



LKYSPP Dean awarded Jubilee Medal on Kazakhstan's 25th Independence Anniversary

- *School recognised for contributions to the country's governance*

Singapore, 26 May, 2017 – Professor Kishore Mahbubani, Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP) at the National University of Singapore (NUS), was awarded the Jubilee medal to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Independence of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which was established by the Decree of President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev. The award was conferred by Mr Mukhtar Kul-Mukhammed, First Deputy Chairman of Nur Otan Party, who is on official visit to Singapore. Dr Usen Suleimen, Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Singapore, Mr Umej Singh Bhatia, Director-General of the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore, dignitaries from both Kazakhstan and Singapore also witnessed the Ceremony today.

Professor Kishore Mahbubani received the award for strengthening bilateral ties between Kazakhstan and Singapore, in particular for his contributions to the successful development of a globally competitive public policy school in Kazakhstan -- the Graduate School of Public Policy (GSPP) at Nazarbayev University (NU). In 2012, Singapore's founding Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, was conferred one of Kazakhstan's highest state awards, the Order of Friendship, as well as a medal commemorating the country's 20th Independence anniversary.

The Jubilee Medal was established to recognise significant contributors to the Kazakhstan statehood through strengthening of sovereignty, bilateral relations and socioeconomic development. Among the recipients of this Jubilee Medal are distinguished luminaries such as Ashraf Ghani, President of Afghanistan; Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of the World Economic Forum, Roberto Azevêdo, Director-General of the World Trade Organization as well as foreign ministers and dignitaries worldwide.

While conferring the Medal, First Deputy Chairman of Nur Otan Party Mr Mukhtar Kul-Mukhammed shared that, "Singapore is a role model among the countries that has successfully implemented political and economic reforms. Singapore managed to raise the standards of life of its citizens faster and more efficiently than anyone else. The explanation for this fact is that the Singaporean people chose education and science as the core of modernization processes. As for Kazakhstan, we are on the same track as well. Kazakhstan strives for cooperation and

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mutual exchange of experience with Singapore not only in politics and economics, but also in education sphere."

Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Singapore Dr Usen Suleimen stressed, "We are delighted to have this strategic partnership between LKYSPP and Nazarbayev University. Therefore, it is an honor for us to confer this Jubilee medal to Prof. Mahbubani for his contributions in bringing our nations closer through education."

Development of Public Policy Graduate School in Kazakhstan

Professor Kishore Mahbubani said, "It is a great honour to receive the Jubilee Medal from Mr Mukhtar Kul-Muhammed. The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy is fortunate to have enjoyed close ties with Nazarbayev University and the Government of Kazakhstan over the years. We are also happy to be involved in the transformation of higher education in Kazakhstan. The commitment of the Government of Kazakhstan to developing generations of good public policy makers is commendable. We are happy to support the noble goal of building a globally oriented graduate school of public policy programme in Nazarbayev University. We believe that this deep commitment to develop future leaders augurs well for the future of Kazakhstan and Central Asia."

LKYSPP, the only Asian institution selected as Partner of NU

LKYSPP is the only Asian academic institution to be selected as a partner of NU. The other partner institutions include Duke University's Fuqua School of Business, Cambridge University, University of Pennsylvania and University of Wisconsin at Madison. Since 2012, LKYSPP and NU have been working closely to develop the Graduate School of Public Policy. They have successfully established two graduate programmes – a Master in Public Policy and a Master in Public Administration. Both programmes aim to improve governance in Kazakhstan and the Central Asia region through research and education.

Exploring the Singapore Model

All master students of GSPP have the opportunity to participate in an intensive, two-week Singapore Studies module, delivered at LKYSPP. This module is designed to expose students to Singapore's policy and administrative innovations. LKYSPP and GSPP faculty are also involved in joint research to impact governance in Kazakhstan. This joint research includes

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studying public sector reform, anti-corruption efforts and the management of natural resources in Kazakhstan.

LKYSPP has also conducted courses for over 800 senior officials from Kazakhstan, including the Prime Minister and his Cabinet, deputy ministers, and permanent secretaries in all branches of the government.

About the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy

The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy is an autonomous, professional graduate school of the National University of Singapore. Its mission is to educate and train policy-makers and leaders, with the objective of raising the standards of governance throughout the region, improving the lives of its people, and, in so doing, contributing to the transformation of Asia and beyond. In addition to Masters and PhD programmes, the LKYSPP offers high quality customised Executive Programmes that cater to the needs of time-constrained senior managers and professionals, with the aim of delivering creative solutions to real management and leadership challenges.

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