

For Immediate Release

DIGITAL ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ENTERS INTO FORCE

1. The Digital Economy Partnership Agreement (DEPA) will enter into force for Singapore and New Zealand on 7 January 2021, following the ratification of the agreement by both countries.
2. DEPA was the first digital economy agreement that Singapore had concluded and signed¹. It establishes common digital trade rules and fosters cooperation on emerging issues in the digital economy. This in turn promotes interoperability between the digital systems of different countries. With DEPA, Singapore businesses can look forward to greater efficiency, increased trust, and reduced costs or digital barriers when trading or conducting business digitally with their partners in Chile and New Zealand.
3. Canada recently announced its interest to begin exploratory discussions to join DEPA. Singapore welcomes this. We look forward to working with Canada and other like-minded partners on strengthening connectivity to create more opportunities in the digital economy.
4. For more information on DEPA, and on Singapore's Digital Economy Agreements, please visit <https://www.mti.gov.sg/Improving-Trade/Digital-Economy-Agreements>.

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¹ Chile, New Zealand and Singapore signed DEPA in June 2020.