

For Immediate Release

**SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE KOH POH KOON ATTENDS
THE 14TH CHINA-ASEAN EXPO IN NANNING, GUANGXI**

1. Singapore is participating in the 14th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) held in Nanning, Guangxi. Senior Minister of State for Trade & Industry and National Development Dr Koh Poh Koon, who is in Nanning, Guangxi from 11 to 14 September 2017, visited the Singapore National and Commercial Pavilions this afternoon. Dr Koh will also attend the CAEXPO Opening Ceremony on 12 September.
2. CAEXPO is an annual trade fair and an important platform to promote economic cooperation between ASEAN and China. Singapore has participated in CAEXPO since its inception in 2004. This year, Singapore's National Pavilion is themed "Singapore – A Liveable and Sustainable City for Connectivity (新加坡 – 可持续发展的互联互通宜居城市)" and showcases Singapore as a Smart Nation and a business hub with strong logistics and business connectivity. The National Pavilion highlights the close economic cooperation between Singapore and China, showcasing Government-to-Government flagship projects such as the China-Singapore Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP), the Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city project (SSTEC) and the China-Singapore (Chongqing) Connectivity Initiative (CCI).
3. The Commercial Pavilion showcases Singapore companies and brands that are keen to venture into the Chinese market. Organised by the Singapore Business Federation (SBF), more than 30 Singapore companies are participating in the Commercial Pavilion this year. For the first time, the Commercial Pavilion will feature a "Tasty Singapore" section, which promotes home-grown Singaporean brand names such as the House of Seafood, with their microwavable ready-to-eat-Singapore Chilli Crabs, and Tan Seng Kee Foods, which will showcase their Kang Kang Express Meal Kits for local delights such as Curry Mee, Laksa and Prawn Mee Soup. SBF will also be organising a Singapore Day Seminar on the sidelines of CAEXPO to highlight how Singapore can be a springboard for Chinese companies looking to internationalise, and how they can collaborate with Singapore companies to undertake ventures in third-party markets under the Belt and Road (B&R) Initiative.
4. Dr Koh said, "ASEAN-China trade and investment flows have been increasing steadily over the years and CAEXPO is a key platform to promote this economic cooperation. With China's B&R Initiative and the development of the Southern Transport Corridor under the Chongqing Connectivity Initiative (CCI), I believe that economic cooperation between ASEAN and China will be further enhanced with stronger connectivity between Western China and Southeast Asia. Singapore-China bilateral trade and investment will benefit from this development. As Singapore assumes the role of ASEAN Chair in 2018, I am confident that cooperation with China will not only deepen bilaterally but also at the regional level."

5. Singapore and China enjoy strong economic relations, underpinned by strong trade and investment flows. Singapore is China's top investment destination in ASEAN, with about 60% of China's investments into ASEAN going to Singapore. Conversely, China has been Singapore's top investment destination and largest trading partner since 1997 and 2013 respectively.

6. Dr Koh is accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Economic Development Board, International Enterprise Singapore and Singapore Tourism Board.

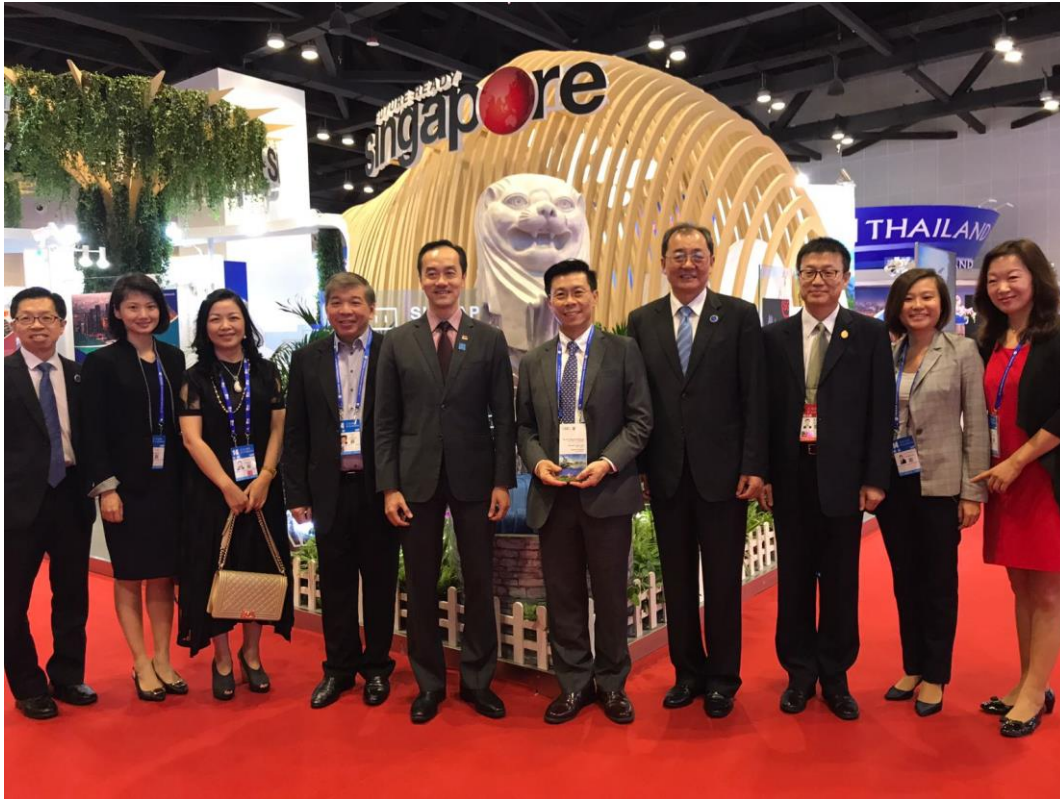
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Annex A: Photos at the 14th CAEXPO

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Annex A: Photos at the 14th CAEXPO



Senior Minister of State Dr Koh Poh Koon visiting Singapore's National Pavilion.



Senior Minister of State Dr Koh Poh Koon visiting Singapore's Commercial Pavilion.