

MINISTER LIM HNG KIANG VISITS MEXICO AND PANAMA

Minister for Trade and Industry, Lim Hng Kiang, will be visiting Mexico and Panama from 12 to 18 November 2008 en route to attending the APEC Ministerial Meeting in Lima, Peru from 18-21 November 2008.

2. During his visits to Mexico and Panama, Minister Lim will meet with political leaders, senior officials and industry captains to discuss how bilateral economic relations between Singapore and the two countries can be further strengthened. In Panama, officials from the Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry will be conducting the inaugural review of the Panama-Singapore Free Trade Agreement which came into force on 24 July 2006.

3. Mexico and Panama rank amongst Singapore's top 3 trading partners in Latin America. The two countries are important trade and investment destinations for Singapore companies, especially in electronics, manufacturing, transport, maritime logistics and infrastructure development. Total bilateral trade between Singapore and Mexico as well as Panama are growing, amounting to S\$2.4 billion and \$5.8 billion respectively in 2007.

4. Minister Lim will be accompanied by Singapore's Non-Resident Ambassadors to Mexico and Panama as well as officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, International Enterprise Singapore and the Economic Development Board.

Ministry of Trade and Industry

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