

For Immediate Release

**MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY CHAN CHUN SING AND
SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE KOH POH KOON TO ATTEND THE
INAUGURAL CHINA INTERNATIONAL IMPORT EXPO IN SHANGHAI**

1. Minister for Trade and Industry Chan Chun Sing will be in Shanghai, People's Republic of China (PRC), from 4 to 6 November 2018 to attend the inaugural China International Import Expo (CIIE). Mr Chan will attend the opening ceremony of the CIIE and tour the Singapore Commercial Pavilions. Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry Dr Koh Poh Koon will also be in Shanghai from 6 to 8 November to speak at the China-Singapore Trade in Services Innovation Forum on the side-lines of the CIIE and to attend other fringe events.

2. The CIIE was announced by PRC President Xi Jinping during the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in May 2017. As China's first import expo, the CIIE is a demonstration of China's commitment to further open up its market by facilitating greater access to imports.

3. Singapore companies, with their strong branding and commitment to high quality standards, are in a good position to introduce differentiated products and services to China's huge and growing domestic market. Singapore's participation in the CIIE will allow Singapore companies to take part in business matching sessions and explore collaborations with Chinese partners to help them enter and expand into China.

4. Singapore and China enjoy strong economic relations, underpinned by strong trade and investment flows. In 2017, Singapore was China's largest overseas investment destination along the Belt and Road, drawing in about 22% of China's total outbound investments to the Belt and Road countries. Conversely, China has been Singapore's top investment destination and largest trading partner since 1997 and 2013 respectively.

5. Mr Chan and Dr Koh are accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Enterprise Singapore.

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