

News Release

SINGAPORE COOPERATION ENTERPRISE SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE AKIMAT OF ALMATY REGION, KAZAKHSTAN, ON TOURISM AND ECONOMIC PROMOTION

Monday, 22 May 2023

The St. Regis Astana, Kazakhstan

The Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE), an integrated arm of Enterprise Singapore, today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the government of Kazakhstan, Akimat of Almaty region, to promote tourism and bolster economic activities in the Almaty region.

The signing ceremony was in conjunction with the official visit of President Halimah Yacob to Kazakhstan, where President Halimah Yacob witnessed the signing ceremony alongside the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan H.E. Alikhan Smailov at the Kazakhstan-Singapore Business Forum held at the St Regis Astana. Representing the organisations to sign the MOU were Mr Rustam Issatayev, Deputy Akim (Deputy Governor) of Almaty region and Mr Kong Wy Mun, Chief Executive Officer of Singapore Cooperation Enterprise.

Under the framework of the MOU, SCE will aggregate relevant expertise from Singapore's public agencies and private sector companies to cover key pillars in Economic and Tourism promotion:

- i. Co-developing the Tourism Strategy, Roadmap, Implementation Plan for Almaty Region;

- ii. Designing of an Economic Corridor Plan for Almaty Region; and
- iii. Digital Transformation through Data Innovation, Cross Border Trade, and Industry 4.0.

This collaboration aims to advance the Almaty Region in a bid to achieve its economic development goals and promote sustainable growth through innovative initiatives. The collaboration will adopt Singapore's developmental model and its best practices to develop a holistic approach that will drive the tourism sector, promote economic trade and investment, and support digital transformation in the region.

"The signing of the MOU between the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise and the Akimat of Almaty region in Kazakhstan marks a significant milestone in promoting tourism and boosting economic activities in the Almaty region. This collaboration, witnessed by high-level government officials from both countries, reflects the commitment to leveraging Singapore's expertise and best practices to drive the region's economic development. By co-developing tourism strategies, designing an economic corridor plan, and emphasizing digital transformation, this partnership aims to create sustainable growth and capitalize on Singapore's successful developmental model. Overall, this MOU holds great potential for advancing the Almaty region's economic goals and fostering bilateral cooperation between Singapore and Kazakhstan." said Mr Rustam Issatayev, Deputy Akim (Deputy Governor) of Almaty region.

"This marks our second key collaboration with the Government of Kazakhstan, following the successful partnership with the Baiterek National Management Holding in 2019 on affordable public housing. We are delighted to deepen our ties and strengthen our relationship with the Government of Kazakhstan through this new partnership with Akimat of Almaty region, where tourism and economic development remains key pillars for a sustainable recovery for the region." said Mr Kong Wy Mun, Chief Executive Officer of SCE.