



MEDIA RELEASE

Singapore, 16 November 2022 | **For Immediate Release**

Chairmanship of Revolving Fund Committee handed over to Singapore

Mr Teo Eng Dih, Chief Executive, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) witnessed a ceremony today to officially mark the handover of management of the Revolving Fund Committee from Malaysia to Singapore.

Established in 1981 to combat oil pollution in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore

2. The Revolving Fund Committee (RFC) was established on 11 February 1981 through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed between Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and the Malacca Strait Council (MSC)¹ to combat oil pollution in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS), and ensure that one of the world's busiest waterways remain safe and clean. The MSC contributed 400 million yen as the principal sum of the Revolving Fund.

3. Serving as an effective mechanism for international co-operation in the maintenance of the Straits, Malaysia, Indonesia, or Singapore can draw cash advance from the Fund for use in combating oil pollution caused by ships. The amount drawn will be repaid to the Fund when the State recovers the clean-up costs from the parties responsible.

Singapore to manage the Revolving Fund from April 2022 to March 2027

4. Under the MOU, each littoral State of the SOMS – Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore – will manage the Fund on a rotational basis for a period of five years each. Singapore has taken over the chairmanship of the RFC from April 2022 and will manage the Revolving Fund until March 2027.

5. The RFC will be chaired by Captain M Segar, Assistant Chief Executive (Operations), MPA, and supported by Ms Cindy Sim, Director (Finance, Procurement & Admin), MPA, as the RFC Authority.

6. In his opening address, Mr Teo Eng Dih highlighted that the SOMS are among the busiest and most critical waterways in the world, with some 120,000 vessels using the Straits each year. It is therefore in the vital interest of the littoral States and the international community that the Straits are kept safe and clean. He said "As world trade continues to expand and shipping traffic increases, the responsibility of maintaining safety and preserving the marine environment in the Straits will grow in tandem. The Revolving Fund is a good example of cooperation between the littoral States and the users of the Straits to safeguard the marine environment."

¹ MSC is a public organisation established in 1969 in Japan with funding support by the Nippon Foundation and related industries for the purpose of conducting the cooperation to the Littoral States for the enhancement of the safety of navigation in the SOMS.

7. The official handover letter was signed by Captain M Segar and Mr Wan Abdul Latiff bin Wan Jaffar, (Director General of Department of Environment, Malaysia). Witnessing the signing were the Mr Teo Eng Dih, Captain Mugen Suprihatin Sartoto (Director of Sea and Coast Guard) and Mr Kenji Nagamatsu (Executive Director, Malacca Strait Council of Japan).

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About the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA)

MPA was established on 2 February 1996 with the mission to develop Singapore as a premier global hub port and international maritime centre, and to advance and safeguard Singapore's strategic maritime interests. MPA is the driving force behind Singapore's port and maritime development, taking on the roles of port authority, port regulator, port planner, international maritime centre champion and national maritime representative. MPA partners with industry and other agencies to enhance safety, security and environmental protection in our port waters, facilitate port operations and growth, expand the cluster of maritime ancillary services, and promote maritime R&D and manpower development. MPA is responsible for the overall development and growth of the Port of Singapore. In 2021, Singapore remained as the world's busiest transshipment hub with a container throughput of 37.5 million 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

For more information, please visit www.mpa.gov.sg.

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