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PRESS RELEASE

**Singapore-US Third Country
Training Program**

**ASEAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT OFFICIALS
EXCHANGE BEST PRACTICES**

January 28, 2013

Starting Monday, January 28, 2013, the United States and Singapore will conduct an 8-day Investment and Trade Facilitation course at Singapore's Civil Service College (CSC). Trainers from CSC will join officials from the U.S. Department of Commerce to offer this in-depth training program designed for senior-level ASEAN government officials. The goal of this rigorous course is to strengthen investment and trade-related policies to support sustained economic growth. The course curriculum will consist of lectures, open discussions, group exercises, and experiential learning activities, which will provide participants with opportunities to share best practices and compare strategies for improving economic growth across ASEAN.

The Investment and Trade Facilitation course is the fifth course sponsored by Singapore and the United States under the Singapore-United States Third Country Training Program (TCTP). The Memorandum of Understanding for the TCTP was signed in February 2012 by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Singapore Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K Shanmugam to jointly extend technical assistance to developing countries, particularly ASEAN countries in the lower Mekong sub-region. Under the TCTP, the United States and Singapore draw on the expertise of their respective public sectors to develop innovative capacity building courses and programs to assist developing countries to address common challenges in a collaborative manner.