

For immediate release

**SINGAPORE AND CHONGQING SIGN LETTER OF INTENT TO
CO-ORGANISE THE SMART CHINA EXPO FROM 2020 TO 2022**

1. Singapore and the Chongqing Municipal People's Government inked a joint letter of intent to co-organise the Smart China Expo (SCE) from 2020 to 2022 in an online signing ceremony today. The annual Chongqing-based SCE is one of the largest Information and Communications Technology (ICT) events in China, with more than 70 Singapore companies and over 200 business delegates participating in the event last year.
2. The signing of the joint letter of intent was witnessed by Ministry of Trade and Industry Deputy Secretary of Trade Luke Goh and Chongqing Vice Mayor Li Bo, the co-chairs of the Chongqing Connectivity Initiative (CCI) Joint Implementation Committee (JIC) Senior Officials Meeting, after a videoconference today. The joint signing reflects both countries' commitment to strengthening our innovation ecosystems.
3. During the videoconference, Mr Goh and Mr Li affirmed the strong bilateral relations between Singapore and China and discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation. They noted that 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations, and also the fifth anniversary of the CCI. Singapore and Chongqing are looking forward to Chongqing Mayor Tang Liangzhi's visit to Singapore this year to co-chair the fifth CCI JIC.
4. Mr Goh and Mr Li also discussed regional and international developments, including how Singapore, Chongqing, the rest of China and the international community can work together collectively to overcome the challenges posed by COVID-19.

**MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
5 MARCH 2020**

Annex A: Photo of the videoconference between MTI Deputy Secretary of Trade Luke Goh and Chongqing Vice Mayor Li Bo

Annex B: Photo of the signing ceremony of the Joint Letter of Intent between Singapore and Chongqing to co-organise the Smart China Expo

Annex C: Factsheet on Smart China Expo 2020

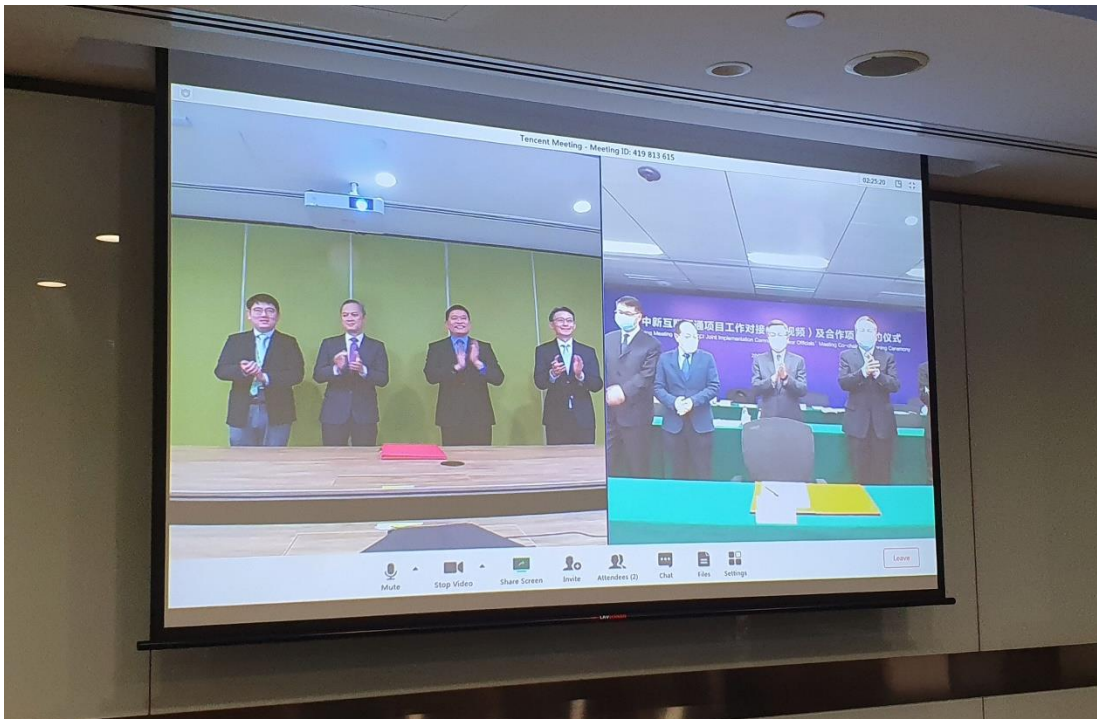
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Annex A: Photo of the videoconference between MTI Deputy Secretary/Trade Luke Goh and Chongqing VM Li Bo



Annex B: Photo of the signing ceremony of the Letter of Intent to co-organise the Smart China Expo between MTI and the Chongqing Municipal People's Government



Annex C: Factsheet on Smart China Expo 2020

Singapore will participate in the upcoming Smart China Expo (SCE) 2020. Held annually in Chongqing, China, this year's event will mark Singapore's third consecutive participation in SCE.

SCE is a national-level exposition that supports the development of big data and smart technologies in Western China. Inaugurated in 2018, SCE has hosted distinguished guests from business, government and academia. This included dignitaries such as Emeritus Senior Minister Mr Goh Chok Tong, former Alibaba Chairman Mr Jack Ma, Tencent CEO Mr Pony Ma and Qualcomm President Mr Cristiano Amon. Vice Premier Han Zheng and Vice Premier Liu He attended as Guests-of-Honour for 2018 and 2019 respectively.

For 2020, Singapore will set up a country Pavilion to feature products and tech solutions by Singapore companies, while providing SCE attendees with a flavour of Singapore's diverse culture and our digitalisation efforts. The Pavilion will not only see participation from Singapore's small and medium enterprises, but also from its start-up community, expanding the breadth and depth of exchanges. Business and networking sessions will be organised to allow business participants from Singapore to explore opportunities in Western China through Chongqing, while also facilitating prospects for Chongqing businesses to explore Southeast Asia as a potential market through Singapore. Other key activities include the organisation of an innovation forum and conference, a hackathon, and a media conference.

Singapore's participation in SCE since 2018

The Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA) led the Singapore delegation to participate in SCE since 2018. SCE 2019 saw increased interest from Singapore companies with participation from more than 70 Singapore companies and over 200 delegates, as compared to the 2018 inaugural event with 40 companies and over 180 delegates. The Singapore Pavilion grew in size from 1,400 sqm in 2018, to over 3,000 sqm in 2019. Singapore was also accorded the Country-of-Honour for the second year running, together with the United Kingdom and Italy.