

News Release

**SINGAPORE SHARES OUR DEVELOPMENTAL EXPERIENCES
WITH YOUNG CIVIL SERVANTS FROM BRAZIL**

Singapore, Sunday, 25 October 2009

Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) announced today that 15 young civil servants from the State of Minas Gerais, Brazil will be in Singapore from (26 Oct – 21 Nov 2009) to understand the developmental experiences of Singapore. This four-week exchange programme in Singapore, sponsored by Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the Singapore Cooperation Program (SCP), is jointly planned with the State Secretariat for Economic Development, Minas Gerais, Brazil. The programme will include areas of experience like civil service excellence, economic development, national planning, workforce development, electronic-government initiatives and the management of public services in Singapore.

The objective of the programme is to provide the young civil servants the opportunity to experience different environments and centres of excellence. Singapore was selected for this purpose. It will also give the civil servants a fresh perspective on the role of Singapore's Government in building a first-class public service for a successful and vibrant Singapore. Throughout the exchange programme, SCE will work with the relevant Singapore government agencies and partners to provide a suite of holistic and experiential learning opportunities for the young civil servants to appreciate and understand the policy considerations underpinning Singapore's Government's initiatives and schemes.

There will be dialogues, group discussions and experiential site visits for the young civil servants to interact and exchange ideas with their Singapore counterparts. The Brazilian Ambassador in Singapore, Mr. Paulo Saores will also be hosting the young civil servants to a cocktail dinner on 30 Oct 2009.

Mr. Luiz Antonio Athayde, Undersecretary of the State Secretariat for Economic Development said “This initiative is a milestone regarding the relationships between Singapore and Minas Gerais. I believe that, one of the most relevant investments that the state can do, is to get involved in the preparation of generations of young talents to face challenges in the global economy. This is the first programme of this kind that Brazil is doing with Singapore. This initiative will pave a better understanding between Singapore and Minas Gerais and strengthen ties between our people.”

Through this programme, SCE also hopes that this collaboration will further encourage the deepening of relationships between Minas Gerais and Singapore.

Issued by SCE