

NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTED FOR COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION OF SINGAPORE (CCCS)

The Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) today announced that Ms Sia Aik Kor will be appointed as the Chief Executive (CE) of the Competition and Consumer Commission of Singapore (CCCS) with effect from 1 October 2019. She is currently the Deputy Chief Counsel (Transactions & Administration, Civil Division) at the Attorney-General's Chambers (AGC), and will be CE-Designate, CCCS, with effect from 16 September 2019.

2 Ms Sia will take over the helm from Mr Toh Han Li when his term ends on 30 September 2019. Mr Toh will continue to serve in the Singapore Legal Service.

Mr Toh Han Li (杜汉立)

3 Mr Toh Han Li is a Singapore Legal Service officer. He was seconded to CCCS as Assistant Chief Executive (Legal & Enforcement) in January 2009 and was subsequently appointed Chief Executive in October 2013. Under his leadership, CCCS made significant progress in enforcing competition law in Singapore. Businesses that infringed the Competition Act were penalised decisively, with infringement decisions issued against hotels, transport providers, fresh chicken distributors, capacitor manufacturers, and electrical service providers, among others. In addition, CCCS conducted a number of market studies which led to policy recommendations on areas of consumer concern such as formula milk, petrol and automotive parts. In April 2018, Mr Toh oversaw the inclusion of consumer protection responsibilities to CCCS' mandate, which allowed CCCS to harness synergies of enforcing both competition and consumer protection laws to make markets work well for the benefit of businesses and consumers.



4 Mr Toh also enhanced Singapore's standing in the international and regional competition community. In 2016, CCCS hosted the International Competition Network (ICN) Annual Conference for the first time in Southeast Asia, which was attended by more than 500 delegates from over 80 countries. The event help raised the profile of ASEAN and Singapore amongst the international competition community, and catalysed the development of competition policy and law in the region. As Chair of the ASEAN Experts Group on Competition (AEGC) in 2018, CCCS implemented various initiatives under Mr Toh's leadership to strengthen the enforcement of competition law in ASEAN and increase awareness of competition policy and law in the region. These included the development of the ASEAN

Regional Cooperation Framework for Competition and the establishment of the ASEAN Competition Enforcers' Network to facilitate cross-border cooperation on competition cases in the region.

Ms Sia Aik Kor (余奕可)

5 As Deputy Chief Counsel (Transactions & Administration) of the Civil Division at the AGC, Ms Sia is responsible for the vetting of transactional documents for the Government. She initiated key stakeholder engagement efforts to gather real-time feedback from the public agencies for each advice that had been issued by AGC's Civil Division. She also worked closely with the Ministry of Finance and GovTech Singapore on efforts to upgrade and upskill procurement officers across the public service. At the same time, she also introduced new tools that have helped to increase productivity and reduce manual processing time in public sector procurement.



6 Prior to AGC, Ms Sia served in various positions in the public sector, including as a Justices' Law Clerk to the Chief Justice and Judges of the Supreme Court, Assistant Registrar at the Supreme Court, Deputy Public Prosecutor, District Judge of the Subordinate Courts, and the Official Assignee & Public Trustee at the Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office at the Ministry of Law. She was seconded to then-Competition Commission of Singapore (CCS) from 2005 to 2010, where she served as its first Director (Legal & Enforcement). During her term in CCS, she oversaw the issuance of the first infringement decision against a cartel, and put in guidelines that provided clarity to businesses on how the Competition Act would be implemented.

7 Ms Sia read Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London in England, and holds a Master of Laws from Harvard Law School.

In Appreciation

8 The Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) extends its appreciation to Mr Toh Han Li for his many contributions. Mr Lee Chuan Teck, Permanent Secretary (Development) for MTI, said, "I would like to thank Han Li for his contributions and commitment to CCCS, which have helped to develop a more robust competition regime and further the interests of consumers in Singapore. We wish Han Li all the best in his future endeavours."

9 Mr Lee also welcomed Ms Sia Aik Kor as the new CE of CCCS. Mr Lee said, “Market structures are evolving rapidly in response to new technologies and businesses. Aik Kor’s extensive legal experience will equip her well to lead CCCS to deliver well-functioning markets and protect consumers’ interests in this complex environment.”

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