

## **MOUs Signed**

### **Artificial Intelligence**

1. The use and adoption of AI technologies have become increasingly widespread in the digital economy. Singapore's Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA), Smart Nation and Digital Government Office (SNDGO) and Australia's Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (DISER) will develop three key aspects of Artificial Intelligence, namely:
  - a) AI Development & Deployment;
  - b) Workforce & Talent; and
  - c) Governance & Ethics.
2. This will encourage the sharing of best practices, facilitate access to AI technologies, markets and talent and support the commercialisation of AI applications. It will also encourage the development and adoption of ethical governance frameworks for trusted, safe, and responsible development and use of AI technologies.

### **Data Innovation**

3. IMDA and DISER will also promote cross-border data innovation and demonstrate the benefits of trusted cross-border data flows through:
  - a) Identifying and supporting suitable cross-border data sharing projects to test innovative cross-border data sharing use cases; and
  - b) Exchanging information and knowledge for cross-border data innovation, including the Trusted Data Sharing Framework, data portability, privacy preserving, and technical and interoperability considerations for cross-border data sharing.
4. With these cross-border data flows, businesses may access data that will allow them to generate better insights, develop innovative products and services, engage customers more effectively and potentially increase their revenue from new avenues.
5. The agencies will also support technology innovation by exchanging information and knowledge on frameworks and principles for development of digital solutions (e.g. digital twins, open data platforms, and predictive analytics), and collaborate on applications for Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence and immersive media with technology and service providers.

### **Digital Identities**

6. Singapore's SNDGO and Australia's Digital Transformation Agency (DTA) will work towards mutually recognising the two country's digital identity regimes.

7. The agencies have developed a roadmap for each phase of the journey towards mutual recognition and will cooperate on legal regulatory frameworks, including trust frameworks, supporting digital identities, technical standards for implementation of digital identities, and adoption of digital identities by businesses and individuals to promote digital transactions.
8. The agencies will study the feasibility of potential pilot projects such as opening bank accounts and applying for visas using Digital IDs. This will reduce the time taken for processing applications and verifying one's identity, and facilitate trade between both countries.

#### Personal Data Protection

9. Singapore's Personal Data Protection Commission (PDPC) and the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner will jointly promote the APEC Cross Border Privacy Rules (CBPR) System to improve awareness and participation, as well as encourage industries under the MOU to adopt the CBPR System.
10. Beyond APEC CBPR, this MOU will also enable Singapore and Australia to develop compatible and interoperable data transfer mechanisms which will allow businesses operating in both countries to transfer personal data more seamlessly across borders with the assurance that they meet the requisite regulations. The data protection authorities of Singapore and Australia will also work closely to coordinate and provide mutual assistance in joint investigations involving cross-border personal data incidents.

#### E-invoicing

11. Singapore's IMDA and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) will facilitate exchanges and information-sharing in relation to the electronic transmission of business documents, including E-invoicing. IMDA and ATO will jointly promote e-invoicing standards by showcasing businesses that use cross-border e-invoicing, and driving such transactions between Singapore and Australian businesses. This will help businesses in both countries to align and adopt a common E-invoicing framework for quicker exchange and processing of invoices, and facilitate more seamless cross-border trade.

#### Trade Facilitation

12. Singapore Customs, IMDA and the Australian Border Force will collaborate on the following initiatives:
  - a) Develop standards at bilateral levels and international standards organisations, and cooperate on technical protocols to leverage the use of distributed ledger technology in the sharing and verification of

- trade administration documents such as Certificates of Origin, Certificates of Non-Manipulation and E-bills of Lading; and
- b) Connecting Single Windows to facilitate electronic exchange of customs declaration data.

13. These initiatives will enhance the digitisation of trade administration documentation resulting in lower operating cost and greater efficiency gains through expedited cargo clearance.

*E-certification of Agricultural Commodities*

14. Singapore Food Agency and Singapore National Parks Board will collaborate with the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment on a pilot program to establish the exchange of E-Certs for agricultural products (including commodities, meat and meat products, plant and plant products, dairy products and seafood products. It will also include other products such as live animals and inedible products like animal feed, wool, skins and hides) imported and exported between Singapore and Australia.
15. Companies may submit certifications for import and export of products more easily as the agencies involved will pursue paperless certifications and discuss technological innovations that may help the process. This will result in cost savings for businesses in terms of digitising the administrative procedures required for import and export.