

**MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY GAN KIM YONG TO VISIT  
ABU DHABI FOR THE 13<sup>TH</sup> WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION  
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AND RELATED MEETINGS**

1 Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong will be visiting Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 25 to 27 February 2024.

2 Minister Gan will attend the 13<sup>th</sup> World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference (MC13), joining Trade Ministers and senior officials from the 164 Member States. Singapore is a strong supporter of the open, rules-based multilateral trading system, with the WTO at its core. The WTO has enabled trade to flow freely and predictably and is an indispensable guarantor of common growth, especially for a trading hub like Singapore.

3 As the highest decision-making body of the WTO, the Ministerial Conference provides an important platform for Ministers to address current and future issues that affect the global trading system. Some key issues include the WTO's dispute settlement system, agriculture and food security, E-Commerce, and trade and environmental sustainability,

4 Following the conclusion of the Joint Statement Initiative (JSI) on Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) last year, Ministers will also discuss the incorporation of the JSI IFD into the WTO's legal framework at MC13. The JSI IFD will facilitate foreign direct investment and set international benchmarks on investment facilitation.

5 During his visit, Minister Gan will also meet with his counterparts in the Ottawa Group and the Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate.

6 Minister Gan will be accompanied by officials from the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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