

# SINGAPORE PERSPECTIVES 2006

## Going Glocal: Being Singaporean in a Globalised World

Thursday, 12 January 2006  
Island Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel

### PROGRAMME (as at 30 November 2005)

8.15 am - 9.00 am

#### **Registration**

9.00 am - 9.10 am

Welcome Remarks  
Prof Tommy Koh  
Chairman  
Institute of Policy Studies

#### **A) DOMESTIC**

9.10 am - 10.40 am

#### **Session I**

#### **Remaining a Land of Opportunity in the Global Market Place**

This session focuses on local, regional and global trends and examines the implications for the Singapore economy and workforce. How will these external and domestic economic forces impinge on the vision of Singapore as a land of opportunity for all? What role will there be for indigenously owned private businesses as opposed to multinational companies or government-linked companies in the Singapore economy of the future? How resilient can Singapore's economy be, if the role played by domestic demand in the economy remains relatively weak? Will skills sets and social mobility be expanded or diminished in the Singapore economy that is taking shape under the impact of globalisation? Can the current framework of social safety nets remain adequate or does Singapore need to substantially re-think this aspect?

#### *Chairperson:*

Mr Manu Bhaskaran  
Adjunct Senior Research Fellow  
Institute of Policy Studies

#### *Speakers:*

Prof Chew Soon Beng  
Division of Economics  
School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
Nanyang Technological University

Dr Trivina Kang  
Policy & Leadership Studies

National Institute of Education  
and  
Prof David Hogan  
Centre for Research in Pedagogy and Practice  
National Institute of Education

Mr Ho Kwon Ping  
Executive Chairman  
Banyan Tree Holdings Pte Ltd

Question-and-Answer Session

10.40 am - 11.00 am

**Coffee Break**

11.00 am - 12.30 pm

**Session II**

**A New Administration and the Challenges of Critical Issues**

PM Lee Hsien Loong's new political leadership and administration has been established for about a year. General Election is expected to follow the Presidential Election (no later than 2007). Beyond the efficient delivery of political and social goods, what critical issues need to be tackled by PM Lee's administration for its continued leadership and legitimacy? How should it deal with issues which globalisation has opened up, especially those related to equitable income distribution, social mobility, political openness, dissent and accommodation, human rights, education opportunity, migration and environmental protection? How can Singapore's elites remain rooted, open, inclusive and oriented to serving society? What new political approaches will need to be developed for the continued "remaking" of Singapore and sustained belief in the Singapore dream?

*Chairperson:*

Dr Gillian Koh  
Research Fellow  
Institute of Policy Studies

*Speakers:*

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan  
Minister  
Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports

Dr Ho Khai Leong  
Fellow  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies

Dr Catherine Lim  
Writer

Question-and-Answer Session

12.30 pm - 2.15 pm

**Lunch**

2.15 pm - 3.45 pm

**Session III**

**Of Zen Neeon, Chicken Rice Wars and a Lot More to Come? Walking the Creative Talk**

Much has been said about the need to nurture innovation and creativity in Singapore to make it a vibrant cosmopolitan global city that will inspire its own citizens to develop their full potential, draw the tourists and put Singapore on the world map of creative ideas and industries. What are the conditions for nurturing creativity? What creativity lessons can be drawn from our local cultures and conditions and from other fields and sources such as the arts and humanities? What creative niches and industries can Singapore develop in the face of global competition?

*Chairperson:*

Dr Cherian George  
Adjunct Senior Research Fellow  
Institute of Policy Studies

*Speakers:*

Mr Steve Wyatt  
Vice President

Mr S  
Monitor Group  
Mr Daniel Yun  
CEO  
Mediacorp Raintree Pictures Pte Ltd  
  
Mr Arun Mahizhnan  
Acting Director  
Institute of Policy Studies  
  
Question-and-Answer Session

3.45 pm - 4.10 pm

**Coffee Break**

**B) REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL**

4.10 pm - 5.40 pm

**Session IV**

**Singapore and Southeast Asia in a Fast Changing Landscape**

Singapore is located within rapidly changing economic, geopolitical and socio-cultural landscapes. India and China are emerging economic powerhouses. The East Asia Summit (EAS) foretells cooperation as well as competition. The US will continue to see potential security threats as well as economic opportunities in this region. The Middle East presents not just conflict but growing business potential. How can Singapore tap on and contribute to the new challenges and opportunities of this changing landscape? What regional roles can Singapore play in ASEAN and the EAS, and how can it contribute to ASEAN's prosperity in the face of global economic competition?

*Chairperson:*  
Prof Wang Gungwu  
Director  
East Asian Institute

*Speakers:*  
Prof Amitav Acharya  
Deputy Director  
Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies

Mr Rodolfo Severino  
Visiting Senior Research Fellow  
Institute of Southeast Asian Studies and  
Former ASEAN Secretary-General

Question-and-Answer Session

5.40 pm - 5.50 pm

**Closing Remarks**

Mr Arun Mahizhnan  
Acting Director  
Institute of Policy Studies

