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NUS LKY SCHOOL FORGES STRONG COOPERATION WITH KOREAN FOREIGN AID AGENCY TO FURTHER ASEAN INTEGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

*Memorandum of Cooperation with the Korea International Cooperation Agency
(KOICA) will lead to enhanced partnership between Singapore and Korea*

SINGAPORE – The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKY School) at the National University of Singapore (NUS) has signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) to jointly conduct research and training seminars and share knowledge with its stakeholders in the region.

2 The tie-up brings together one of the world's leading schools of public policy and the Korean government's foreign aid and technical cooperation agency to help advance social and economic development in Southeast Asia. It also marks the LKY School's first partnership with a Korean agency for the development of a training programme to be shared across ASEAN. The agreement also comes soon after the LKY School signed a Memorandum of Understanding in March 2015 with the Seoul Metropolitan Government in Korea, to offer a two-year professional development programme that will train selected Seoul government officials in public administration and a student exchange MOU with Yonsei University's Graduate School of Public Administration. The School also has student exchange agreements with Seoul National and Korea Universities.

3 Under the Memorandum of Cooperation announced today, both the LKY School and KOICA will contribute the experiences of their respective countries in achieving rapid development and economic success. "Like Singapore, Korea has had a meteoric rise in economic development. Its emergence from a recipient to the donor in such a

short period is tremendous,” said Ms. Ann Yom Steel, the LKY School’s Director of Executive Education and Special Duties.

4 As part of the cooperation arrangement, the LKY School and KOICA will work together to carry out joint research and training seminars on regional development issues. In particular, they will focus on fields of research that can help to expedite ASEAN integration.

5 The partnership will also involve short-term executive training programmes to benefit policy makers in the public sector and international organisations in the region. In addition, under the agreement, qualified KOICA officers will be nominated to participate in the LKY School’s Master’s degree programmes, including the Master of Public Policy, Master of Public Administration, and Master of Public Management programmes.

6 “Korea and Singapore has been implementing many projects for a long time. Through today’s MOU, it is our greatest pleasure to cooperate with the NUS LKY School, especially celebrating the launch of AEC. Furthermore, KOICA will strengthen partnership and cooperation with the institution by carrying out joint research, joint training seminar, and education & training programmes for KOICA staff that utilize each entity’s comparative expertise”, said Ms Su Kyong KIM, KOICA capacity building development lead.

7 Both institutions may also organise other mutually beneficial joint programmes, such as field visits and learning journeys to Korea for students from the LKY School. Short-term bilateral visits may be held for both sides to explore areas of interest, including in fields such as public policy, development strategy, a public-private partnership, and development evaluation.

8 The Memorandum of Cooperation represents a significant step forward in the partnership between the LKY School and KOICA, said Ms Steel. “The formal cooperation is a result of an ongoing relationship we have had with KOICA based on our shared commitment and passion to have an impact on the development of the

region. We are thrilled to have our partnership formalised and deeply appreciate the leadership of KOICA, President Kim Young-mok and the hard work of the staff,” she said.

9 “The holistic nature of the cooperation advances a number of core areas for the School including research, executive education training and student experience, which are all aligned with our mission to inspire leaders, improve lives and transform the region,” Ms Steel added.

About the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

Established in 2004, the LKY School of Public Policy is Asia's leading School of public policy, and the first to introduce a fully integrated multidisciplinary curriculum. The School boasts a distinguished faculty active in research, and a diverse student body of 400 students spanning 50 countries. The LKY School has also cultivated an extensive network of international partners, including the Harvard Kennedy School, the London School of Economics and the University of Tokyo. In 2007, LKYSPP became the first Asian school to join the Global Public Policy Network (GPPN), which was established by the Columbia School of International and Public Affairs in the United States, the LSE and Sciences Po.

About the Korea International Cooperation Agency

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) was founded as a government agency in 1991 to maximise the effectiveness of Korea's grant aid programs for developing countries. It implements the government's grant aid and technical cooperation programmes and seeks to use its resources effectively in areas where Korea has a comparative advantage. In particular, KOICA draws on Korea's unique experience of developing from one of the poorest countries in the world to one of the most economically advanced, using this expertise to support the sustainable socioeconomic development of its partner countries.

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