

For Immediate Release

SMS KOH POH KOON VISITS BANGKOK TO LAUNCH GLOBAL INNOVATION ALLIANCE (GIA) BANGKOK

1. Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry and National Development Koh Poh Koon is visiting Bangkok, Thailand from 25 to 27 April 2018.
2. During his trip, Dr Koh will launch the Global Innovation Alliance¹ (GIA) Bangkok. GIA Bangkok will be part of the GIA network alongside other cities like Beijing, Jakarta and San Francisco. It will also serve as an innovation hub for Singapore companies doing business in neighbouring countries such as Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam.
3. Dr Koh said, "Singapore and Thailand enjoy strong and longstanding bilateral relations. GIA Bangkok will allow us to tap on the synergies of our startup ecosystems and reap the benefits of innovation and the digital economy. It will further spur collaborations between our companies and nurture the next generation of tech entrepreneurs. I look forward to seeing the fruits of our successful partnership."
4. While in Bangkok, Dr Koh will also meet key players of the Thai startup ecosystem including companies such as True Digital Park and C asean. He will tour the C asean office to better understand their immersion programmes for Singapore students. Dr Koh will also witness first-hand the emerging e-sports sector in Thailand through an e-Sports Exhibition Match organised by Bountie, a start-up participant of the C asean immersion programme.
5. Dr Koh will also meet Thailand's Minister for Commerce Sontirat Sontijirawong and Vice Minister of Digital Economy and Society Dr Pansak Siriruchatapong to discuss plans for GIA Bangkok as well as opportunities for bilateral economic cooperation and partnerships.

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
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¹ The Global Innovation Alliance (GIA) was launched in 2017 to strengthen Singapore's connections to major innovation hubs around the world. It will create more opportunities for Singaporeans, students, entrepreneurs and businesses to gain overseas experience, network and collaborate with overseas partners.

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