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### **UNITED STATES-SINGAPORE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON THE STATUS OF COOPERATION UNDER THE MEMORANDUM OF INTENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION OF THE UNITED STATES-SINGAPORE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

Singapore  
April 23, 2013

- Director of International Policy of the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources Eng Tiang Sing of the Republic of Singapore and Director of the Office of Environmental Quality and Transboundary Issues of the Department of State George N. Sibley of the United States of America met to review and discuss the status of cooperation on environmental matters under the Memorandum of Intent Between the United States and Singapore on Cooperation on Environmental Matters.
- Both Parties reviewed their accomplishments under the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plan of Action for 2011 through 2012 for implementing the Memorandum of Intent, and approved a new Plan of Action for 2013 through 2014. The goals in the new Plan of Action include encouraging the exchange of environmental best practices such as effective pollution control techniques, the use of innovative and climate friendly environmental technology, and the development of climate modelling and adaptation frameworks; fostering the participation of the United States and Singapore and coordination between the two countries in regional environmental initiatives; promoting improved environmental protection, including natural resources conservation, and improving environmental laws and regulations.
- Since the adoption of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Plan of Action for 2011 through 2012, the United States and Singapore have made good progress on the implementation of the initiatives. Some of the accomplishments achieved to date under the Plan of Action for 2011 through 2012 include the following:
  - Singapore, Chile and the United States participated in a joint Economy, Energy and Environment Workshop from October 31 to November 4, 2011. At the Workshop, the participants shared information and experiences on topics such as energy efficiency, workforce development for cleaner production, developing green businesses, and pollution prevention.
  - The United States shared with Singapore in June 2011 information on its International Regulatory Development Partnership programme, which assists

countries with emerging nuclear power programs to develop regulatory agencies capable of licensing and regulatory oversight of new reactors. As a follow-up, the United States and Singapore jointly organised the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission's International Regulatory Development Partnership workshop on nuclear safety, emergency response and regulatory framework from December 5 to 9, 2011, in Singapore.

- Singapore sent an interagency delegation to California and Louisiana in April 2012 to understand the considerations and approaches taken to enhance the United States' climate resilience. The delegation met with authorities from the California Environmental Protection Agency, the California Natural Resources Agency and the United States Army Corps of Engineers, which agencies coordinate mitigation and adaptation efforts in the United States.
  
- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency organised two air quality-related study tours in which representatives of Singapore agencies participated - one in 2011 on mobile source pollution and another in 2013 on emissions from petrochemical facilities.
  
- The two governments look forward to continued cooperation in bolstering environmental capacity in the areas of pollution control, energy efficient technologies, collaborations in climate impacts modelling and climate adaptation planning, as well as training in environmental compliance and enforcement.
  
- Both Parties also intend to strengthen and expand bilateral cooperation in areas of mutual interest related to sustainable urban water management. The Parties anticipate signing a Memorandum of Understanding on Sustainable Urban Water Management between the United States Environmental Protection Agency and PUB, Singapore's national water agency.
  
- Both the United States and Singapore reaffirm their commitment to the goals set out in the Memorandum of Intent. They intend to build on the significant progress of environmental cooperation by continuing to seek out opportunities for expanded engagement and exchanges. In a spirit of friendship and cooperation, both Parties will endeavour to continue efforts under the new Plan of Action towards advancing the goals of the Memorandum of Intent on Environmental Cooperation.

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