

# MEDIA RELEASE



## Private Sector Consortia from Singapore and Sichuan to jointly lead development of Singapore-Sichuan Hi-Tech Innovation Park

**Minister Lim Swee Say and MOS Koo Tsai Kee meet Sichuan Party Secretary Liu Qibao and Governor Jiang Jufeng to discuss joint development of the Park to be led by the private sector from both sides; 30 member-strong business delegation in Sichuan from 1 – 4 September 2010.**

MR No.: 052/10

Singapore, Thursday, 2 September 2010

1. The development of the Singapore-Sichuan High-Tech Innovation Park (HTIP) (新加坡-四川科技创新园), a key project supported by the Singapore-Sichuan Trade and Investment Committee<sup>1</sup> (SSTIC), will be spearheaded by the private sector from Singapore and Sichuan. On the Singapore side, a consortium is being formed to jointly lead the project with its counterpart from Sichuan. First raised at the 12th SSTIC meeting held in Singapore in June this year, the Singapore-Sichuan HTIP project saw more details firmed up today following a meeting between Singapore SSTIC Advisor<sup>2</sup> Mr Lim Swee Say, Minister, Prime Minister's Office and SSTIC Co-Chairman Associate Professor Koo Tsai Kee, Minister of State (MOS) for Defence, with Sichuan Party Secretary Liu Qibao and Sichuan SSTIC Advisor Governor Jiang Jufeng in Chengdu, Sichuan province. International Enterprise (IE) Singapore is the Singapore secretariat of the SSTIC.
2. During the meeting, both Singapore and Sichuan parties agreed on adopting a private sector-led approach for the project. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the collaboration is expected to be signed between both secretariats of

<sup>1</sup> The SSTIC is one of the seven bilateral councils between Singapore and China. It was formed in May 1996. The other councils are with Shandong, Liaoning, Zhejiang, Tianjin, Jiangsu and Guangdong.

<sup>2</sup> The SSTIC Advisors are Minister Lim Swee Say and Sichuan Governor Jiang Jufeng, while the Co-Chairmen are MOS Koo Tsai Kee and Sichuan Vice Governor Huang Xiaoxiang.

the SSTIC later in the month when Party Secretary Liu Qibao visits Singapore. At the same time, the Singapore consortium is expected to sign a separate MOU with Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone to set the parameters of collaboration and commit to a joint feasibility study for the project.

3. Said Minister Lim, "Sichuan serves as a leading gateway to the Central and Western regions of China. The proposed Hi-Tech Innovation Park presents a promising platform for our Singapore-based companies to participate in the development of the Central and Western regions through a close partnership with Sichuan and China enterprises. By combining the strengths of both sides, we can jointly showcase the development of modern manufacturing, services and living using the Innovation Park as a pilot site. This project will be commercially driven by the private sector and supported by the SSTIC. We believe it will generate many downstream opportunities for Sichuan and Singapore-based companies, including but not limited to areas such as master planning, infrastructure services, ICT and new media, healthcare and education, lifestyle and entertainment, retail and tourism, and technology and innovation."
4. Added MOS Koo, "Since SSTIC was formed in 1996, Singapore and Sichuan have been partnering each other and gradually developed very close ties. These years of cooperation have now provided the strong economic foundation for us to work with the province on a bigger scale. The close relationship we enjoy will also be instrumental for the smooth progress of the Singapore-Sichuan Hi-Tech Innovation Park project."
5. The Singapore-Sichuan HTIP project will involve the building of a 35-sqkm development in the South Park of the Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone. The project will commence with an initial start-up area of 10 sqkm. It will integrate modern manufacturing, modern services and modern living into one, with emphasis on high technology and low carbon industries, as well as R&D. It aims to become a key regional business hub and gateway for businesses expanding into West China.
6. The HTIP project site is strategically located in the Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone South Park, which is slated to become a key economic centre of Chengdu. The Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone is currently ranked 4th out of the 54 national Hi-Tech Zones

gazetted in China in terms of comprehensive competitiveness<sup>3</sup>. Hosting R&D facilities of many software companies such as Siemens, IBM, Nokia and Accenture, the Zone is surrounded by an expatriate community area as well as an exhibition and convention centre. Furthermore, the Chengdu government is working on a new masterplan for the city, which includes a new 200-sqkm Tianfu New City that places Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone South Park at its centre. The city government is also in the process of relocating its offices to the Chengdu Hi-Tech Zone South Park and has announced plans for a new financial centre to be developed across the government offices. All these developments bode well for the HTIP.

### **Business mission from 1 – 4 September 2010**

7. Minister Lim and MOS Koo are currently in Sichuan on a business mission that started yesterday and will end on 4 September 2010. Organised by IE Singapore, the business delegation comprises 30 representatives from 22 Singapore-based companies that cover education and training, infocomm technology, environmental services, infrastructure and tourism sectors. Today, Minister Lim and MOS Koo met with Sichuan Party Secretary Liu Qibao, Sichuan Governor Jiang Jufeng, Chengdu Party Secretary Li Chuncheng, Sichuan Vice Governor Huang Xiaoxiang and Chengdu Mayor Ge Honglin.
  
8. Minister Lim and Mianyang Chinese People Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Chairman Zhang Shihu and Mianyang Vice Mayor Li Yan also officially opened Jingzhongjie Primary School (警钟街小学) in Mianyang city this morning. The school was rebuilt following the Sichuan earthquake and is part of a project<sup>4</sup> to rebuild seven schools from the S\$10.25 million raised through a charity drive in Singapore in 2008. This is the second primary school to be opened by Minister Lim following the one in Dayi county (大邑县蔡场小学) opened in October last year. Jingzhongjie Primary School now has a new teaching block built to withstand earthquakes measuring up to seven on the Richter scale. There is also an underground sports facility that can be used as an earthquake shelter. At full capacity, the school can accommodate 1,800 students.

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<sup>3</sup> Source: The Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China.

<sup>4</sup> A working committee led by Mr Yeo Guat Kwang, Member of Parliament for Aljunied GRC and President of Consumers Association of Singapore and other Singapore companies was formed to lead this project together with the Sichuan Civil Affairs Department.

9. Tomorrow, Minister Lim will grace the official openings of several projects by Singapore companies. (Please refer to media release to be issued on 3 September 2010 for more details)

**Annex 1: Factsheet on Hi-Tech Innovation Park**

**Annex 2: Bilateral trade and investment figures**

**Annex 3: Chinese terms**

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**Note to Editor**

Please use 'IE Singapore' or 'IE' if an acronym for 'International Enterprise Singapore' is required. In addition, unless otherwise stated, the use of statistics cited in our media releases, website or Statlink, should be attributed to IE Singapore.

Issued by IE Singapore on behalf of SSTIC. For media enquiries, please contact:

**In Sichuan:**

Ms CHENG Kiat Loon  
Senior Manager, Media and Marketing Communications  
Corporate Communications Group  
Hp : + 65 9799 0904  
Email : cheng\_kiat\_loon@iesingapore.gov.sg

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**About International Enterprise Singapore**

International Enterprise (IE) Singapore is an agency under the Ministry of Trade and Industry spearheading the development of Singapore's external economic wing.

Our mission is to promote the overseas growth of Singapore-based enterprises and international trade. With a global network in over 30 locations and our 3C framework of assistance – Connections, Competency, Capital, we offer services to help enterprises export, develop business capabilities, find overseas partners and enter new markets. At the same time, we work to position Singapore as a base for foreign businesses to expand into the region in partnership with Singapore-based companies. Please visit [www.iesingapore.com](http://www.iesingapore.com) for more information.

**About Singapore–Sichuan Trade & Investment Committee**

The Singapore-Sichuan Trade & Investment Committee (SSTIC) is a bilateral economic framework aimed at strengthening Singapore's economic relations with the Sichuan Province. It was formed in May 1996 and comprises public and private sector members from Singapore and Sichuan.

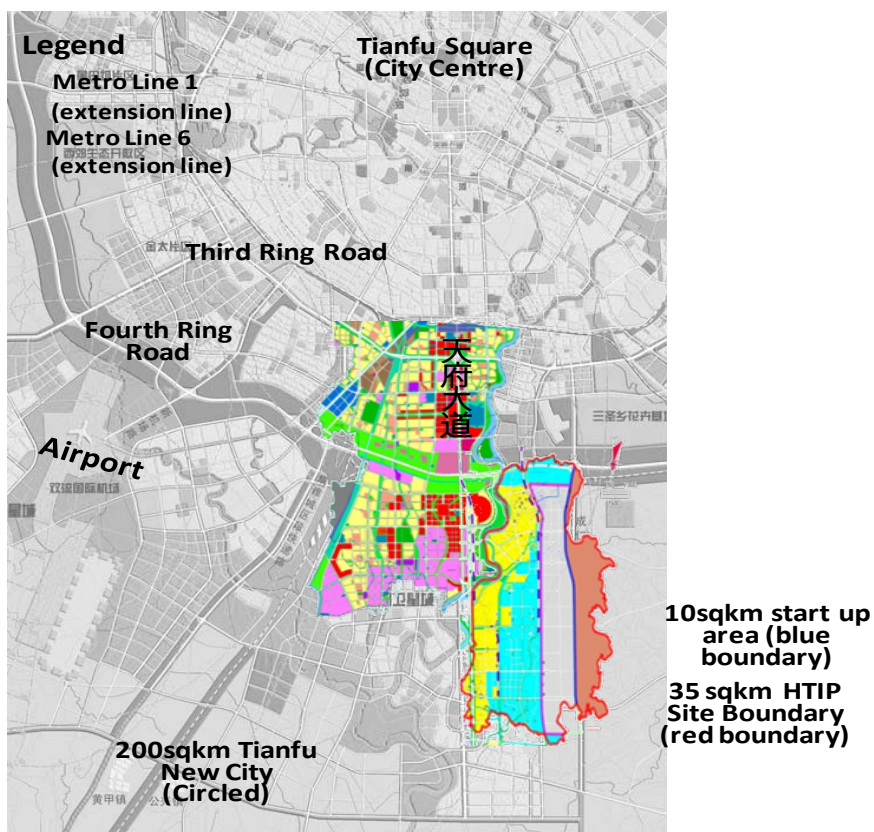
Mr Lim Swee Say, Minister, Prime Minister's Office, and Mr Jiang Jufeng, Sichuan Governor, are Advisors to the committee while Associate Professor Koo Tsai Kee, Minister of State for Defence, and Mr Huang Xiaoxiang, Vice Governor, are Co-Chairmen of the SSTIC.

IE Singapore is the Secretariat to the SSTIC in Singapore.

**ANNEX 1**

**FACTSHEET ON HI-TECH INNOVATION PARK**

- Site area** : 35 sq km
- Start Up Area** : 10 sq km
  
- Site location** : Chengdu City, Hi Tech Zone
  - 12 km south of Chengdu City Centre
  - 13 km from Shuangliu International Airport
  
- MRT connectivity** : Metro Line 1 (To be operational in Oct. 2010)  
 Metro Line 6 (Planned to be operational in 2012)
  
- Road connectivity** : Tianfu Avenue (Completed)  
 The south extension of Hongxing Road (Under construction)  
 New Chengren Road (Under construction)  
 Chengdu-Zigong-luzhou Expressway (Under construction)



**ANNEX 2****BILATERAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT****Sichuan:**Trade

From January – June 2010, bilateral trade between Singapore and Sichuan amounted to US\$345.16 million, an increase of 75.3% over the same period in 2009. In these six months, Sichuan's exports to Singapore amounted to US\$181.57 million (+101.6%) while imports from Singapore reached US\$163.59 million (+53.2%). In 2009 itself, bilateral trade was US\$455.63 million. (Source: Sichuan Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation)

Investment

From January – June 2010, Singapore's actual foreign direct investments (FDI) in Sichuan amounted to US\$210.94 million (+75.9%) with 11 projects. As of end June 2010, Singapore's cumulative actual FDI in Sichuan has reached US\$1.37 billion with 412 projects. In 2009, Singapore was Sichuan's third largest investor. (Source: Sichuan Department of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation)

**Chengdu:**Trade

From January – June 2010, bilateral trade between Singapore and Chengdu amounted to US\$152.76 million, an increase of 53.21% over the same period in 2009. In these six months, Chengdu's exports from Singapore amounted to US\$84.93 million (+83%) while imports to Singapore reached US\$67.82 million (+27.25%). In 2009 itself, bilateral trade was US\$284.62 million. (Source: Chengdu Bureau of Commerce)

Investment

From January – June 2010, Singapore's actual FDI in Chengdu amounted to US\$185.28 million with seven projects. As of end June 2010, Singapore's cumulative actual FDI in Chengdu has reached US\$940.68 million with 249 projects. In 2009, Singapore was Chengdu's second largest investor. (Source: Chengdu Bureau of Commerce)

## ANNEX 3

## Chinese terms

International Enterprise (IE) Singapore	新加坡国际企业发展局（简称：企发局）
Singapore-Sichuan Trade & Investment Committee	新加坡—四川贸易与投资委员会
Singapore-Sichuan Hi-Tech Innovation Park	新加坡—四川科技创新园（新川科技创新园）
Mr Lim Swee Say Minister, Prime Minister's Office  Advisor Singapore-Sichuan Trade & Investment Committee	林瑞生先生 新加坡总理公署部长  顾问 新加坡—四川贸易与投资委员会
Associate Professor Koo Tsai Kee Minister of State for Defence  Co-Chairman Singapore-Sichuan Trade & Investment Committee	顾蔡矾副教授 新加坡国防部政务部长  联合主席 新加坡—四川贸易与投资委员会
Mr Liu Qibao Sichuan Party Secretary	刘奇葆先生 四川省委书记
Mr Jiang Jufeng Sichuan Governor  Advisor Singapore-Sichuan Trade & Investment Committee	蒋巨峰先生 四川省长  顾问 新加坡—四川贸易与投资委员会
Mr Huang Xiaoxiang Sichuan Vice Governor  Co-Chairman Singapore-Sichuan Trade & Investment Committee	黄小祥先生 四川副省长  联合主席 新加坡—四川贸易与投资委员会
Mr Li Chuncheng Chengdu Party Secretary	李春城先生 成都市委书记
Mr Ge Honglin Chengdu Mayor	葛红林先生 成都市长
Mr Zhang Shihu Mianyang Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Chairman	张世虎先生 绵阳市政协主席 （中国人民政治协商会）
Mdm Li Ya Lian Mianyang Vice Mayor	李亚莲女士 绵阳副市长