

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **NUS LKY School to Train Seoul Metropolitan Government Officers in Public Administration, Policy Formulation, and Implementation**

*Seoul Metropolitan Government Signs MOU for Professional Development Program at the LKY School*

1 SINGAPORE – The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore (NUS) announced today that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Seoul Metropolitan Government, Seoul (SMG) on a two-year long professional development program to its selected officers.

2 The program is aimed at providing SMG government officers an opportunity to examine key challenges in policy formulation and implementation, in one of the best public policy laboratories in the world. The program allows civil servants from Korea to spend time at the LKY School for professional growth, leadership development, and cultural immersion.

3 On why SMG chose the LKY School as its partner for this project, SMG Director General of Administration, KIM Eui Seung said, “Over the years, SMG has been sending key officials for overseas training, mostly to the US and the UK, in an effort to enhance their global competency and expertise. We believe that for Seoul to better develop into a diverse international city, it is critical for its public officials to gain a thorough understanding of cultural diversity. In order to achieve this goal, we consider it necessary to turn our focus to successful Asian cities and explore further opportunities for learning from a broad range of national policies and sustainable development strategies. We found the LKY School especially attractive in that it offers its students the opportunity to share Asian values at one of the world’s top schools, with distinguished academics as well as experienced practitioners not only from Asia but also from all around the world. We have long been aware of the reputation of the LKY School. The expertise and trust that officials there have displayed over the past

year of preparation and planning have further solidified our confidence that the program will prove a remarkable success.”

4 In an era where education can be shared globally and tailored to local needs, the Executive Education arm of the LKY School will develop the program with the intention that participants can pursue informal study under the guidance of the LKY School academic advisor, rather than being associated with one specific structured program of graduate study. The program is ideal for individuals who wish to undertake a self-paced form of education, combined with a practical attachment to a Singapore organization of their choice.

5 “Participants will get to learn in a distinctively global environment, to generate practical insights and strategies for enhancing their respective roles in public governance in their country. The insights gained from the connection with professors, public policy practitioners and professional development workshops that the LKY School hosts, will enable our participants to develop their internal processes and procedures that help shape initiatives in the future”, said Louise Beehag, Executive Director and Head – Executive Education, LKY School.

### **About the Program**

6 The two-year professional development program which starts from July 2015 is available in two parts. The certificate program that consists of a full suite of seminars, public lectures on politics, governance and leadership, and senior management program courses, will run for the first year. Participants may choose to extend the program for a second year based on their interest areas and attachment to a Singapore organization for the purpose of understudy and practical learning.

7 Participants who have successfully completed the program will receive an official certificate upon completion of the LKY School Korean Professional Development Program.

8 Working with partners and public policy institutions around the world, the Executive Education arm of the LKY School has trained over 12,000 professionals, and has seen a growing global interest among government sectors in building up their policy governance and international relations capacity.

9 Established in 2004, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy runs exchange programmes with 16 global universities. It enrolls some 400 students from over 70 countries in its four Masters and Ph.D. programs. The school boasts long-term partnerships with global institutions including the Harvard Kennedy School, and was the first Asian school to join the Global Public Policy Network established by Columbia SIPA, the London School of Economics and Sciences Po. The school curriculum spans across multiple disciplines and is complemented with case studies and a problem-based learning approach. Students from the LKY School can expect to extend their learning well beyond the walls of the classroom, and to benefit from strong empirical evidence and contextual narratives that emphasise Asian and international dimensions.

10 By providing opportunities for the education and training of the next generation of Asian policymakers and leaders, the LKY School aims to raise the standards of governance throughout the region, improve the lives of the people in the region and, in so doing, contribute to the transformation of Asia.

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