

PRESS RELEASE

New appointments at WDA, PSD and CSC

Ong Ye Kung, 39, Chief Executive of the Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA), will be seconded from the Administrative Service to the National Trades Unions Congress.

Taking over the helm from Mr Ong at WDA will be Mr Chan Heng Kee, 39, Deputy Secretary (Development), Public Service Division (PSD), Prime Minister's Office and concurrently Chief Executive Officer and Dean of the Civil Service College (CSC).

Succeeding Mr Chan at PSD and CSC will be Mr Lionel Yeo, 35, the College's Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Director, Institute of Policy Development at CSC.

The appointments will be effective from 1 December 2008.

ONG YE KUNG (王乙康)

Over the period from July 2005 to November 2008, Mr Ong led WDA to significantly strengthen Singapore's Continuing Education and Training (CET) infrastructure. He led the roll-out of the Workforce Skills Qualification (WSQ) system and the set-up of many new CET centres across many sectors. As a result, access by workers to CET programmes has been vastly improved. Today, about 200,000 resident workers are certified under WSQ. He spearheaded the new CET Masterplan to further enhance the CET system over the next 10 years. He was also instrumental in launching the 'Learning for Life, Advancing with Skills' promotional effort, to build up skills training as the pathway for workers to advance in their careers.

Mr Ong joined the Civil Service in 1993 and has held various appointments since, including Director, Trade, Ministry of Trade & Industry (2000-2002) and Principal Private Secretary to Prime Minister Lee (2003-2006). He also led in the negotiations of the US-Singapore Free Trade Agreement as Deputy Chief Negotiator. Mr Ong holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of London and a Masters Degree from the Institute of Management Development, Lausanne, Switzerland.

CHAN HENG KEE (陈庆基)

Mr Chan was appointed CEO and Dean of the CSC in 2006. Under his leadership, the College made significant progress in developing core competencies in public officers, nurturing public service leaders and building

excellent public service organisations. Many new training and development programmes were introduced. A Centre for Governance and Leadership was established to conduct research and to connect Singapore's policy makers with global thought leaders. The College also forged close links with many of its counterparts overseas.

Since joining the Public Service in 1996, Mr Chan has held appointments in various other public sector organisations, including the then Ministry of Communications, Ministry of Manpower and Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports. Mr Chan holds Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University, as well as a Masters of Business Administration degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

LIONEL YEO (杨汉忠)

Mr Lionel Yeo has been Deputy CEO of CSC since October 2007. Prior to CSC, he served at the Ministry of Trade & Industry as a director in the Trade Division and at the Ministry of Finance where he was the director for taxation policy. He had also worked on cultural and social policy issues at the Ministry of Information, Communications and The Arts and the Ministry of Community, Youth and Sports respectively. Mr Yeo graduated with a degree in Economics from the London School of Economics and has a Masters of Business Administration degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan Fellows Program.

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