

**CLOSING REMARKS BY SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE  
KOH POH KOON,  
VICE CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE SINGAPORE-JIANGSU  
COOPERATION COUNCIL (SJCC)  
AT THE 18<sup>TH</sup> SJCC MEETING IN NANJING, 3 DECEMBER 2024**

尊敬的许琨林省长，  
英兰妮部长，  
方伟副省长

各位嘉宾，  
女士们，先生们

大家上午好！

1. 很高兴能再次访问南京。首先，我衷心的感谢江苏省政府对新加坡代表团的热情接待，以及细心筹备新加坡-江苏合作理事会的第十八次会议。
2. 新苏合作理事会是新加坡与江苏建立友谊和合作伙伴关系的重要平台，多年来有效地促进双边交流及商业合作。稍后我们将见证 21 个项目签署，证实了双边在经济贸易以及人文交流上的密切合作关系。
3. 苏州工业园区和新加坡南京生态科技岛是新苏之间的重要项目。多年来通过双方的努力经营，硕果累累。接下来，我们希望继续通过这两个项目，推动新加坡与江苏企业和机构在新兴领域，如低碳和可持续发展等，探讨更多的合作机遇。
4. 接下来，我会以英语发言。

**Good progress in key platform projects**

5. Singapore and Jiangsu have enjoyed a robust economic relationship, evident in the good progress made by our bilateral projects of the Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP) and Singapore-Nanjing Eco Hi-Tech Island (SNEHTI).
  - a. The SIP celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary last week. The Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry and the PRC Ministry of Commerce have signed a Cooperation

Initiative on Promoting the High-Quality Development of the China-Singapore Suzhou Industrial Park (2024-2033), to chart bilateral cooperation in the SIP for the next decade, focusing on green economy, biomedical sciences, digital economy and people-to-people exchanges. This is an important milestone as we take steps in deepening our cooperation and achieving our vision for the SIP to become a world class, high-tech industrial park.

- b. The Singapore-Nanjing Eco Hi-Tech Island have also progressed in recent years, in terms of sustainability-related development and injecting vibrancy into the island. I am delighted to learn that at the World Cities Day China Observance Event this year, the Eco Island was featured as one of China's six exemplary cases of successful sustainable development efforts in the "Weihai Handbook: Global Community Sustainability Report". This global recognition is testament to our 15 years of joint efforts in transforming the Eco Island, especially in the area of sustainable living and ecological protection.
- c. With a vision to achieve carbon-neutrality by 2050, the Eco Island is currently working on implementing green-related solutions in the existing commercial zone to demonstrate innovative sustainability solutions. This includes developing Nanjing's first zero-carbon industrial park. I am excited to see the latest developments with a visit to the island in the afternoon.

6. With strong dedication and hard work from both sides, the SIP and Eco Island will continue to be pathfinder platforms to realise novel and groundbreaking ideas, and at the same time, serve as a landing pad for Singapore companies to venture into East China and beyond.

7. Moving ahead, Jiangsu can be a role model for the rest of China in demonstrating forward-looking initiatives, especially in green and sustainable development, and this will be anchored by the SIP and Eco Island projects. I am confident that both projects will continue to do well and would like to encourage companies to seek out co-innovation opportunities in green and sustainability areas and conduct pilot trials in these two projects. We look forward to hearing more good outcomes at the SJCC meeting next year in Singapore.

### **Enhancing talent and people-to-people exchanges**

8. Beyond economic cooperation, enhancing talent and people-to-people exchanges is an important element of Singapore-Jiangsu cooperation. I am heartened to see that there have been active exchanges on both business and youth fronts. For example, the three-month exchange programme between Suzhou at Singapore law firms, as well as internship placements between Jiangsu and Suzhou under Business China's Youth Interns Exchange Scheme (YES). These talent exchanges are important and valuable avenues to establish new connections and deepen cultural understanding between both countries, especially at the young people level.

9. On cultural exchange, both Singapore and Jiangsu had organised cultural events last year such as the "Meet Suzhou in Singapore" Culture Week at the Esplanade, and "Experience Singapore Week" in Suzhou in July this year. Such exchanges contribute to strengthening Singapore-Jiangsu ties.

## **Conclusion**

10. As Singapore and Jiangsu chart the direction for future growth, we should continue to build on our high level of trust and expand cooperation in both depth and breadth. I would like to thank all the government officials and business leaders for your continuous participation and support towards strengthening Singapore-Jiangsu cooperation.

11. 我期待有更多新加坡和江苏企业在新苏合作的稳固基础下，继续合作及发挥各自优势，再创新高！预祝大家身体健康，事业顺利。谢谢大家！