

LIM HNG KIANG TO VISIT QATAR (22-23 November 2010)

1 Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang will be in Qatar from 22 to 23 November 2010, at the invitation of the Qatar Deputy Prime Minister, Abdullah bin Hamad al-Attiyah.

2 During the visit, Minister Lim will hold bilateral meetings with various government ministers and local business leaders. Of these, Minister Lim will be meeting the Qatar Minister of Finance & Economy, Sheikh Yousef Bin Kamal, and the Qatar Minister of Business & Trade, Sheikh Jassim Bin Abdulaziz Al Thani.

3 Minister Lim will also jointly launch the Nakilat-Keppel Offshore & Marine (N-KOM) with the Emir of Qatar, His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani. N-KOM is a shipyard facility jointly developed by Keppel Offshore & Marine Limited (Keppel O&M) and Qatar Gas Transport Company Ltd (Nakilat). N-KOM shipyard, located in the port of Ras Laffan, will handle the drydocking and repair of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) carriers, as well as other commercial vessels serving the Qatari and Middle Eastern markets.

Bilateral Relations between Singapore and Qatar

4 Qatar was Singapore's 3rd largest trading partner in the Middle East and 21st largest overall trading partner in 2009. For the first nine months in 2010, bilateral trade grew 18 per cent on a year-on-year basis over the same period, from S\$5.1 billion to S\$6 billion. Singapore's stock of direct investments abroad (DIA) in Qatar is estimated at around S\$160 million and Qatar's stock of FDI in Singapore is estimated at about S\$50 million.

**Ministry of Trade and Industry
21 November 2010**
