

**SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE KOH POH KOON ATTENDS
THE 15TH CHINA-ASEAN EXPO IN NANNING, GUANGXI**

1. Singapore is participating in the 15th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) held in Nanning, Guangxi. Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry Dr Koh Poh Koon, who is in Nanning from 11 to 13 September 2018, visited the Singapore National and Commercial Pavilions this afternoon. Dr Koh will also attend the CAEXPO opening ceremony on 12 September.
2. CAEXPO is an annual trade fair and an important platform to promote economic cooperation between ASEAN and China. Singapore has participated in CAEXPO since its inception in 2004. This year, Singapore's National Pavilion is themed "Singapore - A Liveable and Sustainable City for Innovation (新加坡 - 可持续发展的创新型宜居城市)" and showcases Singapore as a liveable city and a business hub with strong logistics capabilities and connectivity. The National Pavilion highlights the strong and evolving economic cooperation between Singapore and China, as reflected in the three Government-to-Government flagship projects - namely the China-Singapore Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP), the Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city project (SSTEC), and the China-Singapore (Chongqing) Connectivity Initiative (CCI).
3. The Commercial Pavilion showcases Singapore companies and brands that are keen to venture into the Chinese market. Organised by the Singapore Business Federation (SBF), 20 Singapore companies from a range of sectors including Food and Beverage (F&B), Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Education are participating in the Commercial Pavilion this year. SBF will also be organising a Singapore Day Seminar on the sidelines of CAEXPO to highlight how Singapore can be a springboard for Chinese companies looking to internationalise, and how they can collaborate with Singapore companies to undertake ventures in third-party markets under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
4. Dr Koh said, "CAEXPO is an important platform to promote ASEAN-China economic cooperation, which will be further enhanced by China's Belt and Road Initiative and the development of the CCI-Southern Transport Corridor. As economic ties between ASEAN and China deepen, Singapore and China's bilateral trade and investment ties will also grow, creating more opportunities for the people and businesses of both countries."
5. Singapore and China enjoy strong economic relations, underpinned by strong trade and investment flows. China has been Singapore's top investment destination since 1997 and largest trading partner since 2013.

6. Dr Koh is accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Enterprise Singapore and the Economic Development Board.

Annex A: Photos at the 15th CAEXPO

Ministry of Trade and Industry
11 September 2018

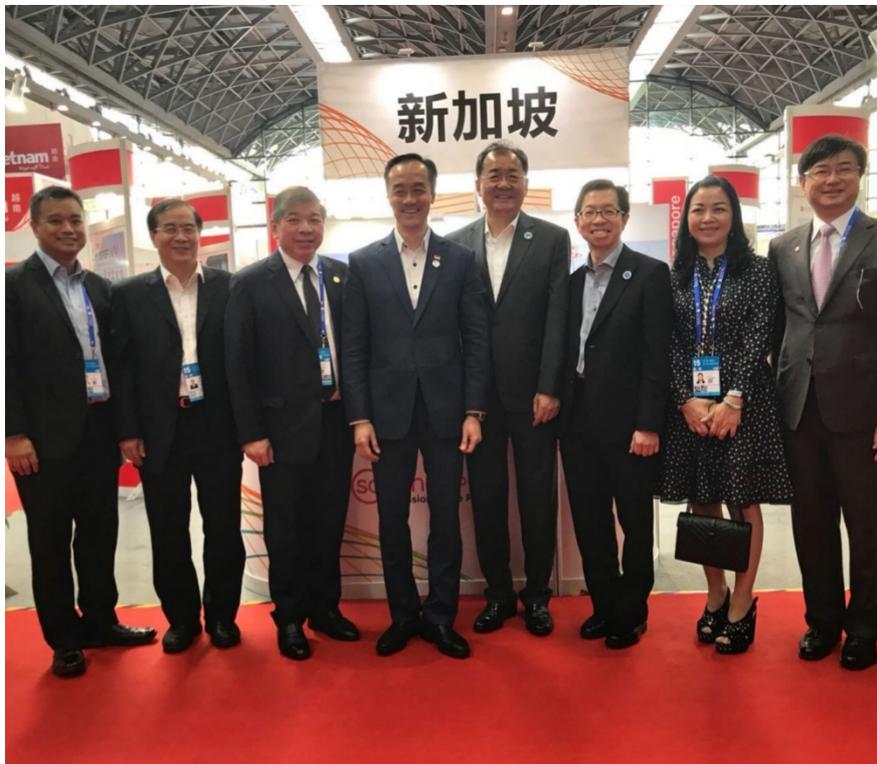
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Annex A: Photos at the 15th CAEXPO



Caption: Senior Minister of State Dr Koh Poh Koon at Singapore's National Pavilion



Caption: Senior Minister of State Dr Koh Poh Koon at Singapore's Commercial Pavilion