

FOR IMMEDIATE REPORTING

NEW MANAGING DIRECTOR AT THE SINGAPORE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

1. The Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) today announced that Ms Jacqueline Poh, currently the Deputy Secretary, Strategy Group at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), will be appointed as Managing Director (MD) of the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB) on 4 October 2021 and MD-Designate, EDB, with effect from 1 September 2021. She will succeed Mr Chng Kai Fong when his term ends on 3 October 2021.

2. Ms Poh will also be appointed as a member of the EDB and Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) boards, with effect from 4 October 2021. Mr Chng will step down as a board member from both Boards on 3 October 2021.

Mr Chng Kai Fong, 庄凯峰

3. Mr Chng was appointed Managing Director of the EDB on 1 October 2017. Prior to EDB, Mr Chng was the Principal Private Secretary to the Prime Minister. He has also held leadership roles at the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Home Affairs and Civil Service College.



4. As Managing Director of EDB, Mr Chng played a pivotal role in shaping EDB's strategies to address external and domestic challenges such as technology disruption, global tax reforms, climate change and COVID-19. Under his leadership, EDB accelerated its effort to promote its key accounts to build digital capabilities, develop new technologies and products, as well as adopt advanced manufacturing. EDB also made good progress in developing new areas of opportunity such as Agrifood, Alternative Proteins, and Mobility. During Mr Chng's stint, EDB consistently met or exceeded its Key Performance Indicator (KPI) targets for Fixed Asset Investments (FAI), Total Business Expenditure (TBE) and creation of new jobs. From 2018 to 2020 cumulatively, EDB secured commitments of S\$43.3 billion in FAI and S\$22 billion in TBE. These projects will result in the creation of 67,614 jobs in the coming years.

5. Mr Chng was a strong advocate for talent development, and the strengthening of EDB's organisational culture and values. He also championed EDB's digitalisation efforts to improve client experience and derive internal efficiencies.

Ms Jacqueline Poh, 傅美晶

6. Ms Poh was appointed Deputy Secretary, Strategy Group, PMO on 1 July 2018. She has played an instrumental role in developing and implementing the strategic priorities of the government across various areas, including economic, and social strategies, geostrategic policy, infrastructure and urban liveability. Working with agencies across the public sector, Ms Poh led the Strategy Group to align the government's policy agenda, resourcing and citizen engagement efforts. She also oversaw the Centre for Strategic Futures and the National Population and Talent Division.



7. Prior to this appointment, Ms Poh has held various key appointments, including the founding Chief Executive of the Government Technology Agency (GovTech) and MD of the former Infocomm Development Authority (IDA). She played a central role in kick-starting Singapore's Smart Nation vision and setting the strategic direction for GovTech. Ms Poh also serves on the board of SingHealth.

8. Mr Gabriel Lim, Permanent Secretary for MTI, said, "I would like to thank Kai Fong for his invaluable contributions and commitment to EDB, which have helped to strengthen Singapore's position as a leading global hub for business, innovation and talent. We wish Kai Fong all the best in his next appointment."

9. Mr Lim also welcomed Ms Poh as the new MD of EDB. Mr Lim said, "Jacqueline's familiarity with the tech industry and start-up ecosystem will be an asset for EDB in its effort to pilot and develop new operating models to catalyse the creation and growth of new regional and global businesses from Singapore. This will support Singapore's broader push to become an innovation-led economy."

10. Dr Beh Swan Gin, Chairman of EDB, added, "Jacqueline's experience as GovTech's founding CE positions her well to continue the good work by Kai Fong in leading EDB's ongoing organisational transformation to become future ready."

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