



Documentos

June 05, 2014

MFA Press Statement: Visit of President Tony Tan Keng Yam to the Republic of Indonesia, 5 June 2014

President Tony Tan Keng Yam visited Batam, Indonesia, today at the invitation of the Indonesian President His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. While in Batam, President Tan had a meeting with and was hosted to dinner by President Yudhoyono. Both leaders reaffirmed the excellent and longstanding relations between Singapore and Indonesia. President Tan thanked President Yudhoyono for his strong support for deepening bilateral relations during President Yudhoyono's last ten years in office.

The leaders also had a wide-ranging discussion on regional and international developments. They agreed that a strong, united and integrated ASEAN was important for regional prosperity and for the region to address various common challenges.

President Tan also attended a tea hosted by our Ambassador in Jakarta for a group of Singaporeans in Batam. They shared with President Tan their experiences of working and living in Batam.

President Tan was accompanied by Minister for Transport Mr Lui Tuck Yew and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Trade and Industry. President Tan returned to Singapore this evening.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

5 JUNE 2014

June 04, 2014

MFA Press Statement: Visit of President Tony Tan Keng Yam to the Republic of Indonesia, 5 June 2014

President Tony Tan Keng Yam will visit Batam, Indonesia, on 5 June 2014, at the invitation of the Indonesian President, His Excellency Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono. President Tan will have a meeting with President Yudhoyono who will also host dinner. The informal gathering in Batam was proposed by President Yudhoyono when the Leaders last met in April 2013 in Singapore. This meeting is an opportunity to keep up their longstanding friendship and to have a general exchange of views on regional and international developments.

President Tan will also attend a tea with a group of Singaporeans in Batam.

President Tan will be accompanied by Minister for Transport Mr Lui Tuck Yew and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

4 JUNE 2014

May 29, 2014

MFA Press Statement: Visit of the Prime Minister of Japan His Excellency Shinzo Abe, 30-31 May 2014

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will visit Singapore from 30 to 31 May 2014 at the invitation of Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and to deliver the keynote address at the 13th International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) Shangri-La Dialogue (SLD). This is his second visit to Singapore within a year. Prime Minister Abe made an Official Visit to Singapore in July 2013, where he delivered the 33rd Singapore Lecture on ASEAN-Japan relations and Abenomics.

Prime Minister Abe will call on Prime Minister Lee on 31 May. Prime Minister Lee will also host a lunch for Prime Minister Abe and his delegation.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

29 MAY 2014

May 22, 2014

MFA Spokesman's Comments in response to media queries on the announcement of a coup in Thailand on 22 May 2014

In response to media queries on the announcement of a coup in Thailand on 22 May 2014, the MFA Spokesman said:

"Singapore expresses grave concern over the latest developments in Thailand. We hope that all parties involved will exercise restraint and work towards a positive outcome, and avoid violence and bloodshed. Thailand is an important regional country and a key member of ASEAN. Prolonged uncertainties will set back Thailand and the region as a whole. As a close friend of Thailand, we hope that the situation will return to normal as soon as possible."

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

22 MAY 2014

May 20, 2014

MFA Press Statement: State Visit of His Majesty The Yang Di-Pertuan Agong XIV of Malaysia, 19 to 21 May 2014

His Majesty Tuanku Alhaj Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Badlishah, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong XIV of Malaysia, is on the second day of his three-day State Visit to Singapore today.

His Majesty and Her Majesty Tuanku Sultanah Hajah Haminah binti Haji Hamidun, the Raja Permaisuri Agong, began the day with a visit to the National Orchid Garden, accompanied by Mrs Mary Tan. In commemoration of the State Visit, an orchid "Aran-da Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah" was named in honour of His Majesty. This was followed by Their Majesties' visit to Gardens by the Bay.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Mrs Lee called on Their Majesties today. Prime Minister Lee and His Majesty reaffirmed the longstanding ties between Singapore and Malaysia, and underscored the importance of strengthening bilateral cooperation and deepening people-to-people bonds between both countries.

Tomorrow, President Tony Tan and Mrs Tan will host and accompany Their Majesties on a tour of the Istana, the first for a visiting Head of State. President Tan and Mrs Tan will host an informal tea for Their Majesties after the tour.

His Majesty will also visit Reflections at Bukit Chandu, which commemorates the Battle of Pasir Panjang during World War Two. Their Majesties will visit the Night Safari to round up the State Visit. Their Majesties will leave for Malaysia on 22 May.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE
20 MAY 2014

MFA Press Statement: State Visit of His Majesty The Yang Di-Pertuan Agong XIV of Malaysia, 19 to 21 May 2014

His Majesty Tuanku Alhaj Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Badlishah, the Yang di-Pertuan XIV of Malaysia, began his three-day State Visit to Singapore today.

His Majesty and Her Majesty Tuanku Sultanah Hajah Haminah binti Haji Hamidun, the Raja Permaisuri Agong, received a ceremonial welcome at the Istana and paid a courtesy call on President Tony Tan and Mrs Mary Tan.

President and His Majesty expressed their satisfaction with the friendly state of bilateral relations. Both leaders noted the wide-ranging cooperation between both countries and the good progress being made in major initiatives to enhance connectivity, trade and investment, and people-to-people ties between both countries. In the evening, President and Mrs Tan will host a State Banquet at the Istana in honour of Their Majesties.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE
19 MAY 2014

May 19, 2014

MFA Press Statement: State Visit of His Majesty The Yang Di-Pertuan Agong XIV of Malaysia, 19 to 21 May 2014

His Majesty Tuanku Alhaj Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Badlishah, the Yang di-Pertuan XIV of Malaysia, began his three-day State Visit to Singapore today.

His Majesty and Her Majesty Tuanku Sultanah Hajah Haminah binti Haji Hamidun, the Raja Permaisuri Agong, received a ceremonial welcome at the Istana and paid a courtesy call on President Tony Tan and Mrs Mary Tan.

President and His Majesty expressed their satisfaction with the friendly state of bilateral relations. Both leaders noted the wide-ranging cooperation between both countries and the good progress being made in major initiatives to enhance connectivity, trade and investment, and people-to-people ties between both countries. In the evening, President and Mrs Tan will host a State Banquet at the Istana in honour of Their Majesties.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

19 MAY 2014

May 17, 2014

MFA Press Statement: State Visit of His Majesty The Yang Di-Pertuan Agong XIV of Malaysia, 19 to 21 May 2014

His Majesty Tuanku Alhaj Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Badlishah, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong XIV of Malaysia, will make a State Visit to Singapore from 19 to 21 May 2014.

His Majesty and Her Majesty Tuanku Sultanah Hajah Haminah binti Haji Hamidun, the Raja Permaisuri Agong XIV of Malaysia will receive a ceremonial welcome at the Istana. Their Majesties will pay a courtesy call on President Tony Tan and Mrs Mary Tan, who will host them to a State Banquet. Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Mrs Lee will also call on Their Majesties.

During the State Visit, His Majesty will visit Gardens by the Bay, Reflections at Bukit Chandu, and the Night Safari. Their Majesties will also visit the National Orchid Garden at the Singapore Botanic Gardens, where an orchid will be named in Their Majesties' honour.

The State Visit by Their Majesties reciprocates President Tan and Mrs Tan's State Visit to Malaysia in September 2013, and underscores the deep and longstanding ties between Singapore and Malaysia.

• • • • •
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

17 MAY 2014

May 11, 2014

MFA Press Statement: 24th ASEAN Summit, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 10-11 May 2014

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong attended the 24th ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar from 10 to 11 May 2014. The meeting was chaired by His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of Myanmar, and was attended by the Heads of State/Government of ASEAN Member States, the caretaker Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand and the ASEAN Secretary-General.

The ASEAN Leaders reviewed the progress made in establishing an ASEAN Community by 2015 since they last met in October 2013 and called for acceleration of efforts to implement the Blueprints of the three Community Pillars. They took note of the report of the High-level Task Force on the Strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs (HLTF) and welcomed progress in developing ASEAN's Post-2015 Vision. The Leaders exchanged views on regional and international developments, and discussed ways to sustain ASEAN's centrality in the evolving regional architecture. The Leaders also met with the representatives of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and Youth. The Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the Realisation of the ASEAN Community by 2015 was adopted by the Leaders at the end of the Summit.

The Leaders congratulated Myanmar on its inaugural Chairmanship under the leadership of President Thein Sein and aptly themed "Moving Forward in Unity to a Peaceful and Prosperous Community". They pledged their firm support for Myanmar's Chairmanship for the rest of 2014.

• • • • •
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

11 MAY 2014

May 07, 2014

MFA Spokesman's comments in response to media queries on the South China Sea on 7 May 2014

In response to media queries on reports of several incidents in the South China Sea, in particular collisions between Vietnamese and Chinese vessels in the vicinity of the Paracel Islands, the MFA Spokesman said:

"Singapore is concerned about recent developments in the South China Sea. We call on all parties to exercise self-restraint and avoid actions that could escalate tensions in the South China Sea. We urge all parties to fully abide by the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and manage disputes peacefully in accordance with international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). We also continue to urge ASEAN and China to work towards an early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea."

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

7 MAY 2014

April 04, 2014

MFA Press Statement: State Visit of President Tony Tan Keng Yam to the Republic of the Philippines (2 to 5 April 2014)

President Tony Tan Keng Yam, who is in the Philippines on a State Visit, attended a Singapore Red Cross (SRC) event to hand over Singapore's contributions to post-Typhoon Haiyan relief efforts this morning. President Tan witnessed the signing of Memoranda of Understanding between the SRC and its movement partners, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and the Philippine Red Cross. He also presented cheques amounting to S\$7 million to SRC's partners for rehabilitation projects in the affected areas.

In the afternoon, President Tan was the Guest-of-Honour at the 11th Philippines-Singapore Business Council (PSBC)'s Roundtable Lunch, which was attended by Philippine Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, Trade and Industry Secretary Gregory Domingo, Tourism Secretary Ramon Jimenez Jr. and business leaders from the Philippines and Singapore. President Tan highlighted the positive trajectory of the Philippine economy, which

presented opportunities to deepen bilateral economic ties, and encouraged the PSBC to further facilitate cooperation between enterprises on both sides.

President Tan will depart for Samar Province tomorrow, where he will hand over medical equipment to Basey District Hospital, as part of a rehabilitation project between SRC and ICRC.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE

April 01, 2014

MFA Press Statement: State Visit of President Tony Tan Keng Yam to the Republic of the Philippines, 2 to 5 April 2014

President Tony Tan Keng Yam will make a State Visit to the Philippines from 2 to 5 April 2014 at the invitation of Philippine President Benigno S. Aquino III. He will visit Manila and Basey Municipality in Samar Province.

President Tan will receive a ceremonial welcome in Manila. He will call on and be hosted to a State Banquet by President Aquino. President Tan will also participate in a lunch hosted by the Philippines-Singapore Business Council (PSBC), and meet with various Philippine personalities. President Tan will meet with overseas Singaporeans based in the Philippines over a dinner reception.

While in Manila, President Tan will attend a Singapore Red Cross (SRC) event to mark Singapore's contributions to post-Typhoon Haiyan relief efforts. He will witness the signing of Memoranda of Understanding between SRC and its movement partners, including the Philippine Red Cross, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. In Samar, President will hand over medical equipment to the Basey District Hospital, a joint rehabilitation project between SRC and ICRC.

President will be accompanied by Mrs Mary Tan; Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs Grace Fu; Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Education and Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Manpower Hawazi Daipi; Members of Parliament Lam Pin Min and Vikram Nair; and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Enterprise Singapore, and Ministry of Manpower.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE

1 APRIL

March 08, 2014

MFA Spokesman's Comments in response to media queries on Malaysia Airlines flight MH 370 that went missing on 8 March 2014

In response to media queries on Malaysia Airlines flight MH 370 that went missing on 8 March 2014, the MFA Spokesman said:

"MFA is closely monitoring the status of the missing Malaysia Airlines flight MH 370 on 8 March 2014. MFA has been in touch with Malaysia Airlines, and confirmed that there were no Singaporeans onboard the flight. Singaporeans who require consular assistance should contact the MFA Duty Office (24-hours) or the Singapore High Commission in Kuala Lumpur at:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Duty Office
Tel: 6379 8800, 6379 8855 (24 hours)
Fax: 6476-7302
Email: mfa_duty_officer@mfa.gov.sg

Singapore High Commission in Kuala Lumpur
Level 15, West Wing
The Icon, No. 1, Jalan 1/68F
Jalan Tun Razak
50400 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Tel: +6(03) 2161 - 6277
Fax: +6(03) 2161 - 6343
Email: singhc_kul@sgmfa.gov.sg

Singapore's thoughts and prayers are with the passengers and crew of the missing aircraft, and their families. The Singapore Rescue Coordination Centre was activated and an aircraft was sent to help in the search and locate efforts.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Law K Shanmugam have respectively called Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato' Sri Najib Razak and Foreign Minister of Malaysia Dato' Sri Anifah Hj. Aman to express their sympathies over the missing aircraft, and offer any further assistance that Singapore can render to Malaysia. Minister Shanmugam has also conveyed to PRC Foreign Minister Wang Yi his concern for the many Chinese passengers onboard the missing aircraft."

.....

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE
8 MARCH 2014

February 21, 2014

Official Visit by Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic His Excellency Thongsing Thammavong, 20 to 21 February 2014

Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) His Excellency Thongsing Thammavong called on President Tony Tan Keng Yam and Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong at the Istana this morning, and was hosted to lunch by Prime Minister Lee.

During the call on President Tan, President Tan and Prime Minister Thongsing reaffirmed the warm bilateral ties as both countries celebrate the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations this year. Noting the growing people-to-people linkages between our countries, President Tan and Prime Minister Thongsing also encouraged the deepening of bilateral economic relations. The signing of the Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income (DTA) would facilitate greater trade and business linkages. President Tan and Prime Minister Thongsing also acknowledged that it was important for both countries to work closely together towards the goal of establishing an ASEAN Community by 2015.

During his meeting with Prime Minister Lee, Prime Minister Thongsing expressed appreciation for Singapore's assistance in building up Lao PDR's human resource capacity. Prime Minister Lee said that the Singapore Cooperation Programme has played a key role in facilitating greater bilateral exchanges, and Singapore remained committed to helping Lao PDR in its human resource development. Both leaders also noted the increasing pace of ASEAN integration, and reaffirmed their commitment to work together to ensure that ASEAN remained at the centre of regional economic cooperation.

Following their meeting, both Prime Ministers witnessed the signing of the DTA, and a Memorandum of Understanding on Collaboration in the Field of Technical and Vocational Education and Training between the Institute of Technical Education Education Services and the Lao Youth Union. Later that afternoon, Prime Minister Thongsing visited the National Orchid Garden, where an orchid hybrid "Dendrobium Thongsing Thammavong" was named in his honour. Prime Minister Thongsing departs Singapore this evening.

.....

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE
21 FEBRUARY 2014

February 19, 2014

Official Visit by Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic His Excellency Thongsing Thammavong, 20 – 21 February 2014

His Excellency Thongsing Thammavong, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, will make an Official Visit to Singapore from 20 to 21 February 2014 at the invitation of Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong. Prime Minister Thongsing's visit underscores the excellent ties between Singapore and Lao PDR, and marks the 40th anniversary of bilateral relations.

An official Welcome Ceremony will be held in honour of Prime Minister Thongsing at the Istana on 21 February 2014. Prime Minister Thongsing will call on President Tony Tan Keng Yam, and Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, who will also host an Official Lunch in his honour.

While in Singapore, Prime Minister Thongsing will also visit and receive briefings by the Urban Redevelopment Authority, ITE College Central and Sentosa Development Corporation. Prime Minister Thongsing will also officiate at the opening ceremony of the exhibition "Hand-made in Asia – Weaving the Cosmic Serpent in Laos" on Lao woven textiles at the Asian Civilisations Museum on 20 February 2014.

Prime Minister Thongsing will be accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of For-

Foreign Affairs Dr Thongloun Sisoulith, Minister and Head of Government Office Dr Sinlavong Khouthaythoune, Minister of Planning and Investment Somdy Douangdy, Minister of Finance Phouphet Khamphounvong, Secretary General of Lao Youth Union Dr Vilayvong Bouddakham, senior government officials and a business delegation. The business delegation will attend a Business Seminar and Networking Session hosted by the Singapore Business Federation on 20 February 2014.

.....

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE
19 FEBRUARY 2014

January 27, 2014

Joint Statement of 2nd United States-Singapore Strategic Partnership Dialogue

Following is the text of a joint statement by Singapore and the United States issued on 27 January 2014 in Singapore.

The Permanent Secretary of Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr Chee Wee Kiong and United States Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Mr Daniel Russel met in Singapore on 27 January 2014 to co-chair the second United States - Singapore Strategic Partnership Dialogue. The dialogue served to enhance bilateral relations and the strategic partnership between the United States and Singapore. The co-chairs, in the spirit of equal partnership, mutual respect and desire to promote close cooperation, reviewed the robust array of initiatives undertaken between the two countries and sought new areas to create and expand cooperation in bilateral, regional and global matters of joint interest.

The co-chairs reviewed bilateral areas of engagement including economic and trade, defence and the US-Singapore Third Country Training Programme. They also discussed new areas of cooperation such as energy, climate change and sustainable development. The co-chairs discussed recent developments in Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia and regional institutions such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC). Both sides committed to actively seek ways to further utilise such institutions to address shared challenges confronting the region including water management and the environment. They affirmed the importance of regional peace and stability, maritime and aviation security, freedom and safety of navigation and overflight, as well as unimpeded, lawful commerce. They also emphasised the importance for all countries in the region to resolve their disputes by peaceful means in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and urged all parties to exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities. They continued to encourage ASEAN Member States and China to expeditiously work towards early conclusion of the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) and urged all parties to pursue their claims peacefully and in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS. The co-chairs also reviewed regional initiatives including the Trans-Pacific Partnership where they renewed their commitment to achieving a mutually-beneficial, high-standard agreement that will contribute to establishing an open and inclusive trade and investment framework in the Asia-Pacific. The co-chairs also had further dialogue on areas of global cooperation.

Both sides noted the robust level of high-level visits between the two countries. These include the official visit of Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong to the United States in April 2013, the official visit of Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K Shanmugam to the United States in March 2013, the official visit of Minister for Defence Ng Eng Hen to the United States in December 2013 and the official visits to Singapore of United States Vice President Joseph Biden Jr in July 2013, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel in June 2013, Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker in October 2013, Secretary of the Treasury Jacob Lew in November 2013 and United States Trade Representative Michael Froman in December 2013.

.....

January 18, 2014

MFA Press Statement: Visit to Singapore by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of the Kingdom of Thailand, 18 to 19 January 2014

Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of the Kingdom of Thailand is visiting Singapore from 18 to 19 January 2014 to attend the Opening Ceremony of the Global Young Scientists Summit (GYSS).

While in Singapore, Her Royal Highness will be hosted to lunch on 19 January 2014 by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Mrs Lee. Her Royal Highness will also meet Minister for Health and National Research Foundation Board Member Gan Kim Yong, who will be the Guest-of-Honour at the GYSS Opening Ceremony.

In addition, Her Royal Highness will visit the National Research Foundation, and tour the TUM CREATE Laboratory, a joint electromobility research project between Germany's Technische Universität München (TUM) and the Nanyang Technological University (NTU). She will also visit Yale-NUS College.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE
18 JANUARY 2014

January 17, 2014

MFA Press Statement: ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting Retreat, 17 January 2014

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K Shanmugam attended the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat in the ancient city of Bagan, Myanmar today. It was a historic setting for a historic occasion. The Retreat is the first ASEAN Ministerial Meeting hosted by Myanmar under its inaugural ASEAN Chairmanship.

At the Retreat, the Foreign Ministers took stock of ASEAN's Community-building and regional integration efforts. Noting that two years remained to the establishment of an ASEAN Community on 31 December 2015, the Ministers affirmed the need to energize efforts to fulfil the Blueprint goals for the three Community pillars. They agreed to enhance cooperation on important issues affecting the region and explored ways for ASEAN to support the Philippines' reconstruction efforts in the wake of Typhoon Haiyan. With the dry season approaching, Ministers were urged to take steps to tackle the issue of transboundary haze pollution to protect the health and welfare of their peoples.

The Foreign Ministers exchanged views on regional and international issues, including recent developments in the East China Sea and South China Sea, as well as on the Korean Peninsula. They reaffirmed ASEAN's Six-Point Principles on the South China Sea and the importance of maintaining peace and stability, maritime security, freedom of navigation and overflight. They urged self-restraint in the conduct of activities. They also reaffirmed the importance of maintaining ASEAN's unity and centrality in promoting regional peace and stability in today's complex geopolitical environment.

In this connection, the Foreign Ministers expressed support for Myanmar's ASEAN Chairmanship and its theme "Moving Forward in Unity towards a Peaceful and Prosperous Community".

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

17 JANUARY 2014

January 16, 2014

MFA Press Statement: ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting Retreat, 17 January 2014

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K Shanmugam will attend the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting Retreat in Bagan, Myanmar on 17 January 2014. At the Retreat, the Foreign Ministers will take stock of ASEAN's Community-building efforts and follow up on the outcomes of the 23rd ASEAN and Related Summits, which were held in Bandar Seri

Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, in October 2013. The Foreign Ministers will also exchange views on regional and international issues.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

16 JANUARY 2014

December 14, 2013

MFA Press Statement: ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in Tokyo, Japan on 14 December 2013

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong attended the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit in Tokyo, Japan today to celebrate the 40th anniversary of ASEAN-Japan relations. The meeting was co-chaired by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, and was attended by the Leaders of ASEAN Member States and Japan, as well as the ASEAN Secretary-General.

The Leaders reviewed existing cooperation under the ASEAN-Japan Plan of Action 2011-2015 to Implement the Joint Declaration for Enhancing ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership for Prospering Together and discussed ways to strengthen the ASEAN-Japan Strategic Partnership. In line with the objective of the ASEAN-Japan 10 Year Strategic Economic Cooperation Roadmap (2012 – 2022) to double the flow of goods, services and investments by 2022, the Leaders announced the substantial conclusion of the negotiations on the Services and Investment Chapters of the ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (AJCEP) Agreement.

The Leaders expressed appreciation for Prime Minister Abe's Five New Principles for Japanese Diplomacy, which outlined Japan's renewed engagement with ASEAN, including the promotion of people-to-people exchanges. In this connection, the Leaders agreed to explore the possibility of concluding an ASEAN-Japan Air Services Agreement. The Leaders also emphasised the importance of working towards a disaster resilient ASEAN Community and welcomed Japan's proposal to strengthen ASEAN-Japan disaster management cooperation.

The Leaders adopted the "Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation: Shared Vision, Shared Identity, Shared Future" and its accompanying Implementation Plan, and issued the "Joint Statement of the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit: Hand in hand, facing regional and global challenges". The documents are enclosed. The Leaders affirmed the strong and close ties forged over the past 40 years and looked forward to the next phase of ASEAN-Japan relations.

.
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SINGAPORE
14 DECEMBER 2013

Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation: Shared Vision, Shared Identity, Shared Future

Implementation Plan of the Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation: Shared Vision, Shared Identity, Shared Future

Joint Statement of the ASEAN-Japan Commemorative Summit: Hand in hand, facing regional and global challenges

December 10, 2013

Joint Press Statement on Technical Discussions on Maritime Boundaries between the Republic of Indonesia and the Republic of Singapore in the Eastern Part of the Strait of Singapore

NINTH ROUND
9-10 DECEMBER 2013
SINGAPORE

1. The delegations of the Governments of the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of Indonesia held the Ninth Round of Technical Discussions on Maritime Boundaries in the Eastern Part of the Strait of Singapore in Singapore on 9-10 December 2013, as a follow-up to the Eighth Round of Technical Discussions, which were held in Manado, Indonesia on 19-20 September 2013.
2. The Singapore delegation was led by Mr. Pang Khang Chau, Director-General, International Affairs Division, Attorney-General's Chambers. The Indonesian delegation was led by Mr. Octavino Alimudin, Director for Political, Security, and Territorial Treaties, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
3. At the Ninth Round of Technical Discussions, the delegations continued their discussions on the draft Treaty relating to the Delimitation of the Territorial Seas of the Two Countries in the Eastern Part of the Strait of Singapore.
4. Both Heads of Delegation acknowledged that the progress reached at the Discussions would contribute to strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
10 DECEMBER 2013

September 19, 2013

MFA Press Statement : State Visit of President Tony Tan Keng Yam to Malaysia , 18 to 20 September 2013

President Tony Tan Keng Yam and Mrs Mary Tan visited the University of Malaya (UM) on the second day of President's State Visit to Malaysia. This visit had special significance as UM and National University of Singapore (NUS), of which President is Chancellor, share historical roots and longstanding ties. UM Vice-Chancellor Tan Sri Dr Gauth Jasmon briefed President on UM's developmental plans. Tan Sri Dr Gauth Jasmon also outlined to President the existing collaboration between UM and its international partners, including research centres in NUS and Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

President and Mrs Tan were also hosted to a visit to the PERMATA Negara Nursery in Putrajaya by Datin Paduka Seri Rosmah Mansor, Patron of PERMATA Negara. The PERMATA Negara Nurseries were established to provide children from low-income families with quality early childhood care and education. President and Mrs Tan also visited the Islamic Arts Museum of Malaysia, the largest museum of Islamic art in Southeast Asia.

In the evening, Singapore's High Commissioner Ong Keng Yong hosted a reception for President to meet with the Singapore community living in Kuala Lumpur. During the reception, President noted that the Singaporean community was yet another example of the close people-to-people links that form the foundation of bilateral relations between Singapore and Malaysia.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

19 SEPTEMBER 2013

August 01, 2013

MFA Press Statement: Exchange of congratulatory messages to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Singapore and Vietnam

Singapore and Vietnam established diplomatic relations on 1 August 1973. To commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the event, President Tony Tan Keng Yam, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K Shanmugam exchanged congratulatory messages with Vietnam's President Truong Tan Sang, Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh. The texts of the letters are appended below.

.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SINGAPORE

1 AUGUST 2013

Letter from President Tony Tan to President Truong Tan Sang

1 August 2013

His Excellency Truong Tan Sang

President

Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Dear President Sang,

I would like to extend my warmest wishes to Your Excellency and the people of Vietnam on this 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Singapore and Vietnam.

Looking back, our bilateral relations have taken great leaps forward in the past 40 years. Both countries share a close friendship. We cooperate closely to advance our common interests within ASEAN and at other regional and international fora. Bilateral economic cooperation is strong with Singapore being one of Vietnam's largest investors. People-to-people

links between our countries are robust and expanding. With the increase in connectivity, more and more Singaporeans are visiting Vietnam. In turn, we welcome the increasing number of Vietnamese who visit Singapore to study, work, and play.

This year, to consolidate the achievements of the past 40 years and set the direction for our future cooperation, we will elevate bilateral relations to that of a Strategic Partnership. It is my hope that both sides can use the Strategic Partnership to take our relations to greater heights.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

TONY TAN KENG YAM

Letter from Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong to Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung

1 August 2013

Dear Prime Minister Dung,

On behalf of the Government and people of Singapore, I convey my best wishes to Your Excellency and the Government of Vietnam on the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Singapore and Vietnam.

Singapore and Vietnam enjoy close and substantive relations. The four successful Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Parks (VSIPs) reflect our excellent economic ties. I look forward to opening the fifth VSIP during my visit to Vietnam this September. Our people-to-people ties are growing stronger, thanks to more frequent flights and exchanges between our peoples and businessmen. We also cooperate closely at regional and international fora, including ASEAN.

I am glad that we are elevating our bilateral relationship to a Strategic Partnership. I am confident that this will inject fresh impetus to our partnership, and pave the way for even stronger relations in the future.

I wish you good health and success, and look forward to seeing you again in September.

Yours sincerely

LEE HSIEN LOONG

His Excellency Nguyen Tan Dung

Prime Minister

Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Letter from Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K Shanmugam to Minister of Foreign Affairs Pham Binh Minh

1 August 2013

His Excellency Pham Binh Minh

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Dear Excellency

I would like to convey my warmest wishes to you on this happy occasion of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries.

Singapore and Vietnam enjoy excellent relations because of our mutual respect and close cooperation. Our leaders enjoy close personal ties with frequent high-level exchanges over the years. Singapore and Vietnam work closely at various regional and international fora including ASEAN. We share many common interests, including the importance of strengthening ASEAN to maintain regional peace and stability. Economic cooperation continues to grow, buttressed by the Singapore-Vietnam Connectivity Framework Agreement. In a wide range of areas such as defence, education, and arts and culture, both sides are working more closely than ever.

With the elevation of bilateral relations to a Strategic Partnership this September, relations between our countries are poised to move to a higher level. I look forward to working with you to strengthen our relations.

Yours sincerely,

K SHANMUGAM