

SINGAPORE PERSPECTIVES2023



5, 9 & 16 January 2023

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 5 JANUARY 2023 (ONLINE SESSIONS)

9.00 am – 10.00 am

Panel 1 — Keynote Speech: The Role of Education and Lifelong Learning in the Future Economy

Moderator

Ms Priscillia Yeong

Speaker

Mr Chan Chun Sing
Minister for Education

Question-and-Answer Session

11.00 am – 12.30 pm

Panel 2 — Transiting to the Digital, Green and Care Economies: How to Succeed in the Jobs Ahead

The Singapore economy is undergoing major transformations linked to the fourth industrial revolution, ongoing pandemic, supply chain disruptions, unstable global security outlook, climate change, and the nation's own ageing demography. What and where are the new jobs likely to be? What would Singaporeans need to succeed in these new roles? What would future employers demand in future employees? Hard skills aside, what other qualities do Singaporeans need to survive and thrive at work in future?

Moderator

Dr Carol Soon
Senior Research Fellow &
Head, Society and Culture Department
Institute of Policy Studies

Speakers

Ms Winnie Tan
Senior Vice President
Sustainability
Great Eastern Holdings Ltd

Dr Ong Chen Hui
Assistant Chief Executive (BizTech Group)
Infocomm Media Development Authority

Dr Ng Wai Chong
Founder & Chief Executive Officer
NWC Longevity Practice

Question-and-Answer Session

2.00 pm – 3.30 pm

Panel 3 — Identifying and Addressing Longer-Term Work Trends: Role of the State and Educational Institutions

Beyond the immediate transitions to the green, digital and care economies, and beyond the individual skills and qualities needed, how can Singapore at the strategic level identify future economic trends and workforce demands? How do we create an early detection system for sensing where the emerging industries and new jobs may be? How can we translate these foresights into strategic labour plans? What adaptations do educational and training institutes have to make to be part of an agile ecosystem? This panel explores the best ways in which Singapore can identify where and how we should place our bets to ensure that Singaporeans will continue to have viable and decent work in the long-term future.

Moderator

Dr Faizal Bin Yahya
Senior Research Fellow
Institute of Policy Studies

Speakers

Dr Gog Soon Joo
Chief Skills Officer
Skills Development Group
SkillsFuture Singapore

Ms Low Khah Gek
Chief Executive Officer
Institute of Technical Education

Mr Indranil Roy
Executive Director
Deloitte Consulting Southeast Asia

Question-and-Answer Session

MONDAY, 9 JANUARY 2023 (ONLINE SESSIONS)

9.00 am – 10.00 am

Panel 4 — Keynote Speech: Role of Unions in the New Social Compact

Moderator

Dr Mathew Mathews
Principal Research Fellow &
Head, Social Lab
Institute of Policy Studies

Speaker

Mr Ng Chee Meng
Secretary-General
National Trades Union Congress

Question-and-Answer Session

11.00 am – 12.30 pm

Panel 5 — The Changing Role of Unions

Singapore's labour force profile is changing and the pool of "typical union members" is shrinking. How can unions remain relevant amid major structural changes in the labour market and the rise of new forms such as platform economies? What is the redefined role for unions? How should unions engage with the new workforce, new types of employment, and new ways of working? How can gig economy workers engage in collective bargaining, if at all? What labour rights do workers have in the new digital economy, and do existing employment laws offer sufficient protection? What are the possible challenges for employers and businesses?

Moderator

Mr Christopher Gee
Senior Research Fellow &
Head, Governance and Economy Department
Institute of Policy Studies

Speakers

Mr Desmond Choo
Assistant Secretary-General
National Trades Union Congress
and
Mayor, North East District

Associate Professor Irene Ng
Department of Social Work
Social Service Research Centre
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
National University of Singapore

Mr Sim Gim Guan
Executive Director
Singapore National Employers Federation

Question-and-Answer Session

2.00 pm – 3.30 pm

Panel 6 — Addressing Job Vulnerabilities: Ensuring Viable and Decent Work for All

Market forces will not ensure that all workers can make a decent living and inequality may increase. This panel explores how government, the labour movement, social actors and employers can work together to overcome job insecurities and ensure that no one is left out even as enterprises remain competitive in the global economy.

Moderator

Dr Robyn Tan
Research Fellow
Institute of Policy Studies

Speakers

Mr Patrick Tay
Assistant Secretary-General
National Trades Union Congress

Ms Ranganayaki Thangavelu
Deputy Executive Director
Beyond Social Services

Dr Sreeja Nair
Assistant Professor
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

Question-and-Answer Session

MONDAY, 16 JANUARY 2023

*Sands Grand Ballroom (Level 5)
Sands Expo and Convention Centre*

8.15 am – 9.30 am

Registration

9.30 am – 9.45 am

Opening Address

Mr Janadas Devan
Director
Institute of Policy Studies

9.45 am – 10.00 am

**Findings from the IPS Survey on Future of Work
Singaporeans Want**

Speaker

Dr Chew Han Ei
Senior Research Fellow
Social Lab
Institute of Policy Studies

10.00 am – 11.00 am

**Panel 7 — Interpreting the Survey Findings:
Addressing Different and Changing Aspirations**

We have heard the diverse views of Singaporeans about the future of work they want. What does work mean for Singaporeans? What meaning do they seek in work? This panel explores how we address these concerns from different groups of Singaporeans, as well as the influence of macro trends and factors on changing mindsets and attitudes.

Moderator

Dr Laurel Teo
Senior Research Fellow
Institute of Policy Studies

Speakers

Professor Hoon Hian Teck
Dean
School of Economics
Singapore Management University

Mr Andrew Yeo
Chief Executive Officer
Income Insurance Limited

Question-and-Answer Session

11.00 am – 11.30 am

Break

11.30 am – 12.45 pm

**Panel 8 — The Meaning and Value of Work: Taking a
Cross-Generational Perspective**

What do the youths of today want, and what may the silver generation of tomorrow need? This panel takes a cross-generational perspective on the work aspirations and needs of both young and old.

Moderator

Dr Teo Kay Key
Research Fellow
Social Lab
Institute of Policy Studies

Speakers

Mr David Chua
Chief Executive Officer
National Youth Council

Professor Paulin Straughan
Director
Centre for Research on Successful Ageing
Singapore Management University

Question-and-Answer Session

12.45 pm – 2.00 pm

Lunch

2.00 pm – 3.30 pm

Panel 9 — The New Social Compact and Policy Implications for Work

One of the key tenets of the new (refreshed) social compact is a more compassionate meritocracy. How do we embrace talents from more diverse fields and encourage acceptance of credentials and credibility beyond academic achievements? Is education enough? How can we mitigate entrenchment of privilege across generations? What role can organisations and employers play? This blue-skies panel explores impactful ideas and thinking that can shape the future of work that Singaporeans want.

Moderator

Dr Gillian Koh
Deputy Director (Research) &
Senior Research Fellow
Institute of Policy Studies

Speakers

Mr Rajeev Peshawaria
Chief Executive Officer
Stewardship Asia Centre

Dr Intan Azura Mokhtar
Associate Professor
Business, Communication and Design Cluster &
Deputy Director
Community Leadership and Social Innovation Centre
Singapore Institute of Technology

Ms Yeo Wan Ling
Director
U SME and Women & Family Unit
National Trades Union Congress

Question-and-Answer Session

3.30 pm – 4.00 pm

Break

4.00 pm – 5.00 pm

DIALOGUE
with Mr Lawrence Wong,
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Finance

Moderator

Ms Debra Soon
Group Head
Brand, Communications and Marketing
Singlife

Question-and-Answer Session

5.00 pm

End

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