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100 High Street
#07-01 The Treasury
Singapore 179434
www.psd.gov.sg

PRESS RELEASE

CHANGES IN PERMANENT SECRETARY APPOINTMENTS

The Ministry of Law will get a new Permanent Secretary. Dr Beh Swan Gin, Managing Director, Economic Development Board, will be appointed as Permanent Secretary (Law) on 1 July 2012.

The following changes will also take effect from 1 July 2012:

- Mr Pang Kin Keong, Permanent Secretary (Law), will be appointed as Permanent Secretary (Transport); and
- Mr Choi Shing Kwok, Permanent Secretary (Transport), will be appointed as Permanent Secretary (Environment and Water Resources).

LG(NS) Desmond Kuek will relinquish his appointment as Permanent Secretary (Environment and Water Resources) on 1 July 2012 and will be leaving the Administrative Service on 30 September 2012. Having given many years of sterling service to the Government, including as Chief of Defence Force leading the Singapore Armed Forces and as Permanent Secretary, LG(NS) Kuek is leaving to explore new opportunities in the private sector in a career change.

Background

Dr Beh Swan Gin (马宣仁)

Dr Beh, 44, a medical doctor by training, started his career in the Economic Development Board (EDB) in 1992 after graduating with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree from the National University of Singapore and completing his housemanship. He was also a Sloan Fellow and holds a Master of Science in Management from Stanford University.

Dr Beh joined the Administrative Service in 2006. He has served in various roles in EDB, including leading EDB's Biomedical Sciences Cluster and being responsible for EDB's operations in the Eastern Americas. He was the Assistant Managing Director for Policy and Planning before his appointment as Managing Director, EDB in 2008.

Mr Choi Shing Kwok (蔡承国)

Mr Choi Shing Kwok, 53, joined the Singapore Armed Forces in 1978 on being awarded an SAF Overseas Scholarship. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Engineering Tripos from Cambridge University. He also holds a Masters degree in Public Administration from Harvard University.

Mr Choi was absorbed into the Administrative Service in 1991 but remained in the SAF where he held various appointments including Head, Joint Plans Department. He was appointed Director, Security and Intelligence Division, Ministry of Defence in 1995 and Permanent Secretary (Transport) in 2005.

Mr Pang Kin Keong (彭建强)

Mr Pang Kin Keong, 46, joined the Administrative Service in 1993 after graduating with an Electrical Engineering degree from Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Ingénieurs Electriciens

de Grenoble. He also holds a Master of Science in Management from London Business School.

Mr Pang served in various portfolios in the Public Service Division, Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of Home Affairs. He was the Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister and Director, Internal Security Department, Ministry of Home Affairs before his appointment as Permanent Secretary (Law) in 2010.

LG(NS) Desmond Kuek (郭木财)

LG(NS) Desmond Kuek, 48, joined the Singapore Armed Forces in 1981 on being awarded an SAF Overseas Scholarship. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Engineering Science from Oxford University. He also holds a Master of Arts degree from Oxford University and a Masters degree in Public Administration from Harvard University.

LG(NS) Kuek was absorbed into the Administrative Service in 1993 but remained in the SAF where he held various appointments including Chief of Army and Chief of Defence Force. He was appointed Permanent Secretary (Environment and Water Resources) in 2010.

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Contact: Hazel Tong (Ms)
Assistant Manager
Communications & International Relations Department

Tel: 9229 4078

Email: hazel_tong@psd.gov.sg