co-create the Singapore Food Story.

4. "Ensuring and securing a supply of safe food requires the joint effort of the government, industry and consumers. Collaboration and partnership with our stakeholders from farm to fork will be key to SFA's success," Mr Lim Kok Thai, CEO of SFA, said. This close connection is reflected in the SFA logo. Correspondingly, the addition of SFA into the MEWR Family is also reflected in MEWR's updated logo. Please refer to [Annex](#) for more details on SFA and MEWR's logo, vision and mission.

5. Welcoming SFA to the MEWR Family, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, said: "Just like water security, food security is an existential issue for Singapore. Despite Singapore's lack of natural resources and agricultural land, our officers have worked hard over the years to ensure that we have a secure supply of safe food. SFA will seize opportunities by turning the challenges into strategic advantages, just like what we have done for water. There is immense potential to transform our agri-food industry, develop our local enterprises and provide good jobs for Singaporeans."

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES AND

SINGAPORE FOOD AGENCY

1 April 2019

[Annex](#)

60 PER CENT OF SINGAPOREAN HOUSEHOLDS RECYCLE REGULARLY

MEWR and NEA Household Recycling Surveys found that convenience is key to recycling behaviour, and there is room for more residents to recycle right

Singapore, 29 April 2019 – Two recent household recycling surveys conducted by the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) and the National Environment Agency (NEA) found that around 60 per cent of Singapore households are recycling regularly. The most common channel used for recycling was the blue recycling bins, with 56 per cent of those recycling regularly using the blue bins at least once a week. Convenience was an important enabling factor for recycling. Respondents were generally capable of identifying recyclable items, but had difficulty identifying contaminants and non-recyclables.

2 The two surveys conducted between June 2018 and February 2019 covered different aspects of household recycling. NEA's *Customer Satisfaction Survey on Public Waste Collection Scheme 2018* is a biennial survey, and focuses more broadly on households' experiences with the recycling collection services and infrastructure at their homes. MEWR's *Survey on Household Recycling Behaviours, Attitudes and Knowledge* was commissioned specially for the Year Towards Zero Waste, and complements NEA's survey by delving deeper into specific areas of interest. MEWR and NEA surveyed 2,003 and 3,445 randomly selected Singapore households respectively, via face-to-face interviews.

Highlights of survey findings

- 3 The key results are attached in the **Annexes**. The topline findings are as follows:
- a. **6 in 10 Singaporean households recycle regularly** — Within this group of regular recyclers, the top items recycled were paper materials such as newspapers, magazines, junk mail, brochures and writing paper. It is worth noting that while these items are suitable for the blue recycling bin, they are vulnerable to contamination by food and liquids. It is therefore important to remind Singaporeans to ensure their recyclables are clean and free of food and liquids before depositing them in the blue recycling bins.

Another category of top items which were regularly recycled are clothes, shoes and bags. These are actually not suitable for the blue recycling bins [see para 3c].

Yet another category of top items which were regularly recycled are plastic drink bottles, aluminium cans and glass beer/wine bottles. While these items can be recycled, they should be emptied and rinsed clean wherever possible. (The percentages of the top items recycled by households can be found in **Annex A**).

- b. **Convenience was the most common reason for recycling regularly** — MEWR's survey found that convenience was one of the most commonly cited reasons by Singaporeans for recycling regularly. In addition, encouragement by the Government, concerns about being "wasteful", and the feeling that one should match others' recycling efforts were also important motivators of recycling. NEA's survey found that recycling was "second nature" to households which recycled regularly and came more naturally as part of their daily routine.

The most common reason for not recycling cited by respondents was that they had too few items to recycle. Other common reasons given were being too busy or tired, and not having enough space to accumulate recyclables in the home. Most of these reasons are also related to the convenience factor. Yet another reason given was a lack of consideration about recycling^[1].

Barriers cited by households who did not recycle regularly suggest that recycling was perceived as inconvenient and secondary in their daily routine. Hence, helping Singaporeans to see that recycling is easy and helping with habit formation are important in improving Singapore's household recycling rate.

- c. **Recycling knowledge can be improved** — Both surveys found that Singaporeans were generally capable of identifying recyclable items. They were able to correctly classify an average of 7 out of 10 surveyed items as recyclables or non-recyclables.

However, a significant proportion mistakenly classified as recyclables, items which should either be disposed of or be treated as reusables. These include contaminants such as soiled paper food packaging, tissue paper and Styrofoam which should be disposed of as general waste; as well as soft toys, bags and shoes which are reusables and not suitable for recycling. The

latter should be donated, if in good condition, instead of being recycled. These wrongly recycled items contribute to the high contamination rate of the recyclables collected from the blue recycling bins. (The percentages for each of the items surveyed can be found in **Annexes B and C**).

In addition, the surveys found that around 60 per cent of Singaporeans mistakenly thought that recyclables had to be sorted by type before being deposited into the blue recycling bins or recycling chutes. This correlates with another finding that 43 per cent of Singaporeans were also unaware that recyclables deposited into the blue recycling bins were sorted at Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) after being collected. There is no need to pre-sort items that are deposited into the blue recycling bins, because the contents of the blue recycling bins will be transported to the MRF where the sorting takes place.

Efforts to get everyone to recycle more and recycle right

4 MEWR and NEA are committed to encourage and make recycling more convenient for Singapore households. To further enhance recycling infrastructure, all new public housing developments launched since 2014 have been fitted with dual chutes for refuse and recyclables respectively. This requirement has also been extended to buildings taller than four storeys in all new non-landed private residential developments since 1 April 2018. The recycling chutes will make recycling as accessible as general waste disposal for apartment dwellers, and as convenient as for those living in landed homes.

5 Pilot trials to facilitate more in-home recycling in residential households are also in the pipeline, to ease recycling into Singaporeans' daily routine and help cultivate stronger habits of recycling. We are also refreshing the design of the blue recycling bin labels to improve the presentation of information on recycling, to help more people recycle right.

6 To increase awareness on recycling, NEA also provides information on how and what to recycle, as well as the locations of the nearest recycling bins and recyclables collection points, through its website, social media and the myENV mobile app.

7 In conjunction with the #RecycleRight movement which was launched early this year, MEWR and NEA will continue to work with partners to educate the public on how to recycle in the right way. The #RecycleRight movement seeks to improve awareness of:

(i) what can go into the blue recycling bin; and (ii) the need to ensure that recyclables are dry, and free of food and liquids. A 'Towards Zero Waste Grant' has been set up to support ground-up initiatives that drive waste reduction and recycling, or encourage households to recycle more and/or recycle right. The grant is open to individuals, interest groups, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), grassroots organisations and corporations. More information is available under the Grants and Awards section of the NEA website: www.nea.gov.sg.

- End -

[1] Respondents who chose this option were either unaware of recycling in general, or did not pay much attention to recycling in their daily routines (even if they were aware of recycling).








ANNEX A

MEWR Household Recycling Survey

Top misconceptions on what can be recycled

Not recyclable 		% who thought these can be recycled
 Soiled paper food packaging 		67%
 Glass Cookware or Porcelain/Ceramics		62%
 Plastic Toys 		56%
 Tissue paper 		49%
 Styrofoam 		36%

Top items recycled by households

Items	% who regularly recycled these items	To note
 Newspapers, magazines, junk mail, brochures	60%	 Can be placed in blue recycling bins or recycling chutes.
 Paper stationery e.g. A4 paper, writing paper	42%	
 Cardboard	39%	
 Clothes	56%	DO NOT PLACE IN BLUE RECYCLING BINS OR RECYCLING CHUTES. Donate if in good condition. Otherwise, throw in trash bin.
 Shoes and bags	50%	 Ensure these are DRY AND FREE OF FOOD AND LIQUIDS. EMPTY AND RINSE if necessary.
 Plastic drink bottles	50%	
 Plastic food containers	39%	
 Aluminium drink can	38%	
 Glass beer/wine bottles	30%	

Source: MEWR's Survey on Household Recycling Behaviours, Attitudes and Knowledge
2018

ANNEX B

Percentage of Singaporeans Who Correctly Identified Recyclable Items and Non-Recyclable Items

Recyclable Items

No.	Item	Percentage of respondents who CORRECTLY believe that item is recyclable
1. 2.	Newspapers, magazines, junk mail, or brochures	95%
1. 2.	Plastic drink bottles	91%
1. 2.	Paper stationery (e.g. A4 paper, writing paper)	89%
1. 2.	Aluminium drink cans	89%
1. 2.	Other kinds of cardboard	84%
1. 2.	Beer/wine bottles	83%
1. 2.	Plastic food containers	79%
1. 2.	Steel/tin cans	79%
1. 2.	Glass containers (e.g. sauce/oil bottles, jam jars)	78%
1. 2.	Plastic bags (disposable or reusable)	77%
1. 2.	Plastic containers (e.g. shampoo, detergent)	74%

1. 2.	Used beverage cartons (e.g. milk/drink cartons)	74%
1. 2.	Plastic wrapping for groceries	70%
1. 2.	Metal pots or pans	64%
1. 2.	Plastic cartons (e.g. egg container)	62%

Non-Recyclable Items

No.	Item	Percentage of respondents who CORRECTLY believe that item is NOT recyclable
1. 2.	Styrofoam	64%
1. 2.	Melamine food utensils	51%
1. 2.	Tissue paper (used or unused)	51%
1. 2.	Plastic toys	44%
1. 2.	Glass cookware or porcelain/ceramics	38%
1. 2.	Soiled paper food packaging	33%
1. 2.	Shoes and bags	18%
1. 2.	Clothing	13%

Source: MEWR's Survey on Household Recycling Behaviours, Attitudes and Knowledge 2018

ANNEX C

Percentage of Singaporeans Who Correctly Identified Items for the Blue Recycling Bins

Items that CAN be Deposited in the Blue Recycling Bins

No.	Item	Percentage of respondents who CORRECTLY identified that item CAN be deposited in the blue recycling bins
1. 2.	Empty mineral water container	94%
1. 2.	Rinsed beverage carton (e.g. milk carton)	80%
1. 2.	Glass wine bottle	64%

Items that SHOULD NOT be Deposited in the Blue Recycling Bins

No.	Item	Percentage of respondents who CORRECTLY believe that item SHOULD NOT be deposited in the blue recycling bins
1. 2.	Plastic food container with leftover food	84%
1. 2.	*Lightbulb	70%
1. 2.	**Standing fan	69%
1. 2.	Used tissue paper	67%
1. 2.	Porcelain/ Ceramic plate	66%
1. 2.	Styrofoam disposables	53%

Source: NEA's Customer Satisfaction Survey on Public Waste Collection Scheme (2018)

*For light bulbs, public can dispose them via the IKEA Light Bulb Recycling Programme at IKEA's Alexandra and Tampines stores, and the Threecubes Voluntary Lamp Recycling Programme, located at Siglap Centre. More information can be found at this link: <https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/waste-management/3r-programmes-and-resources/e-waste-management/where-to-recycle-e-waste>.

**Standing fans are considered bulky items. For the removal of bulky item(s), HDB residents may contact their Town Council for more details. For private housing estate residents, please contact the public waste collector (PWCs) serving your estate. More information can be found at this link: <https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/waste-management/waste-disposal/bulk-item-disposal-disposal-of-garden-wastes-and-dead-pets>.

Singapore, 9 May 2019 – Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will be in Niigata, Japan, from 11 to 12 May 2019 to attend the G20 Agriculture Ministers' Meeting. Singapore's participation is at the invitation of Japan, which is currently holding the G20 Presidency.

2 At the Meeting, Minister Masagos Zulkifli will deliver remarks at a session on pursuing possible contributions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Minister's remarks will highlight Singapore's efforts in developing urban food solutions. This includes harnessing technology to farm sustainably and more productively to secure a resilient supply of safe food.

3 A Ministerial Declaration will be adopted at the Meeting, in preparation for the G20 leaders' summit from 28 to 29 June 2019, in Osaka, Japan. The Declaration is expected to underscore the importance of: (i) leveraging innovation to ensure sustainability in the agro-food sector; (ii) developing food value chains in an inclusive manner; and (iii) international collaboration to address global challenges that affect the agro-food sector.

4 Minister Masagos Zulkifli will visit agri-tech and food-related facilities and meet key Ministerial counterparts and stakeholders. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the Singapore Food Agency.

- End -

1. Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the European Commission Conference on International Carbon Markets in Brussels, Belgium, on 3 June 2019, at the invitation of Mr Miguel Arias Cañete, European Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy.

2. The Conference aims to advance negotiations on a set of detailed guidance for implementing Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which is the key unresolved issue under the Paris Agreement Work Programme. Article 6 provides for the use of international carbon markets in the implementation of climate pledges, to allow for higher ambition and to promote sustainable development and environmental integrity. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will participate in a high-level panel session that will review progress, consider the main challenges ahead, and chart the way forward for negotiations on international carbon markets.

3. Minister Masagos Zulkifli will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources; and the National Climate Change Secretariat, Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
2 JUNE 2019

Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry Dr Koh Poh Koon and Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources Dr Amy Khor will be attending the G20 Ministerial Meeting on Energy Transitions and Global Environment for Sustainable Growth. The meeting will be taking place from 15 to 16 June 2019 in Karuizawa, Japan. It will be the first time that the G20 Energy and Environment Ministers are holding a Joint Ministerial Meeting.

2. At the meeting, G20 Energy and Environment Ministers will exchange views on the two key themes of “Accelerating the Virtuous Circle of Environmental Protection and Economic Growth by Innovation” and “Leading Energy Transitions to Realise Energy Security, Economic Efficiency, and Environment and Safety”.
3. On energy transitions, Dr Koh will profile Singapore’s initiatives in encouraging innovation in the energy sector through investments in R&D, enabling regulatory frameworks and partnerships with the industry. He will also highlight the importance of developing liquid, flexible and competitive gas markets to facilitate free and open gas trade. In addition, Dr Koh will share Singapore’s efforts to harness synergies across our energy, water and waste management to promote sustainability.
4. On environmental protection, Dr Khor will share Singapore’s efforts to enhance local and regional resilience to the impacts of climate change. This includes supporting the establishment of the Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF) to provide climate and disaster risk financing and insurance solutions, as well as strengthening the financial resilience of participating ASEAN member states.
5. Both Dr Koh and Dr Khor will meet their counterparts and heads of international organisations on the sidelines of the meeting. They will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Energy Market Authority.

Ministry of Trade and Industry

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

14 June 2019

National Geographic and Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources collaborate to encourage Singaporeans to #RecycleRight

National Geographic Emerging Explorer, Arthur Huang, and his company, MINIWIZ, showcase mini Trashpresso for the first time in Singapore



Images for editorial use (to credit as indicated within):

<http://bit.ly/NationalGraphicxMEWRRecycleRight>

Singapore, 15 June 2019 – In line with the Year Towards Zero Waste, **National Geographic** is collaborating with the **Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR)** on a #RecycleRight campaign to motivate Singaporeans to recycle more and recycle right. This includes a co-organised community outreach event on **15 and 16 June 2019**, at **HDB Hub Toa Payoh**, and a video series titled “Green Heroes”, which features National Geographic Explorer Arthur Huang.

2. A National Geographic Emerging Explorer since 2016, Arthur has spent over a decade turning post-consumer waste into innovative products for consumers and businesses with his company, MINIWIZ. He is on a mission to accelerate communities and nations to a closed-loop circular economy where post-consumer products are transformed into intriguing second lives – being used within retail store interiors, architectural structures, and consumer goods.

3. **Vineet Puri, Territory Head, Singapore & Malaysia, FOX Networks Group Asia**, said, “We are heartened to partner the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources on this initiative to bring more awareness to the community about the circular economy approach. Visitors to the #RecycleRight event can expect visual storytelling, interactive booths, and educational experiences. Through showing what is possible when we recycle more and recycle right, we are positive that Arthur’s sharing of the MINIWIZ team’s efforts and learnings on exploration and waste management would inspire our nation to work towards building a more sustainable world.”

4. **Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources Dr Amy Khor** said: “In our Year Towards Zero Waste, we are making strides towards a circular economy approach to resource management. Recycling is a key enabler of this transition. Through our collaboration with National Geographic, we hope to showcase how we can transform trash into treasure, and make the most of our resources. If we all do our part to #RecycleRight, we can achieve our vision of a zero waste nation, and a Sustainable Singapore for future generations.”

#RecycleRight Community Event

5. Visitors to the #RecycleRight event can experience a demonstration of the Mini Trashpresso by Arthur Huang and his team from Miniwiz. The mini Trashpresso is a portable recycling plant designed to recycle plastic waste in mere minutes. Through the on-site demonstration, visitors will see the recycling process compacted into three simple steps: size reduction, purification, and reshaping. Through these steps, the machine can convert plastic waste such as water bottles and bottle caps into useful end products such as coasters and bowls, illustrating how the waste loop can be closed through proper recycling. Visitors also stand to redeem exclusive prizes, including a coaster made from plastic waste produced by Mini Trashpresso, or a reusable cutlery set from National Geographic.

6. Another event highlight is a photo story on the recycling process, through the lens of Jayaprakash Bojan, National Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year in 2017. From collection to sorting, the curated photo exhibition brings viewers behind-the-scenes on the recycling process in Singapore.

“Green Heroes” Video Series

7. A special two-part video series will also premiere at the event. The series will showcase Arthur’s exploration of Singapore’s eco-initiatives as it moves towards becoming a Zero Waste Nation. Arthur’s visit to Semakau Landfill, the SCARCE laboratory at Nanyang Technological University, and SembCorp’s Material Recovery Facility, where he learnt about waste management in Singapore and how all of these play a part in developing Singapore’s circular economy, will be part of the series.

Exhibition Details

Recycle Right Event

Date/Time Saturday, 15 June 2019: 10am to 6pm

Venue: Sunday, 16 June 2019: 11am to 6pm
Toa Payoh HDB Hub

470 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh

Singapore 310470

More information on the community event can be found at <http://mewr.sg/recycleright-toy>.

- END -

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About Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) is committed to providing Singaporeans with a clean and sustainable environment, and resilient supplies of safe food and water.

Together with its three statutory boards, the National Environment Agency (NEA), PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency, and the Singapore Food Agency (SFA), MEWR seeks to achieve its mission through innovation, vibrant partnerships and co-operation across the 3P sectors - private, public and people.

For more information visit <http://www.mewr.gov.sg/>.

About the Year Towards Zero Waste

MEWR has designated 2019 as the YTWZ to rally Singaporeans to care for the environment and treasure our resources by building a strong culture of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. To achieve its vision of becoming a Zero Waste Nation, Singapore will also adopt a circular economy approach to sustainable waste and resource management. This means reusing and recycling resources for as long as possible by turning trash into treasure, and engaging in sustainable production and consumption. This will help create new jobs and economic opportunities for Singaporeans, and a sustainable environment for our future generations.

For more information, please visit www.towardszerowaste.sg

About National Geographic Partners

National Geographic Partners LLC (NGP), a joint venture between National Geographic Society and Disney, is committed to bringing the world premium science, adventure and exploration content across an unrivalled portfolio of media assets. NGP combines the global National Geographic television channels (National Geographic Channel, Nat Geo Wild, Nat Geo Mundo, Nat Geo People) with National Geographic's media and consumer-oriented assets, including National Geographic magazines; National Geographic studios; related digital and social media platforms; books; maps; children's media; and ancillary activities that include travel, global experiences and events, archival sales, licensing and e-commerce businesses. Furthering knowledge and understanding of the world has been the core purpose of National Geographic for 131 years, and now it is committed to going deeper, pushing boundaries, going further for consumers... all while reaching millions of people around the world in 172 countries and 43 languages every month. NGP returns 27 percent of its proceeds to the nonprofit National Geographic Society to fund work in the areas of science, exploration, conservation and education.

For more information visit nationalgeographic.com or natgeotv.com/asia.

1. Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the 3rd Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA) in Brussels, Belgium from 27 to 28 June 2019, and the Global Preparatory Meeting (GPM) for the United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit (CAS) in Abu Dhabi from 30 June to 1 July 2019.

2. The MoCA is an informal Ministerial meeting co-convened by the European Union, China and Canada. It brings together a select group of Ministers to discuss key issues under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiation process and to consider ways to support the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement.

3. The GPM will be convened by United Nations Secretary-General Mr António Guterres, and hosted by the United Arab Emirates. It aims to galvanise global climate action in support of the goals of the Paris Agreement. Ministerial-level representatives and stakeholders will discuss a set of key deliverables and initiatives for the CAS in New York on 23 September 2019.

4. At these meetings, Minister Masagos will share Singapore's perspectives on key issues under negotiation. He will also highlight our climate action efforts, including our contribution as a member of the Infrastructure, Cities and Local Action Coalition, which is one of the work streams established to develop concrete and scalable climate actions for endorsement at the CAS.

5. Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the National Climate Change Secretariat, Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

26 JUNE 2019

Singapore To Strengthen Capabilities In Climate Science

New Programme Office to lead climate science research

\$10 million National Sea Level Research Programme launched

Singapore, 17 July 2019 – Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, has announced plans to set up a **new Climate Science Research Programme Office** in 2020. He made the announcement at the Ministry for the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR)'s 2019 Partners for the Environment Forum (PFE) today.

2. The Programme Office will lead and drive efforts in formulating and implementing the National Climate Science Research Masterplan, to strengthen climate science capabilities in Singapore.

i. The Programme Office will focus on five key research areas with significant impact on Singapore, namely: sea level rise; the impact of climate change on our water resources and flood management; the impact of warming trends on human health and the energy sector; biodiversity and food security. It will engage in cross-cutting research, such as the interface between science and policy application and risk management approaches;

ii. To be set up under the Centre for Climate Research Singapore (CCRS), a research unit established in 2013 under the Meteorological Service Singapore (MSS) in the National Environment Agency (NEA), the Programme Office will collaborate closely with Scientists and Researches in our local Research Institutes and Institutes of Higher Learning in its work. Please refer to **Annex A** for more details.

3. Minister Masagos made two other announcements related to efforts to address climate change:

i. CCRS will be launching a **\$10 million National Sea Level Research Programme** over the next five years, to strengthen our understanding of sea levels around Singapore, and help develop more robust sea level rise projections in future. CCRS will issue a call for proposal in August 2019.

ii. Singapore will host the **Scoping Meeting for the Synthesis Report (SYR) of the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the 57th Session of the IPCC Bureau Meeting for the first time**. The Scoping Meeting will further develop and scope the content of the IPCC AR6 SYR and ensure that it responds to the needs of policy-makers around the world. Please refer to **Annex B** for more details.

4. On Singapore's climate action efforts, Minister Masagos said: "The Government has been strengthening our adaptation and mitigation measures against climate change. An integral part of this is building up our climate science capabilities. We also want to partner businesses and stakeholders to uncover creative, cost-effective and resource-efficient solutions. This will spur the growth of new industries and create new green jobs for Singaporeans.

5. The Government has initiated the momentum for action. But we cannot do this alone. We need everyone to play their part and, as one nation, overcome the existential challenge that climate change poses, which can threaten our way of life. If we put our heads, hearts and minds together, we will come out of this for the better and will leave behind a more resilient and prosperous Singapore for our children, grandchildren and many generations to come."

Partners for the Environment Forum 2019

6. The PFE forum is an annual platform for MEWR's partners from the People, Private and Public (3P) sectors to come together to explore ideas and collaborations on environmental issues. This year's forum was **co-organised with the British High Commission, under the Singapore-UK Partnership for the Future**. In line with Singapore's Year Towards Zero Waste, the forum focused on initiatives and partnerships to achieve Singapore's vision of becoming a Zero Waste Nation. Insights from the latest climate change research was also shared by distinguished guest speakers such as Professor Benjamin Horton, Chair, Asian School of the Environment, Nanyang Technological University.

7. In her remarks, Her Excellency Kara Owen, British High Commissioner to Singapore, shared that "The UK has a strong track record of climate action, being the first country to introduce legally binding, long-term emission reduction targets through the Climate Change Act in 2008. We also produce over 36 per cent of the world's offshore wind and, through a £61.4 million fund announced at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in 2018, work with Commonwealth countries to address marine plastic pollution. Climate action must be a joint endeavour and we are pleased to align synergies and efforts with Singapore who share our commitment to this."

8. Launched in 2007, the **Singapore Packaging Agreement (SPA)** is a joint initiative by the government, industry and non-governmental organisations to reduce packaging waste. The SPA Awards 2019 were also presented at PFE 2019 to recognise businesses which have done well in reducing packaging waste. Resorts World Sentosa and SG Hotels (Six Senses Singapore) were amongst 19 companies which were lauded for their efforts. For more details on the SPA Awards, please refer to the accompanying media release issued by the National Environment Agency.

9. PFE Forum 2019 also kicked off the **Climate Action Week 2019**, which runs from 17 to 23 July. Building on the Year of Climate Action in 2018, a series of partner events have been planned for the week to galvanise the community to take climate action.

-End-

ANNEX A

THE CLIMATE SCIENCE RESEARCH PROGRAMME OFFICE

1. The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) plans to set up a new Programme Office focussing on research in climate science in 2020, under the Centre for Climate Research Singapore (CCRS). The CCRS was set up in 2013 under the Meteorological Service Singapore (MSS), with the aim of building in-house capabilities within Government to advance the scientific understanding and prediction of tropical climate and weather affecting Singapore and the wider Southeast Asian region.
2. As a small, low-lying country, climate change poses existential challenges for Singapore.
 - i. Mean sea levels are currently projected to rise by up to around 1 metre by 2100. However, with the melting of ice sheets or collapse of the ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica, sea-level rise could be higher and this could happen at a more rapid pace.
 - ii. Singapore's annual mean temperatures have also continued to climb steadily at 0.29C per decade in the last 40 years (1979 – 2018). Based on Singapore's Second National Climate Change Study, it is projected that Singapore could face an increase in daily mean temperatures of between 1.4C and 4.6C by 2100.
 - iii. It is also projected that by 2100, Singapore could face more intense and frequent heavy rainfall events. The contrast between the normally wetter months and drier months is likely to be more pronounced.
3. The Programme Office, which will be a new set-up and an expansion of CCRS' roles, will drive and lead efforts to develop and implement the national climate science research masterplan and build up climate science capabilities in Singapore. The Programme Office will help to fill a gap in the international climate science landscape as most of the research done today is focussed on the temperate regions and climates. There is thus greater need for Research and Development to understand the effects of climate change in our tropical region. The Programme Office will work closely with scientists and researchers in our Research Institutes and Institutes of Higher Learning to harness their expertise and develop cutting-edge climate science research.
4. For a start, the Programme Office will focus on these five areas:

i. **Sea Level Rise:** Enhancing our understanding of sea-level rise around Singapore and the wider region, taking into account extreme-sea level events

ii. **Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources and Flood Management:** How changing rainfall and temperature patterns will impact our water supply and drainage infrastructure

iii. **Impact of Warming Trends on Human Health and the Energy Sector:** How the urban heat island effect will be affected by climate change; and how extreme temperatures and other changing weather patterns will affect human comfort and health, and energy demand

iv. **Biodiversity and Food Security:** Impact of changing rainfall and temperature patterns on Singapore's biodiversity and food security

v. **Cross-cutting Research:** Forging tighter linkages between the science-policy interface and translation of climate science to policy application and adaptation planning.

National Sea Level Research Programme

5. The Climate Science Research Programme Office will also oversee the National Sea Level Research Programme (NSLP), a five-year programme (2019 - 2023), with the aim of enhancing our understanding of how the various factors of sea-level rise affect Singapore and the Southeast Asian region.

6. Sea-level rise is a complex, multi-disciplinary issue which involves many areas of domain expertise — in atmospheric science (storm surges), cryosphere (ice-sheet dynamics), oceanography (circulation and thermal expansion of ocean), and geoscience (vertical land movements). The science in this field is also constantly and rapidly evolving. The NSLP will bring together both local and international experts across the research community to integrate and analyse these various domains and customise it to our local geographical context, to provide a more robust understanding of sea-level rise.

7. The NSLP will focus on and build local research capabilities in four key areas, namely: regional sea-level changes due to ocean dynamics; extreme sea levels (e.g. storm surges); local vertical land movement and changes in coastal sea levels due to ice mass loss from the ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica. These capabilities will help ensure that sea-level rise projections are robust and informed by the latest scientific knowledge in the field. The NSLP will also enhance our current capabilities in projecting and adapting to the risks posed by long-term sea-level rise affecting Singapore.

8. Findings from the NSLP will contribute to Singapore's Third National Climate Change Study due in 2022, which will provide an updated and more robust sea-level rise projections for adaptation planning. The CCRS will be issuing grant calls to local Research Institutes to seek research project proposals that address NSLP priorities in August 2019.

IPCC Scoping Meeting for the Synthesis Report (SYR) of the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6)

1. Singapore will be hosting the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Scoping Meeting for the Synthesis Report (SYR) of the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) (21-23 October 2019) and the 57th Session of the IPCC Bureau Meeting (24-25 October) for the first time.
2. The IPCC AR6 SYR will integrate, build on and complement Special Reports and IPCC Working Group contributions prepared during the Sixth Assessment Cycle. The IPCC AR6 SYR is due to be completed in the first half of 2022, and will provide policymakers around the world with scientific information to develop climate policies and serve as a key input to international negotiations to tackle climate change.
3. The IPCC Bureau is one of the highest bodies in the organisational structure of the IPCC. The IPCC Bureau provides guidance to the IPCC Panel on scientific and technical aspects of its work and advises on related management and strategic issues. The IPCC Bureau currently has 34 members and comprises the IPCC Chair, IPCC Vice-Chairs, the Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the three Working Groups and the Co-Chairs of the Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories.

Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources and Health, will be attending the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Clean Air, Health and Climate in Manila, the Philippines, on 24 July 2019.

2 The ASEAN Ministerial Meeting is hosted by the Philippines, which is the co-chair of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC). The meeting will gather Ministers and Representatives from ASEAN and the region to discuss measures to address air pollution, health, and other key priorities. It will also drive climate action to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

3 Dr Khor will share Singapore's efforts in addressing air pollution and climate change, and suggest ways to enhance regional cooperation. She will be meeting her ASEAN counterparts on the sidelines of the Ministerial Meeting.

4 Dr Khor will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Environment Agency.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore

23 July 2019

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the 21st Meeting of the Sub-Regional Ministerial Steering Committee (MSC) on Transboundary Haze Pollution in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, on 6 August 2019

2 The MSC is an annual meeting which convenes ministerial-level representatives from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand in the run-up to the dry season in the southern ASEAN region. The meeting will review and discuss: (i) cooperative measures to monitor, prevent and mitigate smoke haze arising from land and forest fires; and (ii) the exchange of timely information among the five countries.

3 Minister Masagos will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Environment Agency.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources

4 August 2019

Factsheet: Singapore's Climate Action Efforts

Singapore is a small, low-lying and highly urbanised city-state, with limited land and no natural resources. This limits our access to alternative clean energy options. It also makes us particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

We are already experiencing some of the impacts of climate change such as more intense rainfall and prolonged dry spells. By 2100, we could experience mean sea level rise of up to 1 metre, an increase in daily mean temperatures as high as 4.6°C, and more extreme and intense weather events^[1], which may lead to more frequent floods. Climate change will threaten our access to essential resources such as water, food and energy. It will also potentially impact our biodiversity and health.

Just like how we have tackled our challenges in the past, we are planning decades ahead, and investing in research and development and innovative solutions to overcome these constraints and challenges. Our efforts to mitigate carbon emissions, along with steps taken to adapt to climate change, aim to ensure that Singapore remains a vibrant and liveable city for current and future generations.

Although we contribute only around 0.11% of global emissions, Singapore continues to play our part to realise ambitious climate actions:

1. We support a robust global response to climate change, through a multilateral rules-based system under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

- a. We submitted an ambitious 2030 climate pledge, and are committed to reducing our emissions intensity by 36% from 2005 levels by 2030, and stabilising our emissions with the aim of peaking around 2030.
- b. We will build on our 2030 climate pledge and are developing our long-term low emissions development strategy, with a public consultation currently underway.
- c. We will also review and update our 2030 climate pledge as part of this exercise.

2. We adopt forward-looking domestic mitigation measures.

- a. Pricing carbon. Singapore is the first in Southeast Asia to introduce an economy-wide carbon tax at S\$5/tonne CO₂e, with no exemptions. This rate will be reviewed by 2023, with the intention to increase it to between S\$10 and S\$15/tonne CO₂e by 2030.
- b. Early Fuel Switch. Singapore has taken early steps since the early 2000s to use a cleaner fuel mix. Currently, 95% of our electricity is generated from natural gas.
- c. Improving our industry energy efficiency. The Energy Conservation Act has put in place enhanced requirements for large industrial energy users to measure and evaluate their energy performance. We are targeting for the industry to achieve an energy efficiency improvement rate of 1 to 2% per annum – a rate achieved by leading countries such as Belgium and the Netherlands over the past 10 years. To assist companies transit to a low-carbon economy, we will use revenue from our carbon tax to provide grants and incentives to help businesses reduce their emissions and become more energy and carbon efficient.

d. Intensifying the harnessing of solar power through innovative modes such as floating solar farms. We aim to reach 350 megawatt-peak (MWp) by 2020 and 1 gigawatt-peak (GWp) beyond 2020.

e. Greening our transport. We are working towards 9 in 10 of all peak period journeys to be made on “walk, cycle and ride” transport modes, where “ride” refers to public and shared transport, by 2040. We are also developing the infrastructure for more electric cars, buses and taxis. We are committed to having 100% cleaner energy public bus fleets (e.g. electric or hybrid) by 2040. Our taxi companies have also committed to 100% cleaner energy vehicles by 2040.

f. Greening our buildings. We are on track to having at least 80% of our buildings (by floor area) achieve Green buildings standards by 2030. We will develop new standards to promote super-low energy, zero-energy, and positive energy buildings to push the boundaries for energy efficiency for buildings in Singapore.

g. Reducing waste. We are working with partners in the public, private and people sectors to move Singapore towards more sustainable production and consumption. This will include the adoption of a circular economy approach to reuse our resources for as long as possible. This will reduce our environmental footprint and strengthen our resource resilience.

3. We take a forward-looking approach in climate adaptation.

a. Protecting our coasts. Since 2011, we have raised minimum reclamation levels for newly reclaimed lands to at least four metres above the mean sea level. We have raised the minimum platform levels for new developments and are building critical future developments such as the Changi Airport Terminal 5 and Tuas Terminal mega port at higher platform levels. We are also making plans for coastal defences to better protect our coastal areas as a whole, such as sea walls or pumping stations. These are major investments that we intend to make, to safeguard our future as the effects of sea level rise are felt in the coming decades.

b. Enhancing flood resilience. We have spent around S\$1.8 billion on drainage improvement works since 2011. An additional S\$400 million will be spent over the next two years to upgrade and maintain drains.

c. Strengthening our resource resilience and security. We have invested in research and development, water infrastructures, and diversified Singapore’s water supply to include weather-resilient sources such as NEWater and desalinated water. To make our food supply more resilient, we are pursuing three strategies, also known as our three “food baskets”: 1) Diversify import sources; 2) Grow local; and 3) Grow overseas. By 2030, we plan to meet 30% of our nutritional needs with food produced in Singapore.

d. Investing in research to guide adaptation planning. The Centre for Climate Research Singapore will launch a S\$10 million National Sea Level Research Programme over the next five years to develop more robust projections of sea level rise. A new Climate Science Research Programme Office will

also be set up to formulate, lead and drive efforts to build up climate science capabilities in Singapore.

4. We invest heavily in research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) to address our climate and sustainability challenges, and to create solutions that can be exported globally.

a. The National Research Foundation's Research Innovation and Enterprise (RIE) 2020 Plan has committed S\$900 million towards RD&D in the Urban Solutions and Sustainability domain to tackle Singapore's energy, water, land, and liveability challenges.

b. Building Singapore's ecosystem of research institutes. We have established collaborations with leading international research and innovation centres to tap on the world's top expertise, such as the international research and innovation hubs housed in the Campus for Research and Technological Enterprise. Many of these centres focus on energy-related research, including the Cambridge Centre for Carbon Reduction in Chemical Technology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University-National University of Singapore Research Centre on Energy and Environmental Sustainability Solutions for MegaCities.

c. Low-carbon technologies are being developed and test-bedded in Singapore to help us address our own energy and climate challenges, while also being useful to other cities facing similar challenges. In February 2019, the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore (SERIS) announced that it is partnering China's Guangzhou Ruxing Technology Development Company Ltd to develop technologies to enable production of high-efficiency (>24%) low-cost solar cells. In May 2019, EMA launched partnerships with PSA and Shell, totalling S\$12 million, to develop solutions in energy storage and digitalisation.

d. Singapore is developing the Tuas Nexus – the integration of PUB's Tuas Water Reclamation Plant with Singapore's National Environment Agency's Integrated Waste Management Facility. The Tuas Nexus will maximise efficiencies in energy and resources, by employing the latest technologies to harness the synergies of the water-energy-waste nexus from used water and solid waste. A highlight of Tuas Nexus will be its ability to achieve full energy self-sufficiency.

e. The National Environment Agency has also set aside S\$45 million under the "Closing the Waste Loop" R&D Initiative to develop technologies and solutions to tackle challenges posed by increasing waste generation, scarcity of resources and land constraints for waste management. Waste-to-resource R&D can help us develop a circular economy approach to move Singapore closer to its vision of becoming a Zero Waste Nation.

5. We tap on green growth opportunities such as green financing which play a crucial role in channelling capital to low-carbon solutions.

a. Mainstreaming sustainable financing practices. In 2015, the Association of Banks in Singapore (ABS) introduced guidelines on responsible financing, which set out minimum standards on responsible financing practices to be integrated into banks' business models and risk management functions. The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) is currently working closely with the industry to develop guidelines on environmental risk management for financial institutions across the banking, insurance and asset management sectors. Each sector's guidelines will include MAS' supervisory

expectations on governance, risk analysis and disclosures in relation to environmental risks.

b. Facilitating growth of green finance investments. MAS launched a Green Bond Grant Scheme in June 2017 that aims to level costs associated with issuing a green bond versus that of a conventional bond and to promote the adoption of internationally accepted standards on sustainability. To date, some S\$6 billion worth of green bonds has been issued here by local and foreign companies. In 2019, MAS expanded the Green Bond Grant Scheme to include social and sustainability bonds and lowered the minimum issuance size requirement for the scheme, which will allow more qualifying issuers to gain access to the grant. The grant is now renamed as the Sustainable Bond Grant Scheme.

6. We forge partnerships and support fellow developing countries.

a. More than 128,000 officials from fellow developing countries have participated in courses under the Singapore Cooperation Programme since 1992 in key areas such as sustainable development, urban planning, water and transport management.

b. Launched a Climate Action Package in July 2018 to offer capacity-building support in areas such as climate science, flood management, and disaster risk reduction.

c. The ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC), hosted by the Meteorological Service Singapore, is investing S\$5 million in a five-year capability development programme to strengthen the region's efforts in climate projections and adaptation planning.

d. Established the Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF). With support from Japan, Singapore and the World Bank, the SEADRIF platform will be based in Singapore, with an initial focus of providing a flood risk pool for Laos, Myanmar, and potentially Cambodia.

e. We actively contribute to global efforts led by international organisations to address emissions. These efforts include those led by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and International Maritime Organization (IMO) to address GHG emissions from international aviation and international shipping on a global basis.

7. All of us have a part to play in fighting climate change. We can help to reduce our carbon footprint by making climate-friendly choices. Some of the things we can do include:

i. Using appliances which are energy efficient (look for appliances with a higher tick rating), and those which use refrigerants with lower Global Warming Potential

ii. Switching to LED lightbulbs

iii. Keeping the air-conditioner at a higher temperature (e.g. 25 degrees Celsius)

iv. Choosing to walk, cycle or take public transport

v. Practising the “3Rs” – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Singapore will continue to plan for the future, invest in innovation and technology, and prepare ourselves to meet the challenges posed by climate change as well as external developments. Everyone – companies, individuals and Government – has a role to play.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

18 AUGUST 2019

[1] Second National Climate Change Study (<http://ccrs.weather.gov.sg/publications-second-national-climate-change-study-science-reports>).

Masterplan sets target to reduce waste sent to Semakau Landfill by 30% by 2030, to help extend Semakau's life-span beyond 2035

Singapore, 30 August 2019 – Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources, Dr Amy Khor, unveiled Singapore's inaugural Zero Waste Masterplan today at a launch event organised in partnership with the Waste Management and Recycling Association of Singapore (WMRAS). **The Masterplan maps out Singapore's key strategies to build a sustainable, resource-efficient and climate-resilient nation.** This includes adopting a circular economy approach to waste and resource management practices, and shifting towards more sustainable production and consumption.

New Zero Waste Target to #SaveSemakau

2 The amount of waste disposed of in Singapore has increased seven-fold over the last 40 years. At this rate, Semakau Landfill, Singapore's only landfill, will run out of space by 2035. There is limited land for building new incineration plants or landfills in Singapore. Furthermore, the incineration of waste, while efficient and avoids the problems of land and marine contamination, generates carbon emissions, which contribute to climate change. **The Masterplan has set a new waste reduction target for Singapore – to reduce the waste sent to Semakau Landfill each day by 30 per cent by 2030 - which will help to extend Semakau Landfill's lifespan beyond 2035.**

3 This is in addition to existing targets under the Sustainable Singapore Blueprint to increase our overall recycling rate to 70 per cent, non-domestic recycling rate to 81 per cent and domestic recycling rate to 30 per cent by 2030.

4 While ambitious, these targets are achievable if the various measures outlined in the Masterplan are implemented successfully. The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) has introduced the Resource Sustainability Bill in Parliament. The Bill will give legislative effect to the regulatory measures targeting the three priority waste streams of electrical and electronic waste, food waste and packaging waste including plastics.

Developing local recycling capabilities and creating jobs

5 Adopting the circular economy approach will enable Singapore to close our resource loops by turning trash into treasure – this means recycling, creating value and manufacturing useful products out of waste. Such an approach will create new economic opportunities, industries and jobs for Singaporeans. Companies will also be able to tap into the regional and global markets brought about by a circular economy.

6 One of the key strategies highlighted in the Masterplan **is the development of local recycling capabilities** to support our plans. A recycling landscape study commissioned by the National Environment Agency (NEA) last year identified opportunities for growth in Singapore's recycling capabilities. NEA is exploring the **establishment of local e-waste recycling facilities for large household appliances, household batteries and lamps.** NEA is also studying the development of local recycling capabilities for plastics, and has conducted a closed-door industry consultation session on this today. In addition, NEA is exploring plastics recycling solutions and technologies available in the market, and assessing their suitability for adoption in Singapore.

New labels for blue recycling bins; new livery for recycling trucks

7 SMS Dr Amy Khor launched **new labels for the blue recycling bins** at the event today. The refreshed labels aim to convey more clearly what can and cannot be deposited in the bins, to reduce contamination of the recycling bins. The new labels were refined through consultations with Singaporeans. The current labels on bins will be replaced progressively and the replacement process is expected to be completed by mid-2020. (Please refer to **Annex A** for the design of the revised recycling bin label.)

8 **All recycling trucks from the public waste collectors (PWCs) have been refreshed with new identical livery,** to help the public readily identify recycling trucks and differentiate them from waste collection vehicles. Since August this year, they have been painted blue to match the blue recycling bin, and

have a large recycling logo (the Mobius loop) and labelled "I am a recycling truck". (Please refer to **Annex B** for examples of the blue recycling trucks.)

Towards a Zero Waste Nation: Everyone has a part to play

9 Achieving our vision of a Zero Waste Nation requires partnership with the People, Public and Private (3P) sectors to co-create and implement new solutions. In formulating the Masterplan, MEWR and the NEA had sought diverse views from stakeholders including companies, non-governmental organisations', households and youths. We consulted more than **250 companies** through industry engagements, conducted door-to-door surveys with more than **5,000 households**, received more than **1,300 contributions through our online public consultation**, and held **eight focus group discussions and dialogues**. Next month, MEWR will convene a **Citizens' Workgroup to improve the way households recycle**. More details on the Citizens' Workgroup will be announced soon.

*The full Zero Waste Masterplan document is available at www.towardszerowaste.sg.

- End -

Annex A

New recycling bin label for the blue recycling bin

RECYCLABLES ONLY

No Food. No Liquids.

PAPER

METAL

PLASTIC

GLASS

Rinse before recycling

Tissue Paper

Styrofoam & Food-stained Items

Bulky Items

Reusables
(Donate them instead)

Annex B

Blue recycling trucks from the Public Waste Collectors (PWCs)



From left: The blue recycling trucks are from SembWaste Pte Ltd, Colex Environmental Pte Ltd, 800 Super Waste Management Pte Ltd and Veolia ES Singapore Pte Ltd

The Resource Sustainability Act, introduced by the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR), is an integral part of Singapore's strategy to build a sustainable, resource-efficient and climate-resilient nation. The Act will give legislative effect to the regulatory measures targeting the three priority waste streams of e-waste, food waste and packaging waste, including plastics. These waste streams have relatively high generation and low recycling rates.

Electrical and Electronic Waste: Extended Producer Responsibility

2 The National Environment Agency (NEA) will introduce a regulated e-waste management system by 2021, with the assignment of responsibilities to key stakeholders through an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) approach.

3 Under the EPR framework, producers of regulated electrical and electronic products will be made responsible for the collection and proper treatment of their e-waste. These producers are companies that manufacture or import regulated products for supply on the local market. All e-waste collected under the e-waste management system will have to be channelled to licensed e-waste recyclers for proper treatment.

4 The implementation of a regulated e-waste management system in Singapore will ensure the proper and safe handling and extraction of resources from e-waste. This system will also fund the aggregation and recovery of valuable resources from e-waste for reuse, turning trash into treasure. The NEA is working closely with the industry to implement the e-waste management system.

E-waste management system for consumer products

Collection of e-waste through the Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS), in-store collection points and take-back services

5 Consumer products refer to equipment largely marketed to, and bought or used by the general public (e.g. laptops, mobile phones and household appliances). NEA will be appointing one PRS operator to develop and implement a system to organise the collection and recycling of consumer products on behalf of the producers. The PRS operator will be appointed through an open tender, and the winning bidder will be required to develop programmes to encourage the public to recycle e-waste, provide avenues for e-waste recycling (e.g. scheduled collection drives and e-waste bins in public areas), collect and transport the e-waste to NEA-licensed e-waste recyclers, and report the tonnage of e-waste collected to NEA.

6 The PRS operator will be responsible for meeting e-waste collection targets set by NEA. NEA has set the target for large household appliances at 60 per cent of the put-to-market weight, and the target for the rest of the covered consumer products at 20 per cent of the put-to-market weight. Please refer to **Annex A** for a summary of the collection targets. As a transitional measure, penalties for missing enforcement targets will not be imposed in the first three years. Producers of consumer products will be required to join the PRS and finance the collection and recycling of the e-waste.

7 All retailers of regulated consumer products will be required to provide free one-for-one take-back services during delivery. Large retailers with floor area of 300m² and above will be required to set up in-store e-waste collection points for ICT equipment, lamps and batteries, and ensure that the e-waste is collected by the PRS operator.

Exemptions for small producers and retailers

8 The PRS will be financed by the producers of consumer products in proportion to their market share. The producers will hence be required to report to NEA the tonnage of regulated products that they put to market. NEA will be exempting small producers and retailers that supply less than a specified threshold amount of regulated products to the local market from the PRS. These producers are only required to register with NEA and report the amount of regulated products they supply to the local market annually. Likewise, retailers with a floor area of less than 300m² will be exempted from setting up in-store collection points. Please refer to **Annex B** for the exemption thresholds of the covered products.

E-waste management system for non-consumer products

9 Non-consumer products refer to commercial and industrial equipment largely marketed and sold to businesses (e.g. solar photovoltaic panels and servers). To provide businesses with an avenue to properly dispose of their e-waste, all producers of non-consumer products will be required to provide free take-back of all their end-of-life equipment from their clients upon request. There will be no exemptions for the producers of equipment that are covered under the system. Producers are also required to dispose of the e-waste by presenting it to either a licensed waste collector or e-waste recycler. Please refer to **Annex C** for a summary of the main responsibilities of the stakeholders.

Packaging Waste: Mandatory Packaging Reporting Framework

Submission of packaging data and 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) plans

10 Mandatory packaging reporting is aimed at raising companies' awareness of the benefits of packaging waste reduction. It is also meant to spur companies to reduce the amount of packaging used. It will lay the foundation for an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework for managing packaging waste, including plastics. This will be implemented no later than 2025.

11 Under the mandatory packaging reporting framework, producers of packaged products, such as brand owners, manufacturers and importers, as well as retailers such as supermarkets, will be required to submit packaging data and 3R plans to NEA. Companies will have to provide information on the packaging placed on the Singapore market, broken down according to type of packaging material (e.g. plastic, paper, metal, glass), packaging form (e.g. carrier bags, bottles) and the corresponding weights. Please refer to **Annex D** for information on common types of packaging and **Annex E** for examples of packaging that companies will have to report.

12 The 3R plans that companies are required to submit will have to include details of key initiatives, key performance indicators (KPIs) and targets. Companies will be required to report on the progress of these plans in subsequent years of reporting. The types of 3R plans for packaging that companies could consider include: (i) packaging reduction; (ii) packaging collection for reuse or recycling; (iii) consumer or industry outreach related to packaging 3Rs; (iv) use of recycled content in packaging material; and (v) improvements in recyclability of packaging.

Minimising impact on micro and small enterprises

13 For a start, the requirements will apply to brand owners, manufacturers, importers of packaged goods, as well as supermarkets with an annual turnover of more than \$10 million. This is to minimise the impact on micro and small enterprises. **These companies will have to register with NEA when the reporting framework comes into effect in 2020, and make their first submission to NEA in 2022.**

14 Moving forward, NEA will continue to support companies in reducing packaging waste to achieve both business cost savings and environmental benefits. Some future programmes in sustainable packaging management that NEA is studying include building industry capability in the 3Rs, fostering the sustainable use of resources in supply chains, and raising industry and consumer awareness of packaging waste management. The programme will complement the mandatory packaging reporting requirements and the EPR framework for packaging waste management.

Food Waste: Segregation for Treatment

Mandatory for large commercial and industrial generators of food waste

15 From 2024 onwards, MEWR/NEA will make it mandatory for the owners and operators of commercial and industrial premises, where large amounts of food waste are generated, to segregate their food waste for treatment. Such premises include large hotels and malls, and large industrial developments housing food manufacturers or food caterers. Further details on the types of prescribed premises subjected to the mandatory segregation requirements and the corresponding thresholds are provided in **Annex F**.

16 The owners of existing commercial and industrial premises that generate large amounts of food waste will be allowed to choose the food waste treatment method that best suits their operations. For example, the affected premises can recycle homogenous food waste into animal feed, use on-site food waste treatment systems, or send their food waste to an off-site facility for treatment.

On-site treatment of food waste from 2024

17 The on-site treatment of food waste reduces the associated environmental costs, such as carbon emissions, involved in the transportation of food waste to an off-site facility for treatment. For new premises that generate large amounts of food waste, space for on-site food waste treatment systems can be incorporated at the planning stage to allow for the closed-loop management of food waste within these premises. Hence, from 2021, MEWR/NEA will make it mandatory for developers of new commercial and industrial developments, where large amounts of food waste are expected to be generated, to allocate and set aside space for on-site food waste treatment systems in their design plans. They will also be required to implement on-site treatment of food waste from 2024. The adoption of such systems will allow for the closed-loop management of food waste at these premises, where the food waste could be converted to compost for landscaping purposes or water for non-potable uses.

18 These new requirements will help ensure that food waste from large generators, instead of being incinerated, is diverted for treatment and converted into products such as animal feed, compost/fertiliser, non-potable water or biogas for energy generation. Segregating food waste for treatment also reduces odour and pest nuisances at premises, and reduces the contamination of recyclables by food waste, allowing for greater resource recovery.

19 MEWR and NEA have been consulting industry on the new proposed requirements for large food waste generators, as the implementation details are being developed. Some owners/operators of commercial and industrial premises are already segregating their food waste for treatment. For example, NEA's 3R Fund has to date supported the operators of 24 premises in installing on-site food waste treatment systems that convert food waste into non-potable water or compost. MEWR and NEA will continue to support owners/operators of premises who choose to implement on-site food waste treatment systems before the mandatory requirements commence.

ANNEX A

E-waste collection targets for the appointed PRS Operator

Product Category	Product Type	Collection Target
ICT Equipment	Printers	20% of PTM ^[1] by weight
	Personal Desktop Computers / Monitors / Laptops	
	Mobile Phones / Tablets	
	Routers / Modems / Set-top boxes	
Large Appliances	Refrigerators	60% of PTM by weight
	Air-conditioners	
	Washing Machines	
	Dryers	
	Televisions	
	Electric Mobility Devices	20% of PTM by weight
Lamps	LED / Fluorescent / Incandescent Bulbs and Tubes	20% of PTM by weight
Batteries	Portable	20% of PTM by weight

ANNEX B

Exemption thresholds for producers of regulated products

Product Category	Product Type	Put-to-Market Threshold per Year^[2]
ICT Equipment	Printers	<10 tonnes
	Personal Desktop Computers / Monitors / Laptops	
	Mobile Phones / Tablets	
	Routers / Modems / Set-top Boxes	
	Servers	N.A. All producers of servers will be required to offer free take-back of all of their end-of-life equipment from their clients upon request.
Large Appliances	Refrigerators	<100 tonnes
	Air-conditioners	
	Washing Machines	
	Dryers	
	Televisions	
	Electric Mobility Devices	N.A. All producers of electric mobility devices will be required to finance the PRS operator.
Batteries	Portable Batteries	<3 tonnes
	Hybrid / Electric Vehicle Batteries	<15 tonnes
	Industrial Batteries	N.A. All producers of industrial batteries will be required to offer free take-back of all of their end-of-life equipment from their clients upon request.

Lamps	LED / Fluorescent / Incandescent Bulbs and Tubes	<3 tonnes
Solar PV Panels	All types	N.A. All producers of solar PV panels will be required to offer free take-back of all of their end-of-life equipment from their clients upon request.

Producers supplying less than the specified threshold amount of regulated products to the local market will be exempted from financing the PRS. These producers are only required to register with NEA and report the amount of regulated products they supply to the local market annually.

ANNEX C

Summary of main responsibilities of key e-waste stakeholders

Key Stakeholder	Main Responsibilities	
Producers of consumer products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register with NEA. Report amount of regulated products put-to-market to NEA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finance PRS operator appointed by NEA. Smaller producers are exempted from this requirement.
Producers of non-consumer products		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide free take-back of all of their end-of-life equipment from their clients upon request. Report amount of e-waste collected and sent for proper treatment to NEA.
Operator of Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adhere to licensing requirements. Develop and implement system(s) for the collection and recycling of e-waste, as well as e-waste public education programmes. Meet NEA's collection targets. Collect and transport e-waste to NEA licensed e-waste recyclers. Report e-waste collection tonnages to NEA. 	

Retailers of consumer products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide free collection on a 1:1 basis whenever goods are delivered. • Large retailers with a floor area of or more than 300 m² must establish in-store collection point for small e-waste. • Send collected e-waste to PRS operator
E-waste Recyclers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to licensing requirements. • Meet e-waste recycling requirements. • Keep proper records of entire e-waste treatment process. • Submit reports of amount of e-waste received and materials processed/recycled to NEA.

Annex D

Common Types of Packaging

Packaging refers to all products made of any materials of any nature to be used for the containment, protection, handling, delivery and/or presentation of goods, from raw materials to processed goods. Common types of packaging materials include glass, metal, paper and plastic.

Primary packaging	Service packaging	Secondary packaging	Tertiary packaging
Packaging conceived to constitute a sales unit to the final user/consumer	Packaging which is filled at the point-of-sales	Packaging conceived to constitute a grouping of a certain number of sales units, whether the units are sold as such to the final user/consumer or whether the packaging serves only as a means to replenish the shelves at the point-of-sales	Packaging conceived for a number of sales units or grouped packaging in order to facilitate physical handling and prevent transport damage
Examples: glass bottles for drinks, paper milk	Examples: carrier bags, takeaway	Example: Paperboard	Examples: carton box, pallet

cartons, plastic bottles for household cleaning agents	containers, cups	used to bundle-pack beverage bottles	
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With references made to the European Parliament and Council Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste

Annex E

Examples of Packaging to be Reported

The table below provides some examples of packaging that companies are required to report.

Types of companies	Examples of packaging to be reported
<p>Manufacturer of packaged goods</p> <p>Including:</p> <p>Companies that supply packaged goods that they manufacture in Singapore and companies that contract third-party companies to manufacture packaged goods (e.g. brand owners)</p>	<p>Primary and secondary packaging of packaged goods</p>
<p>Packer</p> <p>Including:</p> <p>Companies that pack their own goods directly and companies that contract third-party</p>	<p>Packaging used to pack goods</p>

companies to pack goods (e.g. brand owners)	
Importer of packaged goods Including: Companies that contract third-party companies to import (e.g. brand owners) and companies that import directly (e.g. parallel importers)	Primary and secondary packaging of packaged goods
Retailers such as operators of supermarkets	Service packaging (i.e. packaging filled at the point-of-sales e.g. carrier bags) that they use in their operations

Annex F

Type of premises and corresponding thresholds

Types of Premises	Threshold		Exemptions
Shopping Malls	F&B Area	> 3,000 sqm	NA
Hotels	F&B and Function Area	> 3,000 sqm	NA
Single-user Factory (SUFs)	Large Food Manufacturers	Operation area > 750 sqm	Manufacturers of spices, dried foodstuffs, additives, bottled water, high pressure processing
Multi-user Factory (MUFs)	GFA and food tenants	GFA > 20,000 sqm and with > 20 food tenants	NA
	At least one large food manufacturer	Operation area > 750 sqm	Manufacturers of spices, dried foodstuffs, additives, bottled water, high pressure processing

(updated as of 30 July 2020)

[1] PTM (put-to-market) refers to the amount of electrical and electronic equipment the producers supply to the market.

[2] Based on an average of the past three years preceding the compliance year.

The 13th Meeting of the Brunei-Singapore Cooperation on the Environment under the Annual Exchange of Visits, instituted by the 2015 Memorandum of Understanding on Bilateral Partnership in Environmental Affairs, was held in Singapore on 6 Sep 2019.

2 The Brunei Darussalam delegation was led by the Honourable Dato Seri Setia Ir. Awang Haji Suhaimi bin Haji Gafar, Minister of Development, and comprised Dayang Dr. Nor Imtihan binti Haji Abdul Razak, Permanent Secretary (Planning, Landuse and Environment), and other senior officials from the Ministry of Development.

3 Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, led the Singapore delegation comprising Mr Albert Chua, Permanent Secretary, and other senior officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, National Environment Agency and PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency.

4 During the 13th Brunei-Singapore Annual Exchange of Visits (13th BSAEV), the Ministers reaffirmed the strong bilateral relations between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore and reiterated their commitment to foster continual progress and deepen cooperation on environmental protection and management, environmental education and water resources management.

5 The Ministers welcomed the significant progress of collaborative activities between the two countries in the areas of solid waste management, air quality management, water resources management and environmental youth exchange programmes. In this regard, the Ministers endorsed the continued efforts in waste management in both countries, in particular, Brunei Darussalam's Sungai Brunei Clean – up project and recycling, as well as Singapore's Zero Waste Masterplan and Resource Sustainability Bill to address food waste, e-waste and packaging waste. The Ministers welcomed the useful exchanges of information on air quality management and monitoring, and supported the active participation of youths from Brunei Darussalam and Singapore in youth environmental programmes. The Ministers also noted the successful conclusion of the technical exchange programme in the areas of wastewater treatment and the planning, operation, maintenance and enforcement of sewer network.

6 The Ministers noted that Brunei Darussalam and Singapore will further strengthen exchanges in the management of water resources, through the sharing of experiences in building awareness of water conservation such as data analytics and metering, water efficiency labelling scheme, holistic planning and design of infrastructure through advanced predictive technologies, and development and management of desalination water treatment projects. Brunei Darussalam and Singapore will continue to collaborate to enhance water resilience and overcome future challenges in the management of water resources, and the use of meteorology and radars to manage flashfloods.

7 The Ministers agreed to explore new areas of cooperation, which will include, amongst other things, township planning, housing, and modernisation of infrastructure towards eco-smart districts to promote socio-economic growth and environmental sustainability. The Ministers also agreed to step up exchanges in the areas of zero waste, circular economy and climate change.

8 Both countries reiterated their commitment to cooperate with other ASEAN member states to advance regional environmental interests to achieve sustainable development and provide a healthy and clean living environment for the people.

9 The delegates also participated in friendly games organised at the 13th BSAEV to build camaraderie among officials of both countries.

10 Brunei will host the 14th BSAEV in 2020.

Jointly Issued By:
Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore
Ministry of Development, Brunei Darussalam

26 September 2019 - The President's Award for the Environment (PAE) was presented to **Elias Park Primary School, Mee Toh School and Singtel** by President Halimah Yacob on 26 September 2019. This is the 13th PAE since its inception in 2006. (Past participants are listed in **Annex A**)

2 PAE is Singapore's highest environmental accolade for individuals, educational institutions and organisations that have made significant contributions towards environmental sustainability in Singapore. It recognises and honours sustained contributions by environmental champions from the People, Private and Public (3P) sectors.

Enhanced Nomination and Evaluation Process

3 The nomination forms for the PAE were enhanced this year to enable the judging panel to make a holistic evaluation. Nominees were requested to provide measurable outcomes, where possible, to quantify the results of their initiatives (e.g. percentage reduction of electricity consumed, reductions in carbon emissions). Nominees were also required to submit a list of stakeholder/partner referees who could provide further insights on the nominees' efforts. In recognition of the importance of the various aspects of environmental sustainability, nominees were encouraged to provide specific examples of initiatives aligned to the five pillars of the Sustainable Singapore Blueprint — An Active and Gracious Community, Towards a Zero Waste Nation, 'Eco Smart' Endearing Towns, A Leading Green Economy and A 'Car-Lite' Singapore.

Environmental Champions contributing to a Sustainable Singapore

4 These three environmental champions are inspiring examples of how Singaporeans can contribute to a clean, green and sustainable Singapore, as well as to Singapore's efforts to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate climate change. More details on the three winners can be found in **Annex B** and at www.pae.gov.sg.

5 President Halimah Yacob said: "I am heartened to see the efforts put in by Elias Park Primary School, Mee Toh School and Singtel to champion environmental and water resource sustainability, and congratulate them on being awarded the President's Award for the Environment. We need everyone's support to face growing environmental challenges, such as climate change. I hope more individuals and organisations will follow the inspiring examples set by the 40 recipients of the PAE and contribute to a sustainable and climate-resilient Singapore."

6 Ms Fuziah Taha, a member of the PAE 2019 Judging Panel, member of the Climate Action SG Alliance, and recipient of the 2012 EcoFriend Award said: "Organisations with a strong culture of sustainability play an important role in inculcating and bringing out the environmental consciousness in each individual within the organisation and among their partners. Their programmes, innovations and values demonstrate that every bit counts towards conserving our environment for future generations to enjoy. I am happy to see that the PAE 2019 recipients have consistently galvanised the community to care for the environment, and are monitoring the impact of their efforts to do even better. The award will be a great motivation for them to continue championing environmental sustainability and nudge others to join in such efforts." (PAE 2019 Judging Panel in **Annex C**)

7 Mdm Chua Pei Pei, Principal of Elias Park Primary School, said: "This award is an affirmation of the work of our school towards environmental conservation. We are heartened and humbled by the efforts put in by our staff, students and various partners, past and present, in helping to shape beliefs and build conviction in protecting the environment. We will continue to work towards building a sustainable community."

8 Mrs Wang-Tan Sun Sun, Principal of Mee Toh School, said: "The award affirms the efforts of the school community, stakeholders and partners, put together over a decade. This award will encourage us to continue seeding the values, skills and knowledge for environmental sustainability in all our young who pass through our hands!"

9 Ms Chua Sock Koong, Singtel's Group CEO, said: "Singtel is honoured to be recognised for our sustainability efforts which is made possible by the hard work and active participation of our employees. Tackling climate change has become the defining issue for society today and it is incumbent on businesses to lead the way. We see sustainability as vital to our long-term growth as it creates opportunities for new ways of working that will drive greater efficiency. We strive to leave the smallest environmental footprint

possible and we are determined to work towards a better and more sustainable future together with our partners.”

- End -

Annex A

Past Recipients of the PAE Awards

A total of 30 nominations were received in 2019 in the following categories:

- 4 Individuals;
- 12 Educational Institutions; and
- 14 Organisations.

2 Since 2006, 40 outstanding environmental champions have received the PAE.

List of Past Recipients			
S/N	Year	PAE Recipients	Industry
1	2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Waterways Watch Society ● Dr Geh Min ● Prof Tommy Koh 	NGO - -
2	2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City Developments Limited ● Prof Leo Tan ● Mr Tan Gee Paw 	Real estate developer - -
3	2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SouthWest CDC ● Alexandra Hospital ● Senoko Energy 	CDC Healthcare Power Generator
4	2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commonwealth Secondary School ● STMicroelectronics Pte Ltd ● National Youth Achievement Award Council of Singapore 	Schools (Secondary) Semiconductor NGO
5	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hitachi GST ● Singapore Polytechnic ● Nan Hua High School 	Hard Disk Drive Supplier School (IHL) Schools (Secondary)
6	2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Woodgrove Secondary School ● SMRT Corporation Limited ● Dr Tan Wee Kiat 	Schools (Secondary) Public transport operator -

7	2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marsiling Secondary School • Panasonic Asia Pacific Pte Ltd • HSBC Limited 	Schools (Secondary) Consumer electronics Bank
8	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuhua Primary School • Dunman High School • Siloso Beach Resort 	School (Primary) Schools (Secondary) Hotel
9	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Eugene Heng • Institute of Technical Education • Ngee Ann Polytechnic 	- School School (IHL)
10	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Kirtida Mekani • Mr Kwek Leng Joo • East View Primary School • Systems on Silicon Manufacturing Company 	- - School (Primary) Wafer Fabrication
11	2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bukit View Secondary School • Marsiling Primary School • Ricoh Asia Pacific Pte Ltd 	School (Secondary) School (Primary) Marketing and Sales
12	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Shawn Kaihekulani Yamauchi Lum • Khoo Teck Puat Hospital • Anchor Green Primary School 	- Healthcare School (Primary)
13	2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elias Park Primary School • Mee Toh School • Singtel 	School (Primary) School (Primary) Telecommunications

Annex B

President's Award for the Environment 2019 (Educational Institution) – Elias Park Primary School

Elias Park Primary School (EPPS) provides a green and sustainable environment for teaching and learning, with the school and its partners working together to promote environmental awareness.

Under the Building and Construction Authority – Ministry of Education (BCA-MOE) Back to School programme, EPPS became a BCA Green Mark (Gold) certified campus in 2017. The school also organises various outdoor learning opportunities for their students to explore green initiatives. For instance, EPPS hosts a Renewable Energy Hub where students can learn about alternative energy sources and the environment, and a bio-retention tree that tests the natural filtration of water. It also has a vertical green wall and an eco-garden which attracts butterflies – these amenities facilitate the teaching and learning of Science

and English beyond the classroom. In addition, the school advocates a car-lite lifestyle where over 70 per cent of their students walk, cycle, or ride on public transport to and from school.

EPPS advocates zero food waste by establishing its own food waste management programme. Its Primary 3 students use fruit peels to make compost and also work with canteen vendors to recycle excess food using bio-digesters. The food waste is then converted into fertilisers for plants in the school. At the North East Clean and Green Singapore Carnival in 2016, some of these fertilisers were shared with the public.

EPPS has been consistent and proactive in supporting community and sustainability initiatives. Its students have been regularly participating in the Clean Singapore Learning Trail since 2009. It has also been conducting water rationing exercises with PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency since its inception in schools in 2016. The school's efforts were recognised with the Watermark Award (2009), Community-in-Bloom Silver Award (2012, 2014, 2016), and North-East District Environment Diamond Award (2017 and 2018).

As a school that actively promotes environmental education beyond the classroom and with an established track record in environmental excellence, Elias Park Primary School exemplifies the values of the President's Award for the Environment 2019.

President's Award for the Environment 2019 (Educational Institution) – Mee Toh School

Mee Toh School adopts a whole-of-school approach towards environmental sustainability. Through their Applied Learning Programme in Environment Education, every student is equipped with the values, knowledge and skills to care for the environment. The school creates opportunities for students to make meaningful connections between what they have learnt about environmental issues and their daily experiences. Mee Toh School also partners key stakeholders, including parents and the community, and work with agencies such as the National Environment Agency (NEA), National Parks Board and PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency, in educating students about the environment.

Mee Toh School earned the BCA Green Mark (Gold^{Plus}) certification in 2018. The school aims to be eco-smart by tracking environmental data such as the amount of waste recycled, energy and water consumption levels, and the diversity in flora and fauna in the school to monitor the impact and progress of their environmental sustainability efforts. The school reduced its total electricity consumption in 2018 by more than 7 per cent, compared to 2017. All staff use their own plates and cutlery for meals at school events. Its Parent Support Group, PATH, actively supports the school's weekly recycling efforts, and the school collected 9,150 kg of recyclables in 2018.

Students also contribute to the community's green efforts. For instance, its Primary 5 students collaborated with NEA and Punggol 21 Community Club to use Micro:bits to count the e-waste items collected within the Punggol community, and shared their learning with the community to champion e-waste recycling. Its Primary 3 students were also involved in eco-farming of vegetables which were distributed to a home for the elderly.

Mee Toh School was awarded the President's Award for the Environment, for their dedication to environmental education and advocacy.

President's Award for the Environment 2019 (Organisation) – Singtel

Singtel demonstrates a strong commitment to sustainability. Singtel's senior management has been proactively leading its green initiatives, with the support of the Group Sustainability Unit which was established in 2010 to drive environmental and sustainable practices.

Committed to leaving minimum environmental footprint, Singtel has been disclosing its environmental performance through the annual Sustainability Report since 2010. In 2016, it conducted a Life Cycle Assessment, and a climate adaptation and resilience study. This helped the company to understand its environmental impact and set carbon reduction targets. Singtel was the first company in Asia (beyond Japan) to commit to and have absolute carbon reduction targets approved by the Science Based Targets initiative in 2017. Recently, it was one of the 28 global companies to commit to a new ambitious target of

achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050. Its energy reduction efforts include upgrading equipment and mobile networks for energy efficiency and exploring renewable energy options. Since 2015, Singtel has achieved a reduction in carbon emissions intensity by more than 60 per cent.

Singtel believes in engaging its staff in sustainability efforts. Staff are engaged to practise the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) through its annual Project Little Eco StepS (Project LESS) campaign, which was started in 2011. This year, the company launched 'The Last Straw' campaign to eliminate the use of disposable plastics in its staff cafeterias. An e-learning module on sustainability was provided for all Singtel staff.

The company has partnered other organisations in environmental initiatives. For example, Singtel worked with SingPost for ReCYCLE, a nationwide e-waste recycling programme. The programme has recovered over 24,000 kg of e-waste since 2017. It has also teamed up with the National Parks Board on the annual Plant-A-Tree Day, which has seen Singtel volunteers plant as many as 1,200 trees over the last decade.

Singtel, with its dedication to environmental sustainability to contribute to a green economy, is deserving of the President's Award for the Environment 2019.

Annex C

PAE 2019 Judging Panel

Role	Name	Designation
Chairperson	Er Dr Lee Bee Wah	GPC Chairperson (EWR)
Members	Mr Eugene Leong	2 Deputy Secretary Ministry of the Environment & Water Resources
	Mr Tan Meng Dui	Chief Executive Officer National Environment Agency
	Mr Ng Joo Hee	Chief Executive PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency
	Mr James Soh	Executive Director National Youth Achievement Award Council
	Ms Isabella Loh	Chairman Singapore Environment Council
	Dr Ho Nyok Yong	President Singapore Green Building Council
	Mr Jagadish CV	CEO Systems on Silicon Manufacturing Company
	Mr Puvan Ariaratnam	Director (Character & Citizenship Education), Student Development Curriculum Division, Ministry of Education
	Ms Fuziah Bte Muhamad Taha	Member of Climate Action SG Alliance

Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, will attend the Preparatory Meeting of the 25th Conference of the Parties (COP-25) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in San José, Costa Rica, from 8 to 10 October 2019, at the invitation of the government of Costa Rica.

2 At the meeting, participating Ministers will discuss ways to maintain the momentum of global climate action following the successful convening of the United Nations Climate Action Summit in New York in September 2019, as well as possible outcomes for the UNFCCC COP-25 meeting which will be held in Santiago, Chile, in December 2019. A key issue that Ministers will discuss is the advancement of negotiations on a set of detailed guidance for operationalising Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on carbon markets, which is an unresolved issue under the Paris Agreement Work Programme.^[1] The meeting will also bring together leaders from public entities, and the business, financial and social sectors to exchange experiences and co-create solutions on sustainable cities, electric mobility, nature-based solutions, and ocean and water issues.

3 Minister Masagos Zulkifli will share Singapore's perspective on the key issues on the negotiations agenda, and suggest ways to advance the discussions ahead of the UNFCCC COP-25 meeting. He will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, and the National Climate Change Secretariat, Strategy Group, Prime Minister's Office.

^[1] The Paris Agreement, through Article 6, provides for the use of international carbon markets in the implementation of climate pledges to allow for higher ambition and to promote sustainable development and environmental integrity.

Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources, Dr Amy Khor, will be attending the 15th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (15th AMME) and 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COP-15) in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 8 October 2019.

2 At the 15th AMME, ASEAN Member States will discuss cooperation on issues such as environmental sustainability, climate change, coastal and marine environment, water resources management, environmental education as well as nature conservation and biodiversity. Singapore will also update ASEAN Member States on our recent efforts in sustainable development.

3 At COP-15, the ASEAN Environment Ministers will review the implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution as well as the haze and fire occurrences in the region over the past year. The ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre, which Singapore hosts, will also present its review of, and outlook on, the weather and smoke haze situation.

4 Dr Khor will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and the National Environment Agency.

1. Ms Yeo Bee Yin, Minister of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change of Malaysia, visited Singapore from 14 to 15 November 2019, at the invitation of Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Singapore, for the Annual Exchange of Visits (AEV) between the Environment Ministries of Malaysia and Singapore. Since 1979, the AEV has facilitated closer ties and co-operation between the two ministries in environment-related matters.

2. The Malaysian delegation led by Ms Yeo Bee Yin comprised Deputy Secretary General Dr Nagulendran Kangayatharasu and senior officials from the Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Department of Environment and other government agencies.

3. Mr Masagos Zulkifli led the Singapore delegation, comprising Permanent Secretary Mr Albert Chua and senior officials from the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the National Environment Agency and other government agencies.

4. The Ministers reviewed the progress achieved by the Malaysia-Singapore Joint Committee on the Environment (MSJCE) which met on 14 November 2019, and exchanged views as follows:

a) Control of Vehicular Emissions

The Ministers noted the close bilateral cooperation to reduce harmful vehicular emissions so as to achieve better air quality in both countries. They encouraged both sides to continue to exchange information on policies and identify best practices for controlling vehicular emissions.

b) Joint Monitoring of Water Quality in the Straits of Johor

The Ministers agreed on the importance of good water quality in the Straits of Johor, and encouraged both sides to continue efforts to improve water quality by implementing measures to control sources of pollution.

c) Progress Report on the Monitoring of Ecology and Morphology in and around the Straits of Johor

The Ministers agreed for both countries to continue exchanging information on the monitoring of ecology and morphology in and around the Straits of Johor, for the purpose of conserving the marine biodiversity of both countries.

d) Emergency Response Plan for Chemical Spill at Malaysia-Singapore Second Crossing

Singapore organised the 12th joint field exercise on 25 September 2019. The Ministers noted the importance of regular field exercises as a platform for both countries to test and improve emergency response plans to deal with incidents involving hazardous chemicals. The field exercise proceeded smoothly, with agencies from both sides responding promptly and effectively to deal with the simulated chemical spill incident. Malaysia will be hosting the next chemical spill exercise in 2021.

e) Emergency Response Plan for Chemical Spill in the East Johor Strait

The Ministers highlighted the importance of regular joint exercises to maintain the teamwork between both sides and to facilitate and coordinate prompt response actions in the event of an accident in the East Johor Strait. Malaysia will be hosting the next joint field exercise of the emergency response plan for chemical spill in the East Johor Strait in 2020.

f) Collaboration between Malaysia and Singapore in the Area of Oil Spill Prevention and Control in the Straits of Johor

The Ministers commended the good collaboration in information sharing and capacity building to prevent and control oil pollution in the Straits of Johor, and noted the discussions on activities to enhance cooperation. The Ministers encouraged both sides to continue their work in protecting the shared marine environment from oil pollution.

g) Collaboration in Training between Environment Institute of Malaysia (EiMAS) and Singapore Environment Institute (SEI)

The Ministers noted the continued cooperation between the two institutes in exchanging training opportunities and resources, which has helped environment officers from both sides to further develop their professional knowledge and skills.

h) Exchange of Information under the Settlement Agreement

Both countries discussed and exchanged information pursuant to the 2005 Settlement Agreement on matters affecting the environment in and around the Straits of Johor.

i) Other Matters

The Ministers exchanged views on other matters pertaining to the transboundary movement of wastes and e-wastes, as well as enhancing collaboration in new areas.

5. The Ministers discussed land reclamation works and projects in the Straits of Johor and their potential adverse transboundary impact. The Ministers agreed that it is important for Singapore and Malaysia to continue to fulfil their obligations under international law, in particular the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. They also reaffirmed their commitment under the Settlement Agreement to monitor, exchange information on and discuss matters affecting their respective environments in the Straits of Johor, including reclamation works with potential adverse transboundary impact.

6. The Ministers noted progress in exploring new areas of cooperation such as climate change, waste management including plastics and packaging waste, circular economy, industrial pollution and radiation safety, and looked forward to the conduct of joint cooperation as appropriate.

7. The Ministers expressed concern over the transboundary haze from land and forest fires in the region which affected the citizens of Malaysia and Singapore. The Ministers noted the progress made by ASEAN Member States in addressing the perennial problem of transboundary haze pollution, and urged all parties to renew their commitment to implement the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (AATHP). The Ministers also agreed to explore cooperation in Research and Development in the area of peatland fires prevention and mitigation to find innovative solutions to address the haze issue in the region.

8. During her visit, Minister Yeo visited the Centre for Climate Research Singapore that undertakes research on tropical climate variability and change, and the associated weather systems affecting Singapore and the wider ASEAN region.

9. The next AEV in 2020 will be held in Malaysia.

Jointly issued by:

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore

Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, Malaysia

Singapore, 25 November 2019 – 2019 is a milestone year for Singapore’s journey towards Zero Waste, in support of our climate action and sustainability agenda.

2 Since the launch of the Year Towards Zero Waste on 12 January 2019 by the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR), **close to 2,000 ground activities have been organised** in support of Zero Waste. Collectively, the activities **reached out to more than 670,000 people**.

3 Two hundred and seventy activities received funding under the Towards Zero Waste Grant, which was set up to support ground-up initiatives that drive waste reduction efforts or encourage households to recycle right. Projects supported included the Bread Without Bags initiative by Project bECOME, a youth interest group, as well as the Taman Jurong Community Club Youth Executive Committee Recycling Project 2019. (Please refer to the **Annex** for more details.)

Leveraging the Transformational Possibilities of a Circular Economy

4 In August, MEWR launched Singapore’s inaugural Zero Waste Masterplan, which charts our strategies to build a sustainable, resource-efficient and climate-resilient Singapore. A new waste reduction target was set for Singapore — to reduce the waste sent to Semakau Landfill by 30 per cent by 2030. If we can achieve this, we will be able to extend the lifespan of Semakau Landfill beyond 2035.

5 In September, MEWR introduced the Resource Sustainability Bill in Parliament, which supports our strategies laid out in the Masterplan. The Resource Sustainability Act puts in place legislative powers to mandate key responsibilities for electrical and electronic waste, food waste, and packaging waste, including plastics. These are three priority waste streams identified by MEWR and the National Environment Agency (NEA), that are generated in large quantities but have relatively low recycling rates.

6 We are also investing in innovation and R&D to bring Singapore closer to our vision of becoming a Zero Waste Nation. Our efforts include the S\$45 million ‘Closing the Waste Loop’ initiative, the upcoming Tuas Nexus which will harness synergies between water, waste and energy to maximise resource efficiency, and **the development of NEWSand to close the waste loop**. (Please refer to NEA’s media release for more details.)

Working together to change behaviours

7 A key part of reducing waste lies in changing consumer behaviour. In February, NEA launched a Food Waste Reduction campaign which partnered 25 hawker centres, supermarkets and schools to engage consumers at points-of-consumption. The campaign encouraged consumers to take three simple actions: (i) order only what you can finish; (ii) ask for less rice/noodles if you can't finish them; and (iii) say 'No' to side dishes you won't eat.

8 In June, NEA launched the nation-wide "Say YES to Waste Less" campaign to raise awareness of the impact of excessive consumption of disposables. For this campaign, NEA partnered 59 organisations to cover more than 1,600 premises, reaching out to millions of consumers to interrupt and nudge behaviour at points of consumption.

9 To encourage Singaporeans to recycle more and recycle right so as to reduce the waste sent to landfill, NEA also launched a new label for the blue recycling bins, which provides clearer information on what can and cannot be recycled. The label was a product of consultations with Singaporeans. All recycling trucks from the public waste collectors have also been refreshed with new identical livery so that the public can readily differentiate recycling trucks from other waste collection vehicles.

10 To make recycling more convenient and to encourage households to form the habit of recycling, NEA has been partnering IKEA Singapore since August to provide residents of Build-to-Order flats in new HDB precincts with a free household recycling bin. NEA and F&N Foods have also jointly launched the "Recycle and Save Programme", which will see the progressive rollout of 50 reverse vending machines across Singapore in the coming months. The programme offers Singaporeans a convenient and rewarding way to recycle empty plastic drink bottles and aluminum drink cans.

11 In September, MEWR convened its first Citizens' Workgroup to co-develop ways to improve household recycling. The Workgroup has submitted nine key ideas for MEWR's consideration. MEWR and NEA will be working with the Workgroup members to further develop and implement their ideas, including plans to follow up on four pilot projects. (Details at www.towardszerowaste.sg/citizens_workgroup/).

Whole-of-nation effort for a Sustainable Singapore

12 At today's event, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Mr Masagos Zulkifli expressed his appreciation for the support of the 3P (People, Private and Public) sectors,

and stressed the importance of working with industry and the community to build a resource-resilient and climate-resilient Singapore. He said: “The Government can make the right policies, but we need the strong partnership of all stakeholders, including our partners here today, to take effective climate action. This is a whole-of-nation effort.”

- End -

ANNEX

Key initiatives in the Year Towards Zero Waste

Policy initiatives	
Zero Waste Masterplan	<p>In August 2019, MEWR launched the Zero Waste Masterplan, which maps out Singapore’s path towards becoming a Zero Waste Nation. The Masterplan outlined our key strategies to manage three priority waste streams – electrical and electronic waste (or e-waste), food waste and packaging waste, including plastics. These are the types of waste that we generate in high quantities but recycle little of.</p> <p>In formulating the Masterplan, MEWR and NEA sought views from diverse stakeholders, including companies, non-governmental organisations, households and youths. We consulted more than 250 companies through industry engagements, conducted door-to-door surveys with more than 5,000 households, received more than 1,300 contributions through our online public consultation, and held seven focus group discussions and a dialogue.</p>
Resource Sustainability Act	<p>In September 2019, Parliament passed the Resource Sustainability Act, which gives legislative effect to our regulatory measures targeting the three key waste streams. The Act extends the regulation upstream, and sends an economic signal to producers to take into account their impact on the environment.</p>

	<p>Under the Resource Sustainability Act, producers of packaged products will need to report data on the packaging used, and submit plans to reduce, reuse or recycle packaging. This will be implemented in 2020. We will also impose the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework on producers of Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE) in 2021, and mandate the segregation and treatment of food waste by large food waste generators by 2024.</p>
Raising public awareness	
#RecycleRight campaign	<p>As part of the Year Towards Zero Waste, MEWR and NEA embarked on a #RecycleRight movement to improve Singaporeans' knowledge of recycling. The #RecycleRight movement sought to address the contamination of the blue recycling bins by raising public awareness of: 1) the need to ensure that recyclables deposited into blue recycling bins are free from food and liquids; 2) what can and cannot be placed into the blue bins.</p> <p>To support the movement, NEA has redesigned the labels on the blue recycling bins to provide clearer information on what can and cannot be deposited in the bins. The replacement of the labels is expected to be completed by mid-2020.</p> <p>To make recycling more convenient and to encourage households to form the habit of recycling, NEA has been partnering IKEA Singapore since August 2019 to provide residents of Build-to-Order flats in new HDB precincts with a free household recycling bin. This bin, redeemable via a voucher at IKEA Singapore stores, will make it easier for residents to recycle in their homes.</p>
Food Waste Reduction Campaign	<p>As part of the Year Towards Zero Waste, NEA partnered 25 hawker centres, supermarkets (such as Dairy Farm Singapore, NTUC FairPrice, Prime Supermarket and Sheng Siong Supermarket), schools and Institutes of Higher Learning, to engage consumers at points-of-consumption, to encourage them to reduce food waste through three simple actions:</p>

1. Order only what you can finish
2. Ask for less rice/noodles if you can't finish them
3. Say 'No' to side dishes you won't eat.

The campaign made use of visual reminders such as wobblers, table-top stickers and pillar wraps. An edutainment web series that inspired viewers to incorporate food waste reduction practices into their day-to-day lives was also produced.

3P (People, Private, Public) efforts

Towards Zero Waste Grant

In early 2019, a **Towards Zero Waste Grant** was set up to support ground-up initiatives that drive waste reduction efforts or encourage households to recycle right. The grant supported individuals, groups and organisations in projects to facilitate dialogues and gather feedback, or galvanise the community to adopt greener habits. It also supported the development of mobile applications that provided innovative ways for people to take action to reduce waste and #RecycleRight.

As of 12 November 2019, the Towards Zero Waste Grant had supported 270 events and projects.

One project supported by the Towards Zero Waste Grant is the Bread Without Bags initiative by Project bECOME, a youth interest group. The initiative aimed to promote bringing one's own reusable containers and bags to buy bread. A Bread Without Bags Fair was held at City Square Mall on 20 and 21 July 2019 to rally the public to Bring Your Own (BYO). The initiative also reached out to more than 20 bakery brands to try out a BYO scheme at their stores.

Another project that was supported was the Taman Jurong Community Club Youth Executive Committee Recycling Project 2019. The project encouraged Taman Jurong residents to reduce, reuse and recycle the items

		<p>within their homes. Student and youth volunteers visited more than 8,000 HDB households on 1 June 2019 to collect items such as newspapers, clothes, books and portable electronic waste items. A bazaar was also held at the Taman Jurong Community Club, where residents could purchase donated items at affordable prices. Proceeds went to the Taman Jurong Welfare Fund.</p>
Say YES to Waste Less		<p>NEA launched the nation-wide “Say YES to Waste Less” campaign on 8 June 2019 to raise awareness of the impact of excessive consumption of disposables and the need for reduction.</p> <p>One of the key areas of action for this campaign is to interrupt and nudge behaviour at points of consumption. To this end, NEA has partnered 59 organisations such as food and beverage establishments, malls/retail chains, e-retailers, supermarkets, hotels, educational institutions, Community Development Councils and NGOs, which covered more than 1,600 premises reaching out to millions of consumers.</p>
#RecycleRight Workgroup	Citizens’	<p>In September 2019, MEWR convened our first #RecycleRight Citizens’ Workgroup comprising 48 Singaporeans from diverse backgrounds, to look at ways to improve household recycling. The Workgroup marked a new chapter in our citizen engagement efforts. This new engagement mode allowed us to tap on our stakeholders’ unique strengths, experiences and ideas, to co-create and co-deliver pragmatic solutions which work for Singapore.</p> <p>MEWR provided a detailed response to the Workgroup’s recommendations on 23 November 2019, including plans to follow up on four pilot projects identified from the broad range of recommendations. The pilot projects will be formalised by the first quarter of 2020.</p>

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW SG ECO OFFICE AND \$50 MILLION SG ECO FUND TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN COMMUNITIES

1. The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR) has set up a new SG Eco Office. It will undertake efforts to promote Singapore's sustainability agenda in our communities, so as to address evolving environmental challenges such as climate change and increasing resource constraints. MEWR will also launch a \$50 million SG Eco Fund to support the co-creation of sustainability initiatives with Singaporeans.

SG Eco Office

2. The SG Eco Office will be the central body driving and coordinating sustainability initiatives across communities in Singapore. The Office will develop holistic benchmarks and indicators to measure and track the progress of these projects, taking into consideration factors such as energy and water consumption, waste generation, and other aspects of sustainability such as food production and carbon emissions.

3. By adopting a systems-level approach that cuts across the 3P – People, Private and Public – sectors, the new Office hopes to support the achievement of Singapore's national sustainability targets, in partnership with Singaporeans. ^[1]

SG Eco Fund

4. The SG Eco Office will also administer the \$50 million SG Eco Fund which will be disbursed over a period of five years. The fund will focus on supporting sustainability projects that nudge people and communities towards environmentally-friendly behaviour. Through the funding of such projects, the SG Eco Office hopes to motivate and enable Singaporeans to take collective action for the environment, and build a Sustainable Singapore for future generations.

5. Examples of possible projects that the SG Eco Fund could support include a community farm that offtakes food waste from the nearby community for composting, or a collaboration with industry partners to testbed new sustainable technologies in an HDB town.

6. The fund will be made available to all the 3P sectors. More details on the fund, application procedures, and evaluation criteria will be announced in the second half of 2020.

Eco Towns

7. A key project under the SG Eco Office is to transform our existing towns into Eco Towns. Under HDB's new Green Towns Programme, HDB will make enhancements to the built environment in our HDB towns to make them more environmentally sustainable, and also more liveable for residents. The plan will focus on three key areas: reducing energy consumption, recycling rainwater, and cooling our HDB towns. To complement HDB's enhancements to the built environment, the SG Eco Office will focus on encouraging environmentally sustainable practices through:

i. Setting sustainability benchmarks and targets for all towns so that each resident is aware of how their individual efforts contribute towards a larger goal;

ii. Building environmental consciousness through community touchpoints such as 'zero waste' hawker centres; and

iii. Co-creating sustainable solutions with the community and private sector.

8. Tampines, Choa Chu Kang, and Nee Soon towns have been earmarked as Singapore's Eco Towns. The SG Eco Office is currently working with the SP Group (SP), with support from Temasek, to transform Tampines town into an Eco Town. One initiative is the installation of Eco Boards in several HDB blocks. These Eco Boards are digital displays which will utilise data from smart meters to enable residents to get real-time updates of their block's aggregated electricity and water usage. Residents can also track the amount of carbon emitted from their consumption practices, and pick up tips to lower their consumption.

9. In addition, the Eco Boards will feature block-level competitions, to spur adoption of a greener lifestyle (residents can also use the SP Utilities app to compare their own consumption against their block's patterns). The Town Council will also be more aware of their resource usage, enabling more efficient estate management, and quicker spotting of anomalies that could cause resource wastage. Through town-level projects such as the Eco Boards, MEWR aims to promote values of sustainability in the community.

10. The SG Eco Office will work closely with various stakeholders, including the People's Association (PA), Town Councils, grassroots organisations, and the private sector. Together, we will develop more sustainable community assets and programming in the three selected towns, to realise the vision of an Eco Town. MEWR hopes that these efforts will serve as a blueprint and inspire other towns to transform into greener, more sustainable towns.

[1] The national sustainability targets include those outlined in the Sustainable Singapore Blueprint, such as the goal of reducing Singapore's energy intensity by 35% from 2005 levels by 2030, the goal of reducing the waste sent to Semakau Landfill each day by 30% by 2030 as outlined in the Zero Waste Masterplan, and the target to reduce domestic water consumption to 130 litres per capita per day.

Singapore, 4 March 2020 - During the Committee of Supply debates on 4 March 2020, Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, and Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for the Environment and Water Resources, spoke on the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR)'s key initiatives to build a climate-resilient Singapore, for and together with Singaporeans.

A CLIMATE-RESILIENT SINGAPORE

2. As a small island city-state, Singapore is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. It is crucial that Singapore continues to strengthen efforts to meet the long-term challenges of climate change.

Mitigating Climate Change

3. The Government has put in place a comprehensive suite of measures to reduce carbon emissions across all sectors. This includes the implementation of a carbon tax, efforts to improve industrial energy efficiency, and the greening of our transport. We are introducing further measures to mitigate climate change:

a. Reducing the emission of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)

- i. A package of mitigation measures will be introduced to reduce the emission of hydrofluorocarbons. The proper recovery, reclamation and destruction of spent refrigerants will be mandated, along with restrictions on equipment using HFCs with high global warming potential.

b. Encouraging climate-friendly choices

- i. A S\$24.8 million Climate-Friendly Household Package will be introduced to help households living in 1- to 3-room HDB flats purchase energy-efficient appliances and water-efficient shower fittings.

c. Green Waterworks

- i. PUB will be deploying floating solar PV systems at Bedok, Lower Seletar, and Tengeh Reservoirs by 2021. With this, Singapore will be one of the few countries in the world to have 100% green waterworks.

d. Reducing vehicular emissions

- i. To support the shift to cleaner commercial vehicles, a new Commercial Vehicle Emissions Scheme will be introduced for new Light Goods Vehicles. The Early Turnover Scheme (ETS) will also be enhanced to encourage the early turnover of existing pollutive commercial vehicles.

Adapting to Climate Change

4. We have initiated efforts to address the multi-faceted impacts brought about by climate change, such as sea level rise, more frequent and intense storms, prolonged dry weather, and the exacerbated threat of vector-borne diseases. To ensure that Singapore is well-protected from rising sea levels, we will continue to step up plans to adapt to climate change:

a. Coastal protection

- i. PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency, will take on the role of the national Coastal Protection Agency from April 2020, to lead national efforts across the public and private sector. A Coastal and Flood Protection Fund will be set up within PUB, with an initial funding of \$5 billion from the Ministry of Finance.

SUPPORTING SINGAPORE'S TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

5. The way we produce, consume and dispose in our daily lives has a direct impact on our environment and climate. The Resource Sustainability Act introduced last year established a regulatory framework to address three priority waste streams – packaging waste including plastics, e-waste, and food waste. We will be taking these steps to better manage these waste streams:

a. Packaging waste including plastics

- i. Producers of packaged products will be required to collect their packaging data from 1 July this year, for submission to the National Environment Agency (NEA) early next year. The NEA will partner the industry to develop a joint capability development programme that will support companies in fulfilling their new obligations.
- ii. As part of the first phase of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework, a Deposit Refund Scheme (DRS) for beverage containers will be implemented by 2022.
- iii. NEA is also working with government and industry partners to explore establishing a pilot plant that will help anchor the chemical recycling value chain in Singapore within the next few years.

b. E-waste

- i. NEA will launch a tender to appoint the Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) operator, which will take charge of the collection and proper treatment of e-waste in Singapore. The operator will be appointed by the second half of this year.

- ii. Two planned recycling facilities by EWR2 and SMC Industrial will be completed by mid-2020 and mid-2022 respectively.

c. Food waste

- i. In consultation with the industry, NEA has finalised the thresholds for premises that will be required to segregate food waste for treatment.

d. NEWSand

- i. NEA plans to launch a Request for Information (RFI) by mid-2020 for a commercial-scale NEWSand production facility.

GAME-CHANGING OUR SINGAPORE FOOD STORY

6. Climate change is anticipated to affect access to critical resources such as food. To be more resilient against disruptions in our food supply, Singapore is pursuing three strategies, known as the three ‘food baskets’: (i) further diversifying food import sources; (ii) growing food overseas; and (iii) increasing local food production. We have an ambitious ‘30-by-30’ vision — to meet 30 per cent of our nutritional needs with food produced in Singapore, by 2030. We will continue to safeguard food safety in Singapore. The following new initiatives will support these:

Increasing Local Food Production in a Sustainable Manner

a. Optimising land and sea space for food production

- i. The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) will study how the larger Lim Chu Kang agriculture area can be planned and developed to enhance food production and reduce the cost of production for farms.
- ii. SFA will also study the expansion of sustainable sea-based fish farming. Stakeholders will be engaged as part of these studies.

b. Facilitating high-tech, productive and sustainable farms to set up in Singapore

- i. SFA is working with Enterprise Singapore (ESG) to develop a Clean and Green Standard for urban farms, to help local farms brand their products as fresh and grown in cleaner environments. This would also help them differentiate their products in both local and overseas markets.
- ii. To support farms in their productivity-enhancing investments, the Agriculture Productivity Fund (APF) will be extended till the end of 2020.

c. Facilitating the introduction of alternative proteins and ensuring safety for consumption

- i. Building on the novel food regulatory framework implemented last year, SFA will establish an international expert working group to provide scientific advice on food safety.

Safeguarding Food Safety

a. Monitoring food preparation and retention of food samples

- i. To safeguard food safety, food establishments which pose higher food safety risks, such as caterers and central kitchens, will be required to install Closed-Circuit Televisions Cameras.
- ii. Food establishments catering to vulnerable groups such as preschools, kindergartens and nursing homes will be required to maintain food retention samples.

b. New framework for food licensing

- i. SFA will introduce a single, unified framework to license and recognise food establishments. Food establishments with higher food safety assurance will be awarded a longer licence duration and higher recognition.

Supporting Community Involvement in Urban Farming

a. Growing spaces in the community

- i. To strengthen community involvement in food security initiatives, SFA will continue to facilitate the expansion of urban rooftop farming in HDB Multi-Storey Car Parks across Singapore.

BUILDING A LIVEABLE AND ENDEARING HOME TOGETHER

7. As reflected in NEA's recently launched SG Clean campaign, everyone plays a part in strengthening Singapore's public health and environmental hygiene. We will be strengthening environmental sanitation controls, as part of measures to build a national culture of keeping clean.

a. Strengthening environmental sanitation controls

- i. The Environmental Public Health Act will be amended to introduce mandatory cleaning standards, including a regime for pro-active routine cleaning and disinfection at prescribed frequencies. The new requirements will be progressively implemented from 2021, starting with higher-risk premises with high footfall and immuno-vulnerable occupants.

8. Hawker culture is an integral part of our daily lives, and hawker centres play an important role in society as our community dining rooms. We will continue with our efforts to sustain the hawker trade and support hawkers:

a. Supporting hawkers during the current COVID-19 situation

- i. As part of the Stabilisation and Support Package announced during Budget 2020, a one-month rental waiver, with a minimum sum of \$200, will be provided to all stallholders in hawker centres managed by NEA or NEA- appointed operators.

b. Enhancing the Hawkers' Productivity Grant

- i. The Hawkers' Productivity Grant (HPG) will be enhanced to include market stallholders, and the funding period will be extended to 31 March 2023.

GOOD JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

9. Building a sustainable, liveable and climate-resilient Singapore brings economic opportunities for our industries and enterprises, and creates good jobs for Singaporeans.

a. Higher-value jobs for Singaporeans

- i. Through upskilling and technology adoption, more than 45,000 people will benefit from higher-value jobs in the environmental services, food and water sectors over the next 5 – 10 years.
- ii. NEA will be strengthening the competencies of Environmental Control Officers (ECOs) and broadening work areas to more premises types.
- iii. To strengthen food safety in Singapore, SFA will enhance the training framework for Food Hygiene Officers (FHOs).
- iv. SFA will work with the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) this year to launch a post-graduate certificate for urban agri-technology, to equip fresh graduates and working professionals in the agri-food value chain.
- v. TES-B, EWR2 and SMC Industrial's upcoming e-waste recycling facilities will add another 430 jobs to the industry.

DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY WITH SINGAPOREANS

10. Singaporeans and stakeholders from all sectors of society can contribute to a sustainable and liveable Singapore:

a. Eco Towns

- i. MEWR and the Ministry of National Development (MND) will work together to strengthen environmental sustainability in HDB towns. We will target to make community touchpoints more sustainable, such as the creation of sustainable hawker centres that strive towards zero waste. Community- based programmes encouraging sustainability will be introduced. Indicators for towns to track their progress and benchmark against national sustainability targets will be rolled out.

b. Establishment of SG Eco Fund and SG Eco Office

- i. To support the co-creation of sustainable initiatives, a \$50 million SG Eco Fund will be made available to the people, private and public sectors. An SG Eco Office will also be set up within MEWR to co-ordinate sustainability projects across Singapore.

c. Citizens' Workgroups

- i. Two new Citizen's Workgroups will be convened this year — to discuss ways to increase demand for local produce; and to reduce the excessive use of disposables. Members of the public are invited to register their interest in the workgroup on local produce from 4 March 2020, at <https://mewr.sg/localproduce-CW>

11. Together, we can build a climate-resilient Singapore — for Singaporeans, with Singaporeans.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES 4 MARCH 2020

BUILDING A CLIMATE-RESILIENT SINGAPORE, AM

As a small island city-state, Singapore is vulnerable to climate change. It is crucial that we continue to build on existing efforts to me

A Climate-Resilient Singapore

Enhancing Flood Resilience and Protecting Singapore from Rising Sea Levels

- \$5 billion set aside for Coastal and Flood Protection Fund
- PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency, to take on role of national Coastal Protection Agency
- Another \$190 million invested in drainage works this year



Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- \$24.8 million Climate-friendly Household Package to help households buy energy-efficient appliances and water-efficient shower fittings
- Floating solar PV systems at Tengeh and other reservoirs will make Singapore one of few countries to have 100% green waterworks
- New Commercial Vehicle Emissions Scheme and enhanced Early Turnover Scheme to encourage use of cleaner commercial vehicles
- Package of mitigation measures to reduce emissions of hydrofluorocarbons from refrigerators, air-conditioners and commercial chillers



A Liveable and Ende

Driving Sustainability wi

- Eco Towns, starting with T... Nee Soon, to promote envi... estates
- Establishment of SG Eco... efforts across Singapore
- \$50 million SG Eco Fund... initiatives
- 2 Citizens' Workgroups t... produce and reduce excess...

GOOD JOBS AND OPPOR

- More than 45,000 people... environment services, water... 5-10 years



Moving Towards a Circular Economy



Packaging Waste including Plastics

- A Deposit Refund Scheme for beverage containers by 2022
- Explore chemical recycling to convert plastics into NEWOil
- Support companies in fulfilling their obligations under the mandatory packaging reporting framework

E-waste

- Building of 2 more recycling facilities
- Tender to appoint Producer Responsibility Scheme operator for collection and



Food Waste

- Finalised thresholds for premises required to segregate food waste for treatment



NEWSand

- Work with industry to explore commercial-scale

Game-Changing Our

Increasing Local Food Pro

- Studies to enhance food p... agriculture area and expan...
- New Clean and Green S...
- Facilitate introduction of... proteins
- Extension of Agriculture F... Fund till end of 2020



ANNEX - [Establishment of SG Eco Fund and SG Eco Office](#)

MEDIA RELEASE

SG CLEAN TASKFORCE TO GALVANISE COLLECTIVE ACTION TO RAISE STANDARDS OF HYGIENE AND CLEANLINESS IN SINGAPORE

1. A multi-agency taskforce has been formed to galvanise a whole-of-nation effort to raise standards of cleanliness and public hygiene in Singapore. The SG Clean Taskforce, chaired by Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, is set up under the purview of the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) on COVID-19. (See **Annex** for the list of members in the SG Clean Taskforce.)

2. The SG Clean Taskforce builds on the work that has already started with the SG Clean campaign, to instil a 'keep Singapore clean' culture, beyond the current COVID-19 outbreak. The Taskforce will drive and galvanise collective action to: (a) ensure cleanliness of public spaces; (b) encourage good personal hygiene; and (c) adjust social norms to reduce the spread of diseases.

3. "Although Singapore is generally considered a clean and green city, we want to further step up cleanliness and hygiene standards in all facets of our lives, and make these our new norms, beyond the immediate COVID-19 situation. This will help keep our families and communities safe and healthy. Let us each practise good personal hygiene and social responsibility, and do our part to keep Singapore clean and safe," said Minister Masagos.

Ensuring cleanliness of public spaces

4. Ensuring cleanliness of public spaces is a shared responsibility. While the Government puts in place standards and enforcement actions, premise owners have to ensure that they maintain high standards of cleanliness, and users have to use the spaces responsibly.

5. To rally stakeholders and members of the public to do their part to keep Singapore clean, Minister Masagos had earlier launched the **SG Clean campaign** on 16 February 2020.

6. An important component of the campaign is the SG Clean quality mark, which serves as a premise-based sanitation and hygiene indicator. The SG Clean quality mark requires organisations to commit to sector-specific sanitation and hygiene checklists to safeguard public health in Singapore.

7. The National Environment Agency (NEA) and the Singapore Food Agency have been working with hawker centres and coffee shops to be part of the SG Clean quality mark certification programme. To date, 1,907 hawker and market stalls, and 345 coffee shop stalls have been awarded the SG Clean quality mark. In addition, 13 hawker centres and 49 coffee shops have also been awarded the quality mark.

8. Other agencies such as Enterprise Singapore, the Singapore Tourism Board, Land Transport Authority, the Early Childhood Development Agency, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Transport have also been working with NEA to audit their respective premises and related areas such as retail, hospitality, transport nodes, educational institutions and preschools. Some of the premises under the purview of these agencies are already SG Clean certified. NEA aims to roll out the SG Clean certification programme to premises with high human traffic and more vulnerable segments of the population by the end of 2020.

9. To catalyse shared accountability and high standards of cleanliness in Singapore, the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources will make **amendments to the Environmental Public Health Act** later this year. Mandatory cleaning standards will be introduced, including a regime for proactive routine cleaning and disinfection at prescribed frequencies. These include standards for public cleanliness such as: (a) frequency of cleaning and disinfection of high contact areas, in particular toilets; (b) pest management, including a mosquito control regime; and (c) back-of-house waste management such as bin centres.

10. Greater accountability will also be placed on premise managers for the cleanliness of their premises. They will be required to submit and implement an environmental sanitation programme, and remedy any lapses in public cleanliness on their premises. They will also be required to appoint a trained Designated Person to assist them to develop and implement the environmental sanitation programme

11. NEA will work with sectoral leads to progressively implement the new requirements from 2021, starting with higher-risk premises with high footfall and immuno-vulnerable occupants. These include preschools, schools, eldercare facilities and hawker centres.

Adopting good personal habits

12. Everyone can play a part in keeping themselves and others around them safe by adopting good personal habits. NEA has been encouraging "7 Habits of Good Public Hygiene", which include:

- a) Washing hands frequently with soap and taking temperature daily.
- b) Using a tissue whenever sneezing or coughing, and binning own litter and soiled tissues. This will prevent individuals from adversely affecting the health and well-being of family, friends, colleagues and those around them.

- c) Keeping public toilets clean and dry. This will reduce the risk of spreading diseases and viruses such as COVID-19 and dengue within the community.

Adjusting social norms

13. To help prevent community spread of COVID-19, it has been necessary to make adjustments to social norms in Singapore. For instance, many have refrained from shaking hands during this period. The SG Clean Taskforce will also encourage people to use serving spoons when sharing food, eat from trays and return trays in public dining places, and to keep their tables clean.

14. The SG Clean Taskforce will rally members of the public, partners and stakeholders across sectors in Singapore to work together to make SG Clean a new way of life.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES

6 MARCH 2020

Annex

SG CLEAN Taskforce Members

Chairperson	
Mr Masagos Zulkifli	Minister for the Environment and Water Resources
Members	
Mr Desmond Lee	Minister for Social and Family Development Second Minister for National Development
Dr Amy Khor	Senior Minister of State for Health, and the Environment and Water Resources
Dr Janil Puthuchery	Senior Minister of State for Communications and Information, and Transport
Ms Low Yen Ling	Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Education and Manpower Mayor of South West District
Mr Baey Yam Keng	Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Culture, Community and Youth, and Transport

1. The Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) on COVID-19 had announced, on 3 April 2020, an elevated set of safe distancing measures to pre-empt the trend of increasing local transmission of COVID-19. These measures aim to reduce movements and interactions in public and private places more significantly and will be in place from 7 April 2020 until 4 May 2020 (inclusive).

2. The Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR), together with relevant agencies [1], will be **deploying Safe Distancing and SG Clean Ambassadors, and Enforcement Officers (EOs) in HDB estates across Singapore to encourage and enforce safe distancing for the duration of the elevated safe distancing measures**. They will discourage loitering and gatherings in public spaces; no eating and drinking in eating places; as well as ensure safe distancing in queues, through the issuing of advisories and enforcement actions.

Safe Distancing Measures in Public Spaces

3. During this period, the public is strongly advised to be socially responsible by complying with the following safe distancing measures:

- **Stay at home**. Do not go out unless you need to, e.g., see a doctor, or buy food and essential items. Go home as soon as you are done.
- **Limit social contact to household members**. Stay in touch with other family members and friends through video or phone calls.
- **Do not gather in groups**, either at home or outside, including in the neighbourhood.
- **Keep a safe distance** of at least 1 metre from others even in open spaces, e.g. in queues, and when exercising.
- **No eating or drinking in eating places**. Bring a clean container to pack your food for takeout, or opt for delivery.

Enforcement of Safe Distancing Measures in Public Spaces in HDB estates

4. **Members of public are to comply with the elevated safe distancing measures in the common property of public and private housing estates, parks and other shared spaces**. Non-compliance is an offence. Enforcement officers from the Agencies will be conducting compliance inspections and stern actions will be taken against any member of public found in breach of safe distancing measures.

Social Responsibility as First Line of Defence against COVID-19

5. Singapore is at a critical stage in our fight against COVID-19. To effectively contain the spread of the virus, everyone must exercise social responsibility. It is important to adopt safe distancing and good hygiene practices even at home, and to encourage friends and family to do the same. We all have to play our part. Our collective efforts will go a long way in curbing the spread of COVID-19.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
6 APRIL 2020

[1] Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, National Environment Agency, PUB Singapore's National Water Agency, Singapore Food Agency, Housing Development Board, National Parks Board, Land Transport Authority, Singapore Police Force, People's Association and Public Service Division.

1. **More than 7,000 written advisories were issued today to members of public** who breached the elevated safe distancing measures, mostly in hawker centres and markets.^[1] This included written advisories given to members of public at crowded markets to remind them to keep a safe distance when queuing or making payments by following the floor markings. An advisory was also issued to a stallholder for selling drinks intended for dine-in at a hawker centre.

2. More than 2,000 Safe Distancing and SG Clean Ambassadors, and Enforcement Officers (EOs) were deployed to HDB estates across Singapore today to ensure the observance of safe distancing measures in the heartlands. The Ambassadors and EOs were deployed by the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR), together with relevant agencies^[2], to cover premises such as town centres, hawker centres, coffee shops, transport nodes, parks, and community clubs/centres. Please refer to **Annex** for photos of EOs and safe distancing measures in food establishments.

3. Members of public are strongly reminded that they must comply with the elevated safe distancing measures imposed from 7 April to 4 May 2020. Non-compliance is an offence.

4. If a member of public is found in breach of these measures, an EO will issue a written advisory immediately. If the member of public does not comply or returns to commit the same offence, the EO will take down his or her particulars and issue a written stern warning. The Police may also be contacted for follow-up action.

5. Singaporeans should stay at home to stop the spread of the virus. Stay home unless you are going to the doctor when unwell, or going out to buy food and essential items, or exercising. Singaporeans should stay at home to protect themselves, their friends and families. If you go out, ensure safe distancing.

6. We will step up enforcement and take a firm stance. Under the COVID-19 Temporary Measures Bill passed in Parliament on 7 April 2020, first time offenders will face a fine of up to S\$10,000, imprisonment of up to six months, or both. Second or subsequent offences may face a fine of up to S\$20,000, imprisonment of up to twelve months, or both.

7. Visit the MEWR website for latest information on safe distancing measures to fight COVID-19 together: <http://mewr.gov.sg/safe-distancing>.

**MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
7 APRIL 2020**

[1] Figure as of 7 April 2020, 8pm.

[2] Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, National Environment Agency, PUB Singapore's National Water Agency, Singapore Food Agency, Housing Development Board, National Parks Board, Land Transport Authority, Singapore Police Force, People's Association and Public Service Division.

Annex



Enforcement Officer at Blk 204 Bedok North coffee shop



Safe Distancing measures at Bedok Interchange Hawker Centre



Stallholders at Bedok Interchange Hawker Centre encouraging Bring Your Own containers for takeouts

1. **Three written stern warnings have been issued** to members of public who failed to comply with the elevated safe distancing measures. One of these involved a male at Block 89 Red Hill Close who sat down on a marked seat to take his meal. When asked to leave, he moved to another table to continue eating.

2. More than 3,000 written advisories were also issued today.^[1] **In total, 10,000 written advisories have been issued over the last two days.** The majority of the advisories were issued in hawker centres, markets and across HDB public spaces.

PLEASE STAY HOME

3. All members of public should stay at home during this circuit breaker period, until 4 May 2020. Do not go out unless you need to buy food or essential items, or to see a doctor. This is to protect you, your friends and your families. If you go out, ensure you keep a safe distance of 1 metre from others, even in open spaces.

4. **Avoid going to popular wet markets. Shop for essential items on weekdays at non-peak hours to prevent crowding.** We urge the elderly to stop visiting the wet markets, and to get others to help if they need food or essential items. This is to protect our elderly, who are the most vulnerable.

5. As part of enhanced safe distancing, the National Environment Agency (NEA) is progressively rolling out crowd management measures to markets. Please refer to NEA's press release on 8 April 2020 for more details on these measures and enforcement at markets and hawker centres.

6. To address hotspots where people were observed to be gathering in groups, the Housing & Development Board (HDB) is working with Town Councils to close public spaces such as playgrounds, sports courts, and seating areas in void decks. Please refer to the **Annex** for photos of closure of some of these public spaces. HDB, the Singapore Food Agency and the Singapore Police Force are also conducting joint operations to patrol areas where people have been observed loitering and sitting for hours at night.

7. Members of public are strongly urged to comply with the elevated safe distancing measures imposed from 7 April to 4 May 2020. Non-compliance is an offence. **If a member of public is found in breach of these measures, an EO will take down his or her particulars and issue a written stern warning. Subsequent offences by the offender will result in a composition fine or prosecution. The Police may also be contacted for follow-up action.**

8. Let us all do the right thing. The health of all depends on each one of us.

9. Visit this MEWR website for the latest information on safe distancing measures: <http://mewr.gov.sg/safe-distancing>.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
8 APRIL 2020

^[1] Figure as of 8 April 2020, 8pm.



Resting area at Ang Mo Kio Town Centre



Fitness corner near Blk 345 Bukit Batok St 34



Playground near Blk 878A Tampines St 86

1 To adapt to the long-term challenges posed by climate change, Singapore is planning to meet 30 per cent of our nutritional needs with food produced locally by 2030, or in short “30x30”. This is our Singapore Food Story goal. The current COVID-19 situation underscores the importance of local food production, as part of Singapore’s strategies to ensure food security. Local food production mitigates our reliance on imports, and provides buffer in the event of food supply disruptions. To further strengthen food security, the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) will launch our plans for “**30x30 Express**” to accelerate the ramping up of local food production over the next six to 24 months.

New \$30 million grant to support quick ramp up of local production

2 SFA is establishing a \$30 million “**30x30 Express**” grant to support the agri-food industry to ramp up local production in eggs, leafy vegetables, and fish in the shortest possible time. These are food items that are commonly consumed in Singapore, and which Singapore already has capabilities to produce locally. The grant will accelerate our move to meet our “30x30” goal.

3 The open grant call will be launched in mid-April 2020. Local agri-food players producing the three food types will be invited to submit their proposals to ‘grow more and grow faster’. The grant call will enable the Government to crowdsource and support ideas from the agri-food industry to develop innovative approaches to grow food productively and sustainably.

4 Local agri-food players will be able to tap on the grant to defray upfront costs to accelerate their farms’ expansion in production capacity within the next six to 24 months. The grant will also provide co-funding of productivity-enhancing technology systems. Besides boosting our capabilities to produce food locally, this could potentially create more good jobs for Singaporeans in the agri-food industry and help our SMEs.

5 The new grant will complement SFA’s existing Agriculture Productivity Fund (APF), which aims to help farms modernise and harness innovative, sustainable technologies and advanced farming systems as well as co-fund test-bedding of technologies.

6 In addition, Government agencies will work together to identify alternative farming spaces, such as industrial spaces and vacant sites that can be tapped on to facilitate the ramping up of local food production. For example, SFA will launch a tender of rooftop spaces on HDB Multi-Storey Car Parks for the purpose of rooftop urban farming from May 2020 onwards.

New multi-agency taskforce to oversee ramping up of local food production

7 To support the ramping up of local food production, a multi-agency taskforce has been formed to drive and coordinate inter-agency efforts. The “**30x30 Express**” **Taskforce** is chaired by Mr Masagos Zulkifli, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources (*see Annex for list of Taskforce members*).

8 The Taskforce will oversee efforts to: (i) accelerate the ramping up of local food production; (ii) address hurdles related to the setting up or expansion of farms; and (iii) ensure farms are highly productive, sustainable and resilient.

9 “Our three strategies of diversifying food imports, growing locally and growing overseas have served us well in ensuring Singapore’s food security, even during times of supply disruption. The new 30x30 Express initiative is expected to push the envelope for local farming capacity, and accelerate our efforts to reach our 30x30 goal. We will continue to work closely with the industry to strengthen the capabilities of local food production. It is important that these efforts are augmented by the support of consumers. Demand from consumers will spur our farmers to become more productive, and allow them to reap the benefits of economies of scale. This in turn will bolster our food security, and create good jobs for our people,” said Minister Masagos.

Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources and

Singapore Food Agency

8 April 2020

Annex

30x30 Express Taskforce Members

Chair	
Mr Masagos Zulkifli	Minister for the Environment and Water Resources
Members	
Ms Indranee Rajah	Second Minister for Finance and Education
Dr Amy Khor	Senior Minister of State for Health, and the Environment and Water Resources
Dr Koh Poh Koon	Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry
Mr Zaqy Mohamad	Minister of State for National Development and Manpower

1. **153 stern warnings have been issued today** to members of public, and non-essential shops for non-compliance with elevated safe distancing measures. In total, 158 stern warnings have been issued since 7 April 2020.^[1] Police assistance was required for several cases where members of public were not cooperative when asked to leave.

ADDRESSING HOTSPOTS

2. As part of measures to reduce the number of areas where people can congregate, the Housing & Development Board (HDB) and Town Councils have cordoned off more than 20,000 playgrounds, game courts, seating facilities in the open spaces and void decks of HDB estates.

3. 150 non-essential shops which should not have been opened were closed down by HDB today, and stern warnings were issued to their owners. They were mainly in household and personal care trades. A total of 7,000 non-essential service shops at HDB estates have been required to close as part of elevated safe distancing measures since 7 April.

4. By 10 April 2020, crowd management measures will be put in place at 40 popular markets which draw crowds. Please refer to the list of markets with crowd management measures here: <https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/hawker-management/announcements>

5. Across NParks-managed gardens, parks and nature reserves, more than 720 playgrounds and fitness areas and eight fishing spots have been closed off.

TIGHTER ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

6. All members of public should stay home during this circuit breaker period, until 4 May 2020. Avoid going to crowded spaces, including markets, parks and coffee-shops. Have meals at home and if necessary, head out to exercise only at non-peak hours. **This is to protect you, your friends and your families.**

7. **Firm action will be taken on non-compliance.** The Singapore Police Force (SPF) has conducted joint operations to patrol areas where people were observed loitering and sitting around at Yishun, Toa Payoh West, Haig Road and Boon Lay Food Centre.

8. If a member of public is found in breach of elevated safe distancing measures imposed from 7 April to 4 May 2020, including any failure or refusal to comply with directions from an Enforcement Officer, his or her particulars will be taken down, and a written stern warning will be issued. A second offence by the offender will result in a composition fine of \$300, and a third and subsequent offences will result in prosecution. In egregious cases, there may be prosecution even if it is a first offence. The Police may also be contacted for follow-up action.

9. Let us all do the right thing. The health of all depends on each one of us.

10. Visit this MEWR website for the latest information on safe distancing measures: <http://mewr.gov.sg/safe-distancing>.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
9 APRIL 2020

[1] Five stern warnings were issued to members of public on 7 – 8 April 2020.

1. **More than 2,900 stern warnings and 40 fines were issued to members of public** for non-compliance with elevated safe distancing measures today. In total, more than 3,100 stern warnings and 40 fines have been issued since 7 April 2020.

2. The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) detected an operator illegally hawking face masks at Ang Mo Kio Ave 1 today. SFA instructed the hawker to cease operations immediately and is issuing a \$1,000 fine under the COVID-19 (Temporary measures) Act 2020. Non-essential service providers must not carry out any business from any premises. Non-compliance is an offence.

3. Police assistance was required for more than 20 cases where members of public were not cooperative when asked to leave. During an enforcement operation by the Police, a beauty salon along Upper Cross Street was found to have provided massage services without a licence during the COVID-19 circuit breaker period. Police investigations are ongoing.

TIGHTENED ENFORCEMENT OF SAFE DISTANCING AT PUBLIC PARKS AND NATURE RESERVES

4. The start of the long weekend saw a rise in the number of people going out to public spaces such as neighbourhood centres, popular markets, hawker centres and recreational parks. To tighten enforcement, more than 2,800 enforcement officers and ambassadors were deployed today. NParks staff were out in force and rostered to enforce safe distancing measures at all parks, gardens and nature reserves managed by NParks, including the Park Connector Network, Pulau Ubin, as well as parks managed by town councils. [Relevant photos at Annex.]

5. Across NParks-managed gardens, parks and nature reserves, more than 720 playgrounds and fitness areas, 12 dog runs and 8 fishing spots have been closed off to prevent gathering in groups.

6. To ensure safe distancing during peak times, NParks temporarily closed the following:

- Access bridges at Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve;
- Access bridges at Bishan-Ang Mo Kio Park;
- The Henderson Waves, and
- MacRitchie TreeTop Walk.

7. The Park Connector in Jurong Lake Gardens was also temporarily diverted.

8. NParks has also tapped on technology to monitor visitorship, including the use of drones in selected parks and nature areas that are larger with more ground to cover. The use of drones also give a better sense of the density of visitors in a specific area. Aerial photographs taken by drones are reviewed every half an hour, and areas experiencing high visitorship levels will be temporarily closed in order to ensure safe distancing.

STAY AT HOME

9. Members of public must take the circuit breaker measures seriously, and not embark on family outings during this period. The elderly, who are particularly vulnerable, should stay at home.

10. Please stay home, avoid crowds and observe safe distancing. Failure to comply will result in firm action by our Enforcement Officers.

11. Visit this MEWR website for the latest information on safe distancing measures: <http://mewr.gov.sg/safe-distancing>.

Annex



Long queue observed at Geylang Serai Market



Enforcement Officer at a coffeeshop in Blk 116 Bukit Merah View, giving a thumbs up to a food handler who donned a mask

1. We are stepping up our enforcement. From 12 April 2020, written warnings will no longer be issued to those who do not comply with elevated safe distancing measures. Members of the public, particularly the elderly who are more vulnerable, should stay at home unless you have good reason. Any member of public found in breach of measures, including failure or refusal to comply with directions from an Enforcement Officer, will be asked for his/her particulars. **First time offenders face a composition fine of \$300. Repeat offenders will face higher fines, or prosecution in court for egregious cases.**

2. Our officers were out in force again today. More than 3,100 Enforcement Officers (EOs) and Safe Distancing Ambassadors were deployed. While there were reduced crowds in parks and markets, we continue to observe too many people gathering and loitering in public places, especially in town and neighbourhood centres.

3. More than 3,000 stern warnings and 50 fines were issued to members of public for non-compliance with elevated safe distancing measures today. In total, more than 6,200 stern warnings and 90 fines have been issued since 7 April 2020.

4. Police assistance was required for about 20 cases where members of public were not cooperative when asked to comply with the safe distancing measures. In addition, two men are being investigated for offences under the Liquor Control Act and COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020 for drinking at an HDB void deck along Marsiling Road at about 1.20am.

FURTHER STEPS TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC HEALTH

5. Given that wet markets continue to attract crowds, the National Environment Agency (NEA) has introduced additional measures to further safeguard public health. All members of public should wear masks when visiting markets. From 12 April 2020, patrons who are not wearing masks will be refused entry to 39 markets managed by NEA or NEA-appointed operators, which are popular and attract crowds over the weekends. This is to ensure the safety and well-being of all stallholders and patrons in our markets.

6. The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) has already introduced a mandatory requirement for all personnel engaged in the sale and preparation of food and drinks at all SFA-licensed food establishments to wear masks or other forms of physical barriers (e.g. face shields) in order to safeguard public health and prevent food contamination. This includes personnel at hawker centre stalls, coffee shops, restaurants, caterers, supermarkets, etc, and many of them are already doing so. SFA will start enforcement on 13 April and operators who do not comply with the requirement are liable for a penalty of up to \$5,000 and/or suspension or cancellation of their licenses. Food handlers are strongly reminded that they must not handle food when they are unwell. Members of the public can

report non-compliant food handlers to SFA via an online feedback form (www.sfa.gov.sg/feedback).

7. To prevent gatherings in groups, all beaches in Singapore have been closed off as of today.

STAY HOME, STAY SAFE FOR EVERYONE

8. Members of public are urged to take the circuit breaker measures seriously. Do not embark on outings with family and friends during this period. The elderly, who are particularly vulnerable, should stay at home.

9. Do stay home, avoid crowds and observe safe distancing. Failure to comply will result in firm action by our Enforcement Officers.

10. Visit the MEWR website for the latest information on safe distancing measures: <http://mewr.gov.sg/safe-distancing>. The Ministry of Health's website has a comprehensive set of FAQs on the COVID-19 situation, including FAQs on safe distancing measures.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
11 APRIL 2020

1. More than 200 composition fines will be issued to members of public who did not comply with elevated safe distancing measures today. Police assistance was required for over 20 cases when members of public were not cooperative.

2. The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) detected an operator illegally hawking perishable wares at Bukit Batok on 11 April. SFA instructed the hawker to cease operations immediately and will be issuing the hawker a \$1,000 fine under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020. Non-essential service providers must not carry out any business from any premises. Non-compliance is an offence.

GOOD PROGRESS MADE

3. There were significantly reduced numbers of people observed at town and neighbourhood centres today, and crowds at parks have thinned with tightened enforcement measures. For instance, the crowd at Geylang Serai Market was observed to be about 50 per cent less than a typical weekend, and queues dispersed quickly. Tekka market did not have queues and the crowd was thin. Many merchants and shop owners have also played their part in firmly reminding patrons to observe safe distancing measures. In addition, many stallholders at hawker centres and markets have been wearing masks and ensuring their patrons keep a safe distance while queuing.

4. While we have made progress and many Singaporeans have been socially responsible, there remained a minority of people who continue to flout the safe distancing measures, and continue to gather in groups to exercise, play sports and socialise. Members of public should continue to cooperate with us and adhere to elevated safe distancing measures. Agencies continued to maintain a strong presence of enforcement officers and ambassadors today, with over 3,000 deployed altogether.

STAY HOME, STAY SAFE FOR EVERYONE

5. Members of public are urged to stay home, and continue to comply with the circuit breaker measures. Do not embark on outings with family and friends during this period. The elderly, who are particularly vulnerable, must stay at home. If you must leave home for essential reasons, you should avoid crowds and observe safe distancing at all times.

6. Visit the MEWR website for the latest information on safe distancing measures: <http://mewr.gov.sg/safe-distancing>. The Ministry of Health's website has a comprehensive set of FAQs on the COVID-19 situation, including FAQs on safe distancing measures.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
12 APRIL 2020

UPDATE ON ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND REFRESHER ON WHAT TO DO AND NOT TO DO DURING THE CIRCUIT BREAKER PERIOD

1 Today was the first day of enforcement after the Singapore Food Agency introduced a mandatory requirement for all personnel engaged in the sale and preparation of food and drinks at all SFA-licensed food establishments to wear masks or other forms of physical barriers (e.g. face shields) [photo in Annex A].

2 More than 200 composition fines will be issued to members of public who did not comply with elevated safe distancing measures. One of them was an offender who sat down on a marked seat at a food centre at Blk 117 Aljunied Ave 2. Police assistance was required as she refused to leave, continued eating and refused to provide her particulars [photo in Annex B]. In total, Police assistance was required for more than 10 cases today when members of public were not cooperative.

3 Agencies continued to maintain a strong presence of Enforcement Officers (EOs) and ambassadors today, with over 2,900 deployed altogether. Firm action will continue to be taken for non-compliance. Both yesterday and today, fines have been issued to people who were loitering, or using facilities, playfields and areas that had been cordoned off or closed off. This included a group playing in the Tanjong Rhu open field, a small group playing tennis at the closed Tanglin Tennis Academy, and baseball in a closed private field at Tanglin Rugby Club [photo in Annex C].

4 Members of the public should take note that EOs are the only officers who can take enforcement against the public for breaches of safe distancing measures. They wear the corporate attire and lanyard of their respective agencies. Any member of public found in breach of measures, including failure or refusal to comply with directions from an EO, will be asked for his/her particulars. First-time offenders face a composition fine of \$300. Repeat offenders will face higher fines, or prosecution in court for egregious cases.

5 EOs will not demand payment of the fine on the spot. Notices will be issued to offenders in hard copy either on site, or through the mail. No immediate payment or handing over of cash is required. Members of public are cautioned against handing over any cash to persons who claim to be Enforcement Officers.

DO'S AND DON'TS DURING THE CIRCUIT BREAKER PERIOD

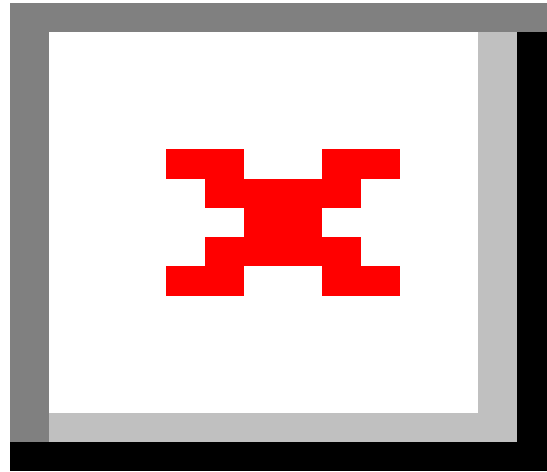
6 As we begin the second week of the circuit break period, members of the public are reminded to continue to cooperate with our EOs and Safe Distancing Ambassadors by adhering to the elevated safe distancing measures:

- **Stay home. Stay safe.**

- **Avoid gathering with others not from your household, either at home or outside**
- **First offence: \$300. Repeat offenders: Higher fines, or prosecution in court for egregious cases**
- **Elderly to stay home — they are most vulnerable to COVID-19**
- **Don't forget to wear a mask when going out, especially to markets and on public transport**
- **Instead of peak hours, visit markets at non-peak hours on weekends or weekdays**
- **Social contact should be limited to household members**
- **Takeout or get your food delivered – no dining-in is allowed at eating places**
- **All group recreational activities are not allowed in public spaces. Individuals and members of the same household are allowed to exercise by walking, jogging and cycling.**
- **No loitering at public spaces. Do not enter closed-off public spaces.**
- **Cleanliness and public hygiene are our first line of defence. Wash your hands with soap.**
- **Exercise social responsibility.**

Visit the MEWR website for the latest information on safe distancing measures: <http://mewr.gov.sg/safe-distancing>. The Ministry of Health's website has a comprehensive set of FAQs on the COVID-19 situation, including FAQs on safe distancing measures.

An infographic advisory for seniors to stay home is appended below.





All personnel engaged in the sale and preparation of food and drinks at all Singapore Food Agency (SFA)-licensed food establishments are required to wear masks or other forms of physical barriers (e.g. face shields).



Geylang East Market & Food Centre
Blk 117 Aljunied Avenue 2



Tanglin Tennis Academy

SENIORS SHOULD STAY HOME

**Avoid
visiting markets
get others to help**

**No dining
outside
of home**

**Don't gather
in groups,
at home
or outside,
e.g. at void decks
or neighbourhood
centres**

**Don't go
near seniors
if you are sick**

**Help seniors
with their
essential needs**
e.g. buying food
and groceries
for them



**It is an offence to disobey
safe distancing measures.**

The health of all depends on each one of us.

**If you have to go out, wear a mask.
You will not be allowed into
some markets without a mask.**

If you are sick

- Wear a surgical mask
- See a doctor
- Stay at home
- **DON'T** doctor-hop

1. Since the start of the circuit breaker period on 7 April 2020, 3,000 Enforcement Officers (EOs), and SG Clean and Safe Distancing Ambassadors have been deployed daily to public spaces in HDB estates across Singapore to ensure elevated safe distancing measures are observed. **They come from almost 50 public agencies and include non-public servants recruited from the hospitality and aviation sectors, as well as volunteers** recruited by the People's Association and other Government agencies. [List in Annex A.] Many others have also stepped forward to help with putting in place measures to ensure safe distancing in markets and HDB estates. These include town councils, hawkers' associations and merchants' associations. We thank all who have worked tirelessly over the past week, and contributed in many ways to help ensure the successful implementation of safe distancing measures in our public spaces.

2. The EOs and Ambassadors are currently identified by their agencies' corporate attire, staff pass and/or lanyard, or SG Clean Ambassador pass. **From 16 April, Ambassadors and EOs can also be identified through red Safe Distancing Ambassador and Enforcement Officer passes respectively. Enforcement Officers may also wear a red armband.** [Photos in Annex B] These new identifiers will help the public to better identify EOs and Ambassadors, and facilitate the work of the officers in enforcing safe distancing measures. Besides police officers, EOs are the only officers who can take enforcement action by issuing composition fines against the public for breaches of safe distancing measures. Ambassadors help to guide businesses and individuals to comply with safe distancing measures.

3. Any member of the public found in breach of the elevated safe distancing measures, including failure or refusal to comply with directions from an EO, will be asked for his or her particulars. **First-time offenders face a composition fine of \$300. Second-time offenders will face a \$1,000 composition fine, or prosecution in court for egregious cases. From 16 April, enforcement will also be done for those not wearing masks outside their homes.**^[1]

4. Notices for fines will be issued to offenders in hard copy either on site, or through the mail. **EOs are not allowed, and would never ask you, to pay the fine on the spot.** Members of the public are cautioned against handing over any cash or providing their bank account details to persons who claim to be EOs.

5. Members of the public should stay vigilant and be wary of persons who impersonate EOs to perpetuate crimes. They should always request the officer's identification to verify his/her identity before complying with the instructions of the officer.

6. Anyone found to have impersonated an EO will be subjected to police investigations. Under the Penal Code, the offence of cheating by personation carries an imprisonment term which may extend to five years, or a fine, or both. The offence of personating a public servant carries an imprisonment term which may extend to two years, or a fine, or both.

7. The Government takes a serious view of and will not tolerate those who verbally or physically abuse our EOs and Ambassadors. Our officers are working hard to keep Singapore and Singaporeans safe. We will not hesitate to take strong actions against egregious offenders, including criminal prosecution. Cases of physical or verbal abuse will be reported to the police for follow-up, and these cases will be considered separately from the principal offence that the Government will be charging the offender for.

STAY HOME AND STAY SAFE

8. More than 400 composition fines will be issued to members of public who did not comply with elevated safe distancing measures in the last two days. This included two patrons who sat down and dined in at a canteen at 63 Jalan Pemimpin. Enforcement action will be taken against both the patrons and licensee of the canteen for failing to comply with the elevated safe distancing measures.

9. In addition, on 13 April, the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) found a stall owner, at a coffee shop at Jurong East Street 24, selling face masks illegally. SFA instructed him to cease operations immediately and will issue him a \$1,000 fine under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020.

10. We thank members of public who have been sending Government agencies feedback on safe distancing. Members of public may also use the OneService App, which now has a dedicated function for reporting cases where safe distancing is not being practised. The information provided will help relevant agencies identify hotspots which require further patrols. Please provide specific details and photographs of the issue when submitting feedback. We urge

members of the public to only send photographs taken by themselves, and not those forwarded to them, or found online. This will ensure that the cases flagged are current, and not already addressed by our officers.

11. Visit the MEWR website for the latest information on safe distancing measures: <http://mewr.gov.sg/safe-distancing>. The Ministry of Health's website has a comprehensive set of FAQs on the COVID-19 situation, including [FAQs](#) on safe distancing measures.

[1] Mask-wearing is not recommended for young children below the age of two for child safety reasons. Individuals may remove their masks while engaging in strenuous exercise outdoors but must put them back on after completing their exercise.

Annex A

AGENCIES INVOLVED IN EFFORTS TO ENSURE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFE DISTANCING IN PUBLIC SPACES IN HDB ESTATES

1. Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA)
2. Casino Regulatory Authority of Singapore (CRA)
3. Civil Service College (CSC)
4. Central Provident Fund Board (CPF Board)
5. Council for Estate Agencies (CEA)
6. Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA)
7. Department of Statistics (DOS)
8. Economic Development Board (EDB)
9. Elections Department Singapore (ELD)
10. Energy Market Authority (EMA)
11. Government Technology Agency (GovTech)
12. Housing & Development Board (HDB) (with Town Councils)
13. Health Promotion Board (HPB)
14. Health Sciences Authority (HSA)
15. Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA)
16. Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA)
17. Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS)
18. ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (ISEAS)
19. Land Transport Authority (LTA)

20. Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (MUIS)
21. Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY)
22. Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEWR)
23. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)
24. Ministry of Defence (MINDEF)
25. Ministry of Finance (MOF)
26. Ministry of Law (MinLaw)
27. Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF)
28. Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)
29. National Arts Council (NAC)
30. National Heritage Board (NHB)
31. National Library Board (NLB)
32. National Environment Agency (NEA)
33. National Parks Board (NParks)
34. National Research Foundation (NRF)
35. National Youth Council (NYC)
36. People's Association (PA)
37. Prime Minister's Office (PMO)
38. Public Service Division (PSD)
39. PUB, Singapore's National Water Agency (PUB)
40. Science Centre Board (SCB)
41. Singapore Customs
42. Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board (SEAB)
43. Singapore Food Agency (SFA)
44. Singapore Land Authority (SLA)
45. Singapore Police Force (SPF)
46. Singapore Polytechnic (SP)

47. Sport Singapore (SportSG)

48. State Courts

49. Vital

Annex B

SG Clean Ambassador pass



Red passes for Ambassadors and Enforcement Officers



Red armbands for Enforcement Officers



1. The Police have observed an increase in the number of abuse cases against Enforcement Officers (EOs) and SG Clean and Safe Distancing Ambassadors since the implementation of Elevated Safe Distancing Measures (ESDM) to contain the spread of COVID-19. We will not tolerate this, and will take offenders to task.

2. Since the start of the circuit breaker period on 7 April 2020, around 3,000 EOs and Ambassadors have been deployed daily to public places and in HDB estates across Singapore. They come from around [50 public agencies](#) and also include non-public servants recruited from the hospitality and aviation sectors, as well as volunteers recruited by the People's Association and other Government agencies.

3. As at 16 April 2020, the Police have received 12 reports where members of the public have physically or verbally abused EOs and Ambassadors when they were carrying out their duties. By refusing to comply with ESDM, these offenders not only put themselves but others at risk. [Photos in Annex]

- Case 1: On 14 April 2020, a 35-year-old man and his 33-year-old female companion hurled vulgarities at three Ambassadors who advised the man not to sit on a crossed-out seat at a hawker centre located at Toa Payoh Lorong 5.
- Case 2: On 15 April 2020, a 72-year-old man slapped the EO who had requested for his particulars after observing that he was consuming food at a hawker centre located at Blk 89 Circuit Road.
- Case 3: On 15 April 2020, a 40-year-old man head-butted the EO who had advised him to stop playing basketball at the cordoned-off Khatib Multi-Purpose Hall.
- Case 4: On 15 April 2020, a 79-year-old man punched the EO who had advised him to wear his face mask properly along Havelock Road.
- Case 5: On 16 April 2020, a 37-year-old man insulted the Police officer who was issuing a Notice of Composition to his female friend for not wearing a face mask while outside The Cathay.

4. Police investigations are ongoing against the offenders. Those found guilty of using abusive language against a public servant are liable on conviction to an imprisonment term of up to 12 months, or a fine of up to \$5,000, or both. The offence of voluntarily causing hurt to deter a public servant from the discharge of his duty is punishable with an imprisonment term of up to seven years, a fine, or caning. The offence of using criminal force to deter a public servant from the discharge of his duty is punishable with an imprisonment term of up to four years, a fine, or both.

5. The Police would like to remind members of the public that it is an offence not to furnish their personal particulars and residential address when required by an EO. The public is advised to bring their identity cards or other forms of official identification with them when they leave home.

6. Everyone should take the circuit breaker measures seriously, and cooperate and comply with the instructions of the EOs and Ambassadors. They are performing an important duty to keep our population safe. Let us all do our part to curb the spread of COVID-19.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE
17 APRIL 2020

Annex



Case 2

1. As announced by the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) on 2 May 2020, home-based food businesses (under the Housing & Development Board/Urban Redevelopment Authority home-based small scale business scheme) will be allowed to resume operations from 12 May 2020, subject to the necessary safe management measures being in place.

Current Restrictions on Home-Based Businesses

2. Currently, home-based businesses in public and private housing can operate only if they meet very strict criteria in the Ministry of Health's guidelines and the latest provision under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020.

3. This was necessary as part of the tightened circuit breaker measures to break the chain of transmission of the COVID-19 virus in our community.

Resumption of Home-Based Food Businesses

4. In view of the decrease in community transmission over the past month, the MTF will allow selected activities and services to be resumed gradually. This includes the manufacturing and onsite preparation of all food, including cakes and confectionery, ice cream, cocoa, chocolate and chocolate products, and other snacks; as well as the opening of retail outlets of food, including cakes and confectionery, packaged snacks and desserts, for takeaway and delivery only.

5. In line with this, home-based food businesses will be allowed to resume operations from 12 May 2020 for delivery and collection only, subject to the necessary safe management measures being in place. Detailed guidelines are at [Annex A](#). These food businesses must also comply with the Singapore Food Agency's guidelines, which can be found at [Annex B](#).

6. Home-based food businesses will be allowed to accept and prepare ahead for orders that will be fulfilled from 12 May 2020. Home-based private dining will not be allowed. Home-based businesses that provide other goods and services (e.g. jewellery and textiles), and which involve visitors, customers or third-party delivery services at the premises to collect and/or deliver goods, are also to remain closed until further lifting of the circuit breaker measures.

7. Enforcement agencies will take firm action against non-compliance. For home-based food businesses that fail to comply with safe management measures, first-time offenders will be issued composition offers of \$1,000, and repeat offenders will face higher fines or prosecution in court. For customers or third party delivery service providers that breach measures, first-time offenders will be issued composition fines of \$300, and repeat offenders will face a fine of \$1,000 or prosecution in court.

8. A range of schemes have been introduced to help households who face income loss due to COVID-19 and require assistance. A list of the assistance schemes can be found at [Annex C](#).

Remaining Vigilant and Socially Responsible

9. We urge all Singaporeans to remain vigilant and socially responsible to strengthen our collective defence against the virus. Everyone must adhere to safe distancing measures, practise good personal hygiene, and wear a mask when out of home. If everyone does their part, we can continue to keep the virus in check and be on track for further resumption of services and operations.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
2 MAY 2020

ANNEX A

GUIDELINES FOR HOME-BASED FOOD BUSINESSES

Home-based food businesses are required to strictly abide by the safe management measures listed below. The measures are necessary to limit interaction between sellers, delivery personnel and customers. This will help minimise the risks of COVID-19 transmission.

- **1. Only delivery and collection of food orders is allowed.**
-
- **2. Only members of the same household (i.e. living in the same address) can work in the home-based food businesses.** No persons from another household are permitted to enter the household to assist with the food preparations.
-
- **3. Food handlers are to observe food safety and hygiene practices during food preparation (see Annex B).**
-
- **4. Delivery/collection modes may include self-collection by customer, and delivery by business owner and third-party delivery companies. The following safe management measures must be observed:**
 - a. Ensure contactless delivery/collection** – A safe distance of at least 1 metre must be maintained between the seller and the delivery person or buyer at all times. Sellers are required to wear a mask (even if at home entrance) during the collection/pick-up. Place or hang the food on the door/gate outside the unit and avoid face-to-face interaction as far as possible.
 - b. Collection of food must be by appointment only** – Collection time should be spread out and only one person (buyer or delivery person) should be collecting at a time. There should not be any bunching up. No one should be waiting or queuing at common areas.

c. Use cashless payment methods – No physical exchange of cash. Use cashless payment methods, e.g., PayNow, bank transfers, etc.

d. Use digital tools to enable speedier contact tracing – The seller, delivery person and buyer are encouraged to download and actively use the TraceTogether app. The Singapore Food Agency may require other apps to be downloaded and used. More details will be provided in due course.

ANNEX B

SINGAPORE FOOD AGENCY'S GUIDELINES ON FOOD SAFETY & HYGIENE PRACTICES FOR RESIDENTS PREPARING FOOD UNDER THE HDB/URA'S HOME-BASED SMALL SCALE BUSINESS SCHEME

General

- • Comply with the Home-based Small Scale Business Scheme Guidelines stated by the Housing & Development Board and the Urban Redevelopment Authority.
-
- • Ensure that all food preparation areas are clean and hygienic.
-
- • Do not keep any pets (such as dogs, cats, etc.) that can roam freely in the house.
-
- • Food are not to be sold in retail food establishments or to/at temporary fairs, as these premises are to prepare the food in their licensed premises or obtain food from approved sources.
-
- • Do not offer catering services, including food stations and stalls at events. Such types of food service typically involve large quantities of food, and is a deviation from the Home-based Small Scale Business Scheme, which is intended for small scale businesses. Also, in the context of small residential kitchens, the large quantities would mean preparation of some dishes in advance. Without proper temperature control of the prepared food, the occurrence of contamination of food is higher. When bacteria are introduced onto the food, they could multiply to harmful levels with time if they are kept in the temperature danger zone of 5°C to 60°C.
-
- • If you intend to prepare food for a larger number of clients, or prepare food in large quantity for each order, you should shift to a proper licensed food premises to operate.
-
- • Persons who handle and prepare food under this scheme are encouraged to attend the Basic Food Hygiene Course (also known as “WSQ Follow Food and Beverage Safety and Hygiene Policies and Procedures” course).

Practise Good Personal Hygiene

- • Wash hands with water and soap after handling raw food, before handling cooked/ready-to-eat food, after visiting the toilet, after handling waste, and in between tasks.
-
- • Wear a face mask during food preparation and when handling cooked/ready-to-eat food.
-
- • Use clean gloves or utensils to handle cooked/ready-to-eat food.
-
- • Do not handle food when feeling unwell.

Use Safe Food Ingredients

- • Obtain food supplies from licensed or approved sources.
-
- • Ensure that ingredients used are fresh, stored at proper temperatures and have not passed their expiry dates.
-
- • Clean and wash ingredients thoroughly.

Store Food Safely

- • Store food in covered containers.
-
- • Store raw food in tightly sealed containers below cooked/ready-to-eat food in
-
- • Keep perishable foods refrigerated or frozen until they are used.

ANNEX C

ASSISTANCE SCHEMES AVAILABLE FOR HOUSEHOLDS

COVID-19 Support Grant (Open for applications from May till 30 Sep 2020)
go.gov.sg/CSG

Self-Employed Person Income Relief Scheme (Open for applications from 27 April)
<https://www.ntuc.com.sg/sirs>

Workfare Special Payment
www.workfare.gov.sg

Assistance schemes offered by Malay/Muslim organisations
<https://www.m3.sg/sgteguhbersatu/initiatives>

For more details on ongoing or new support measures, please refer to MSF website below:

<https://www.msf.gov.sg/assistance/Pages/covid19relief.aspx#CSG>

Operators may also wish to register with the Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce & Industry, which is offering support to home-based businesses

<https://bit.ly/SMCCI-HomeBasedData>

1. We are appalled and deeply concerned by the vicious attack on a safe distancing Enforcement Officer from the National Parks Board today. The officer was carrying out safe distancing duties with another colleague along the Sungei Serangoon Park Connector when they came across a member of the public. The man was cutting plants illegally at the park connector and was not wearing a mask. During the engagement, the man turned aggressive and attacked the officer with a sharp instrument. The officer sustained injuries. The assailant has been swiftly arrested and will be charged in court.

2. This is an egregious act of violence inflicted on a public servant whilst he was performing his duties. We have zero tolerance towards such acts. Perpetrators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

3. Any form of abuse or attack on public officers constitutes a serious offence, and offenders will be prosecuted in court.

4. Our public officers are committed to help keep Singaporeans safe in our public spaces during this COVID-19 period. We call on the public to abide strictly by the safe distancing measures, and to cooperate when approached by our officers.

5. The NParks officer is currently warded at a hospital for treatment. Our thoughts are with the officer and his family, and we are extending our support. We wish him a complete and speedy recovery.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
NATIONAL PARKS BOARD
4 MAY 2020

1 Political parties and candidates can be expected to ramp up their campaigning activities after Nomination Day on 30 June 2020, in the run up to Polling Day on 10 July 2020. The Elections Department has issued [guidelines](#) on how political parties and candidates can campaign effectively and safely under the current circumstances. This advisory serves to also remind and encourage all members of public to continue to observe safe distancing measures, so as to ensure a safe General Election (GE) for all.

2 Under Phase 2 of our re-opening, all members of public are required to abide by general safe distancing measures in public spaces and premises such as town centres, markets, eating places and malls, as announced earlier by the Ministry of Health. These measures include:

a) Wearing of face masks at all times when outside one's home, unless when eating, drinking or doing strenuous exercises

b) Maintaining a safe distance of at least one metre between individuals

c) Maintaining a safe distance of at least one metre between each group (of not more than five persons).

3 At home, there should not be more than five visitors at any one time.

4 In the context of GE2020, the required actions and best practices for members of public in line with the general safe distancing measures include:

a) Encountering Candidates on their Walkabouts

i. Maintain a one-metre safe distance from other individuals, such as when interacting with candidate(s), or when queuing for political campaigning items such as flyers.

ii. Avoid physical contact with candidate(s) and their supporters, e.g. refrain from shaking hands or engaging in greetings where there is physical contact, such as fist bumps or high fives.

iii. Continue to wear your face mask when interacting with candidate(s).

iv. Refrain from following or crowding around the candidate(s) and their accompanying supporters.

v. If taking photographs with candidate(s), you should maintain at least a one-metre safe distance and wear your face mask.

b) Encountering Candidates on Door-to-Door Visits

i. Maintain at least a one-metre safe distance when interacting with candidate(s) at your doorstep; you should also wear your face mask.

ii. Avoid physical contact, e.g. refrain from shaking hands or engaging in greetings where there is physical contact, such as fist bumps or high fives.

iii. If you wish to invite candidate(s) into your home, adhere to the limit of five visitors (inclusive of any other guests who may already be in your house) at any point of time. Candidate(s) and their accompanying supporters must continue to wear face masks when inside your home. You should also put on a face mask for your protection.

c) Supporting Candidates while Avoiding Crowds

i. We encourage you to watch the Party Political Broadcasts, Constituency Political Broadcasts and online rallies at home.

ii. Refrain from gathering or loitering in the vicinity of Nomination Centres during nomination proceedings.

5 Safe Distancing Ambassadors and Safe Distancing Enforcement Officers will continue to be on the ground to help keep everyone safe. Please cooperate with and listen to them. For the health and safety of everyone, it is paramount that political parties, candidates and members of the public abide by the above safe distancing and safe management measures. Everyone can do their part in ensuring a safe GE for all.

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES
26 JUNE 2020

Ground-up initiatives build broader public awareness of key issues on sustainability and climate change

1. Singapore's 'Climate Action Week' takes place from 15 - 21 August this year. Organised by the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment (MSE), the Week features a line-up of 30 ground-up initiatives organised by 27 partners from the 3P (People, Private and Public) sectors. *(Please click [here](#) for details on the initiatives.)*
2. Climate change is a long-term existential challenge for Singapore. Even as we address the immediate issues stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, we must continue to press on with sustainability efforts. Galvanising a whole-of-nation effort will be a key determinant of Singapore's success in mitigating and adapting to the challenges posed by climate change.
3. Climate Action Week was initiated last year, following the successful conclusion of the Year of Climate Action in 2018. This annual event helps to sustain the momentum for climate action in Singapore, by catalysing and profiling the organisation of climate-change themed events led by partners in the 3P sectors.
4. Climate Action Week is part of the MSE Family's efforts to foster deeper partnerships with stakeholders and citizens, and co-create and co-deliver solutions for Singapore's environmental challenges. Other initiatives include a Citizens' Workgroup in 2019 to explore ways to improve household recycling, an ongoing Workgroup to increase demand for local produce, and another on reducing the excessive consumption of disposables, which will be convened later this year.
5. Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Sustainability and the Environment, emphasised the importance of partnerships for climate action: "I am greatly encouraged by the meaningful ground-up events our partners in the 3P sectors have organised, despite the challenges faced in this COVID-19 pandemic. Climate change remains an existential challenge for Singapore, and we must continue to work together to understand, mitigate and adapt to it. Climate Action Week embodies our Singapore Together spirit — through collective action, we can effect change for a sustainable Singapore".

-End-

Stepped Up Enforcement Checks on Safe Management Measures at Food and Beverage Premises

15 September 2020 – As part of stepped-up checks for compliance with Safe Management Measures (SMMs), government agencies conducted additional patrols of nightspots on 12 and 13 September 2020. A total of 149 Food and Beverage (F&B) outlets in known hotspots were inspected. Whilst many F&B outlets were compliant, 23 were found to have breached SMMs. Many of these breaches involved groups of more than five seated together or intermingling between tables, and the serving and consumption of alcohol past 10.30pm (see examples of breaches at Annex).

2 These stepped-up enforcement checks involved Enforcement Officers (EOs) from seven government agencies, including officers from the Singapore Police Force. They come on top of the routine inspections that agencies undertake daily at F&B outlets, which include coffee shops and hawker centres throughout Singapore. In total, more than 3,000 inspections of F&B outlets were conducted over the weekend.

3 The agencies are reviewing the breaches and the appropriate enforcement actions will be taken, including temporary closure of the outlets and the issuance of fines. More details will be provided when ready.

4 The following are examples of some of the breaches committed:

1. An F&B outlet at Chinatown **accepted a booking of 10 patrons and seated the group in two tables within a private dining room.** When asked, outlet staff claimed that persons at the two tables did not know each other.
2. An F&B outlet at Orchard Road was found to serve **alcoholic drinks from metal teapots** after 11.00pm to **13 patrons.** Investigations revealed that the teapots contained beer, and the bottles of beer sold by the restaurant were concealed at the bottom of the fridge storing drinks.
3. EOs visited an F&B outlet at Orchard Road around midnight and heard loud conversations from premises that had been locked. EOs gained entry to the outlet after issuing verbal warnings to the operator to open the door, and found six patrons seated separately within the premises with no sign of drinks on their table. However, CCTV footage showed that these **patrons had been drinking just before the EOs arrived.** The footage had also **shown the patrons and owner clearing the glasses and hiding the alcohol bottle** just before opening the door to allow the EOs in.
4. At an F&B outlet at Boat Quay area, **a group of 15 patrons were seated across four tables for a pre-planned dinner event and were intermingling.**
5. An F&B outlet at Jurong East was found to have allowed **eight customers to sit together at a long table** within the premises.

5 COVID-19 remains a grave threat. Dining out is an activity that involves considerable risks because it entails gathering in enclosed spaces, without masks on, and for a prolonged duration. On 9 September, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) had announced that the Government would step up enforcement checks at F&B outlets around Singapore to ensure that they remain safe spaces for all. While we thank the majority of F&B operators and premise owners for ensuring SMMs are properly implemented, there remains a minority which continue to breach SMMs.

6 Agencies will continue to step up enforcement checks to ensure that F&B establishments comply with SMMs. We will not hesitate to take firm enforcement action. We would like to remind F&B operators and premises owners that breaches of SMMs constitute a serious offence. It is imperative that they ensure SMMs are properly implemented. We also urge all members of the public to be socially responsible and observe the SMMs.

- End -

Annex



Group of eight patrons observed sitting together at a long table on 12 September 2020
(Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)



Patrons found consuming beer concealed in teapots after 11pm on 12 September 2020
(Photo credit: Singapore Tourism Board)

Three Food and Beverage Premises Ordered to Close for Breaching Safe Management Measures

17 September 2020 – Three Food and Beverage (F&B) outlets have been ordered to close and 15 F&B outlets have been fined for breaching Safe Management Measures (SMMs). Ten of the outlets were fined \$1,000 for breaches, such as allowing groups of more than five to be seated together or to intermingle between tables, and seating groups of customers less than one-metre apart. The other five outlets were fined \$2,000 for repeat offences. These F&B outlets are among the 23 found to have breached SMMs as part of stepped-up checks by government agencies during the weekend of 12-13 September.

2 The details of the offences and orders for closure are below (photos are in Annex):

a) On 12 September 2020, officers arrived at Jiang Hu Xia Ke located at 150 Orchard Road, #01-20, Orchard Plaza, Singapore 238841 at 11pm and observed 13 patrons pouring drinks from metal teapots to consume at their tables. Investigations revealed that the teapots contained beer, and the restaurant supervisor admitted to concealing alcohol consumption using the teapots. The bottles of beer sold by the restaurant were also concealed at the bottom of the fridge storing drinks. Under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020, sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited after 10.30pm daily. The Singapore Tourism Board issued an order on 15 September 2020 requiring the operator of Jiang Hu Xia Ke to close the premises from 16 September 2020 for a period of 10 days until 25 September 2020 (both dates inclusive).

b) On 12 September 2020, officers arrived at 96 Food Fusion & Bar, located at 2 Venture Drive, #02-44, Singapore 608526, at 9pm and observed eight patrons seated together and intermingling at a long table. The Singapore Food Agency issued an order on 16 September requiring the operator of 96 Food Fusion & Bar to close the premises from 17 September 2020 for a period of 10 days until 26 September 2020 (both dates inclusive).

c) On 13 September 2020, Frog Meat Fish Head, located at 5 Mosque Street, Singapore 059485, accepted a booking of 10 patrons and seated the group at two tables within a private dining room. This was observed by officers when they arrived at around 10pm. When asked, outlet staff claimed that the people at the two tables did not know one another. Upon further questioning, the patrons admitted that they were colleagues. The Singapore Tourism Board issued an order on 16 September 2020 requiring the operator of Frog Meat Fish Head to close the premises from 17 September 2020 for a period of 10 days until 26 September 2020 (both dates inclusive).

3 On 16 September 2020, government agencies conducted additional inspections on 57 F&B outlets in known hotspots. Among these, seven were

found to have breached SMMs. The breaches involved groups of more than five seated together or intermingling between tables, seating groups of customers less than one-metre apart and the serving and consumption of alcohol past 10.30pm (see examples of breaches in Annex). Agencies are reviewing these breaches and the appropriate enforcement actions to be taken, including temporary closure of the outlets and the issuance of fines.

4 COVID-19 remains a grave threat. Dining out is an activity that involves considerable risks because it entails gathering in enclosed spaces, without masks on, and for a prolonged duration. While the majority of F&B operators and premise owners have ensured that SMMs are properly implemented, there remains a minority which continue to breach SMMs.

5 As announced by the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) on 9 September 2020, the Government will continue to step up enforcement checks at F&B outlets around Singapore to ensure that they remain safe spaces for all. We would like to remind F&B operators and premises owners that breaches of SMMs constitute a serious offence, and we will not hesitate to take firm enforcement action. We also urge all members of the public to be socially responsible and observe the SMMs.

- End -

Annex

Patrons found consuming beer concealed in teapots at Jiang Hu Xia Ke on 12 September 2020 at 11pm (Photo credit: Singapore Tourism Board)



Group of eight patrons observed sitting together at a long table at 96 Food Fusion & Bar on 12 September 2020 at 9pm (Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)



When Enforcement Officers visited an F&B outlet in Punggol on 16 September 2020, patrons at two tables were found consuming alcohol at 10.45pm. (Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)



At an F&B outlet in Tanjong Pagar on 16 September 2020, a group of 12 patrons were seated across two tables. (Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority)



22 September 2020 – Three more Food and Beverage (F&B) outlets have been ordered to close, and four other outlets issued with fines, for breaching Safe Management Measures (SMMs). This is in addition to the enforcement actions taken against 18 F&B outlets as announced on 17 September 2020.

Details of Offences

2 Details of the offences at the three F&B outlets and orders for closure are below (please refer to Annex for photos):

a. On 12 September, officers detected a group of 15 individuals inside a restaurant at 39 Hong Kong Street, at 9.10pm. The group had organised a private dinner event and was split across four tables, with intermingling observed. The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) issued an order on 17 September 2020 requiring the operator to close the premises from 18 September 2020 for a period of 10 days until 27 September 2020 (both dates inclusive).

b. On 12 September, the Beer Factory, located at 25 Church Street, was observed to have admitted three groups of patrons that each comprised more than five persons at 9.50pm. URA issued an order on 17 September 2020 requiring the operator of Beer Factory to close the premises from 18 September 2020 for a period of 10 days until 27 September 2020 (both dates inclusive).

c. On 19 September, officers observed patrons consuming alcohol at 10.55pm at two tables in the outdoor refreshment area at Blk 261, Serangoon Central Drive. The alcoholic beverages were sold and served from a drinks outlet at Blk 261, Serangoon Central Drive, #01-27. Under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020, the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited after 10.30pm. The Singapore Food Agency issued an order on 21 September requiring the operator of the drinks outlet at #01-27 to close the premises from 22 September 2020 for a period of 10 days until 1 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).

3 Four other F&B outlets have been fined \$1,000 for breaching SMMs such as allowing groups of more than five to be seated together, to intermingle between tables, and seating groups of customers less than 1 metre apart. These outlets are among the seven found to have breached SMMs as part of stepped-up checks at F&B hotspots by government agencies on **16 September 2020**.

Additional Inspections on 323 F&B Outlets from 18-20 September 2020

4 From 18 to 20 September 2020, government agencies conducted additional inspections on 323 F&B outlets in known hotspots. Among these, 18 were found to have breached SMMs. The breaches involved groups of more than five seated together or intermingling between tables, seating groups of customers less than 1 metre apart and the serving and consumption of alcohol past 10.30pm (see examples of breaches in Annex). Agencies are reviewing these breaches and the appropriate enforcement actions to be taken, including temporary closure of the outlets and the issuance of fines.

5 F&B operators and premises owners are responsible for implementing SMMs, and should not be requesting Enforcement Officers or Safe Distancing Ambassadors to engage their patrons on SMMs on their behalf. While the majority of F&B operators and premises owners have ensured that SMMs are properly implemented, there remains a minority which continue to breach SMMs. The government will continue to step up enforcement checks at F&B outlets around Singapore to ensure that they remain safe spaces for all. We also urge patrons to be socially responsible and observe the SMMs.

6 As stated in the “Advisory for Phase 2 Reopening of Food & Beverage Establishments” (<https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/guides/fbestablishments3.PDF>), gatherings or groups involving more than five persons in total **are not allowed**, even if they are split across multiple tables. F&B operators are also not permitted to accept such reservations. Exceptions can only be made if all members of the group are from the same household. In such cases, the group will need to be seated at multiple tables, with no more than five persons per table, with at least 1 metre spacing between the tables. Establishments can request to verify diners’ claims that they are from the same household, and can reject entry of diners at their discretion.

- End -

Annex

15 individuals found inside the restaurant at 39 Hong Kong Street seated across four tables and intermingling on 12 September 2020 at 9.10pm.



(Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority)

The Beer Factory admitted three groups of patrons, each comprising more than five persons, with one

group comprising eight people on 12 September 2020 at 9.50pm

(Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority)



On 19 September 2020, officers observed patrons consuming alcohol at 10.55pm at two tables in the outdoor refreshment area at Blk 261, Serangoon Central Drive.



(Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)

On 18 September 2020 at 7.15pm, officers observed that patrons at two different tables in an F&B outlet in Chinatown were seated less than 1 metre apart.



(Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)

On 19 September 2020 at 9.40pm, officers observed that there was no 1 metre safe distancing between different groups of diners in an F&B outlet along Beach Road.



(Photo credit: Enterprise Singapore)

On the afternoon of 20 September 2020, officers observed an F&B outlet in Clementi that did not ensure 1 metre between groups of customers and had two groups of three persons seated at the same table.



(Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)

29 September 2020 – Eight more Food and Beverage (F&B) outlets have been ordered to close, while 14 outlets and 32 individuals have been issued fines for breaching Safe Management Measures (SMMs).

Details of Offences

2 Details of the offences at the eight F&B outlets and the orders for closure are below (photos at [Annex](#)):

a. On 12 September, officers detected a group of eight individuals seated across two tables and intermingling at Brewerkz, 30 Merchant Road, Riverside Point, #01-07, at 8.45pm. The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) issued an order requiring the operator to close the premises for a period of 10 days from 25 September to 4 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).

b. On 16 September, officers arrived at 10.45pm and observed patrons at two tables consuming alcohol at Siam Square Mookata Pte Ltd at 3 Punggol Point Road, #02-01, The Punggol Settlement. The Singapore Food Agency (SFA) issued an order requiring the operator to close the premises from 19 September for a period of 10 days until 28 September 2020 (both dates inclusive).

c. On 16 September, officers found individuals at four tables consuming alcohol at 10.50pm at the outdoor refreshment area at 59 New Upper Changi Road, #01-1248. The alcoholic beverages were sold and served from a drinks stall at the coffeeshop. SFA issued an order requiring the operator of the drinks stall to close the premises from 19 September for a period of 10 days until 28 September 2020 (both dates inclusive).

d. On 16 September, Ggang Tong, located at 60/62/64 Tanjong Pagar Road, was observed at 9.05pm to have admitted 12 patrons seated across two tables, with six seated at each table. The patrons were observed intermingling and sharing food with one another across tables. URA issued an order requiring the operator to close the premises for a period of 10 days from 25 September to 4 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).

e. On 18 September, Chicken Up, located at 48/50 Tanjong Pagar Road, was observed to have admitted 10 patrons seated across two tables and intermingling at 9.15pm. URA issued an order requiring the operator to close the premises for a period of 10 days from 26 September to 5 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).

f. On 19 September, officers observed a patron consuming alcohol at 11.20pm at the outdoor refreshment area at J.Membina, Blk 26 Jalan Membina #01-01. SFA issued an order requiring the operator of the drinks stall at #01-01 to close the premises from 23 September for a period of 10 days until 2 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).

g. On 25 September, officers observed individuals intermingling with different groups of patrons seated at different tables at Jamboree Bar & Café at Orchard Towers. The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) issued an order requiring the operator of Jamboree Bar & Café to close the premises from 26 September to 5 October (both dates inclusive).

h. On 25 September, Café de Muse was observed to have groups of individuals queuing at the entrance without observing a safe distance of 1 metre. Officers also observed that temperature screening for patrons was not in place, and the seats between patrons were less than 1 metre apart. STB issued an order requiring the operator of Café de Muse to close the premises from 26 September to 5 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).

3 Another 14 F&B outlets have been fined for breaching SMMs, such as admitting and seating groups of more than five together, allowing groups to intermingle between tables, seating groups of customers less than 1 metre apart, and not ensuring that food handlers wear their masks properly. Thirteen of the outlets were fined \$1,000 for breaching the measures and one outlet was fined \$2,000 for repeat offences.

Additional Inspections of 240 F&B Outlets from 25 to 26 September 2020

4 From 25 to 26 September 2020, government agencies conducted additional inspections on 240 F&B outlets in known hotspots. Among these, 15 were found to have breached SMMs. The breaches involved groups of more than five seated together or intermingling between tables, seating groups of customers less than 1 metre apart and the serving and consumption of alcohol past 10.30pm (see examples of breaches in [Annex](#)). Agencies are reviewing these breaches and the appropriate enforcement actions to be taken, including temporary closure of the outlets and the issuance of fines.

Fines Issued to Individuals

5 A total of 32 individuals will also be fined \$300 each for not observing SMMs at F&B outlets. These breaches involved gathering and sitting in groups of more than five, intermingling between tables and not putting on masks promptly after eating or drinking.

6 While the majority of patrons observe SMMs, there remains a minority which continue to breach them. The Government will continue to step up enforcement checks at F&B outlets around Singapore to ensure that they remain safe spaces for all. We also urge patrons to be socially responsible and observe the SMMs. Agencies will not hesitate to take enforcement actions against both patrons and premises that do not comply with SMMs.

- End -

Annex

On 12 September 2020, eight individuals were found seated across two tables inside Brewerkz at 30 Merchant Road and intermingling at 8.45pm.



(Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority)

On 16 September 2020, customers at two tables were found consuming alcohol at Siam Square Mookata Pte Ltd at The Punggol Settlement at 10.45pm.



(Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)

On 16 September 2020, customers at four tables were found consuming alcohol at the outdoor refreshment area at 59 New Upper Changi Road at 10.50pm.



(Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)

On 16 September 2020, 12 individuals were found seated across two tables at Ggang Tong, 62/64 Tanjong Pagar Road at 9.05pm.



(Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority)

An individual was observed to be consuming alcohol at 11.20pm at the outdoor refreshment area at a coffeeshop at Blk 26 Jalan Membina.



(Photo credit: Singapore Food Agency)

On 25 September 2020, two patrons were fined \$300 each for not wearing their masks when talking to each other at an F&B outlet in Orchard at 2.50am, even though they had completed their meal and their table had been cleared.



(Photo credit: Singapore Tourism Board)

On 25 September, Café de Muse at Shaw House was ordered to close for failing to take the temperature of customers entering its premises, and for failing to ensure safe distancing between customers.

(Photo credit: Singapore Tourism Board)



On 25 September, a number of individuals were found intermingling with different groups of patrons seated at different tables at Jamboree Bar & Café at Orchard Towers.

(Photo credit: Singapore Tourism Board)

On 26 September 2020, a group of seven patrons were found seated at a table at a Duxton Hill restaurant at 8.40pm.



(Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority)

6 October 2020 – Two more Food and Beverage (F&B) outlets have been ordered to close, while 13 outlets and 21 individuals have been issued fines for breaching Safe Management Measures (SMMs).

Details of Offences

2 Details of the two F&B outlets ordered to close, and the offences, are below (photos at Annex):

1. On 3 October, nine customers were seated across two tables and intermingling in a private room at Tong Xin Ru Yi Traditional Hotpot at 6 Lorong Telok, Singapore 049019, at 9.15pm. The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) issued an order requiring the operator to close the premises for a period of 10 days from 6 October to 15 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).
2. On 3 October 2020, several customers were found consuming alcohol at 11.40pm at the Invincible Noodle House at 13 Circular Road, Singapore 049369. The URA issued an order requiring the operator to close the premises for a period of 10 days from 3 October to 12 October 2020 (both dates inclusive).

3 Another 13 F&B outlets have been fined for breaching SMMs since 25 September 2020. The breaches included admitting and seating groups of more than five from different households together, allowing groups to intermingle between tables, seating groups of customers less than 1 metre apart, and not ensuring that food handlers wear their masks properly. Twelve of the outlets were fined \$1,000 for breaching the measures and one outlet was fined \$2,000 for repeat offences. The outlets are listed in the Annex.

Fines Issued to Individuals

4 A total of 21 individuals will also be fined \$300 each for not observing SMMs at F&B outlets on 2 and 3 October 2020. These breaches involved gathering and sitting in groups of more than five, intermingling between tables and not putting on masks promptly after eating or drinking. The breaches by these individuals were observed in F&B outlets at Resorts World Sentosa, Boat Quay and Clarke Quay.

5 Masks should be worn at all times unless when eating or drinking, or doing strenuous activities, regardless of premises. In particular, dining is an activity that involves considerable risks because people are gathered in an enclosed space, without their masks on, and for a prolonged duration. While we understand that diners tend to continue their conversations

and interaction after meals at F&B outlets, they should do so with their masks on to prevent the spread of droplets.

Additional Inspections of 77 F&B Outlets

6 From 2 to 3 October 2020, government agencies conducted additional inspections on 77 F&B outlets in known hotspots. Among these, four were found to have breached SMMs. The breaches involved groups of more than five seated together or intermingling between tables, seating groups of customers less than 1 metre apart and the serving and consumption of alcohol past 10.30pm.

7 While the majority of patrons observe SMMs, there remains a minority who continue to breach them. Those who breach the SMMs will face enforcement action, such as fines, without further warning. The Government will continue with enforcement checks at F&B outlets around Singapore to ensure that they remain safe spaces for all. We urge patrons to be socially responsible and observe the SMMs. Agencies will not hesitate to take enforcement actions against both patrons and premises that do not comply with SMMs.

- End -

Annex

List of Outlets Fined

1. Aburi-EN, Vivocity, #01-159/160
2. Chuan Grill & Bar, 3A River Valley
3. Chu Lin Bar Pte Ltd, 15 Chu Lin Road
4. Don Ho, Keong Saik Road
5. Feng Shui Inn, Resorts World Sentosa
6. Mrs Pho, Vivocity, #B2-29
7. Nakhon Kitchen, Vivocity, #B2-23C
8. Riverwalk Tandoor, 20 Upper Circular Road, #B1-38
9. Tai Yuan (Singapore) Business Development Pte. Ltd., 163A Gangsa Road #01-01
10. The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, East Wing, Suntec City, #02-603/604
11. V6 Foodcourt Holdings Pte Ltd, 678A Choa Chu Kang Crescent, #01-01 (Multi-Storey Carpark)
12. Yen, 39 Duxton Hill

On 3 October 2020, nine customers were seated across two tables and intermingling in a private room at Tong Xin Ru Yi Traditional Hotpot at 9.15pm.



(Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority)

On 3 October 2020, several customers were found consuming alcohol at 11.40pm at the
Invincible Noodle House.



(Photo credit: Urban Redevelopment Authority)