

News Release

SINGAPORE COOPERATION ENTERPRISE AND HUMAN RESOURCES AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PUBLIC SECTOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES

Singapore, Wednesday, 21 May 2008

Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) today announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Human Resources and Institutional Capacity Development Agency of the Republic of Rwanda (HIDA) to provide a high-level framework for public sector collaboration between Singapore and Rwanda. The signing, which takes place at Singapore Cooperation Enterprise under the witness of the Rwanda's President, Mr. Paul Kagame, will see collaborative activities leading to the procurement of services by the Rwanda Government from Singapore's public and private sectors.

This MOU is a follow-up of the Service Agreement signed between SCE and HIDA in July 2007 to conduct needs assessment studies in view of providing advisory services in seven priority areas:

- 1) Workforce Development;
- 2) Public Sector Capacity-Building;
- 3) Civil Aviation;
- 4) Social Security Fund Reform;
- 5) Urban Planning;
- 6) Investment Promotion; and
- 7) Info-Communications Technology (ICT) Planning

The needs assessment studies have since been completed and SCE, as a government agency established to lead in the export of Singapore's public sector expertise, has been working closely with various Singapore's public and private sector entities (e.g. Civil

Service College, Changi Airports International and Surbana) and has also engaged former public servants with the relevant expertise to work with the Rwanda authorities in the above mentioned areas of interest.

Under this MOU, SCE will continue its efforts with HIDA to support Rwanda's development in the seven priority areas and to also identify news areas for collaboration. SCE will work with relevant Singapore government agencies and companies to provide customised solutions to meet Rwanda's.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. Alphonsus Chia, SCE's Chief Executive Officer said, "SCE has already been working closely with the Rwandan government since last year. This MOU serves to formalise our existing collaboration with a Government to Government framework and paves the way for discussions on new areas of collaboration. We also hope that, through our work, Singapore's existing good relationship with Rwanda will be enhanced and more public and private sector players in Singapore will be encouraged to engage Rwanda."

The agreement was signed by Mr. Alphonsus Chia and Dr. David Himbara, Chairman (HIDA), who is part of the Rwandan delegation accompanying President Kagame on his state visit.

Issued by SCE