

**SPEECH BY MR ALVIN TAN, MINISTER OF STATE FOR NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY
AT THE 15th SINGAPORE-GUANGDONG COLLABORATION
COUNCIL (SGCC) MEETING, 25 NOVEMBER 2025**

尊敬的孟凡利省长，
尊敬的王乙康部长，
各位嘉宾，
女士们、先生们

大家下午好！

1. 非常高兴能出席第十五届广东-新加坡合作理事会会议，并在广州与新旧朋友一起相聚。

2. 过去一年，中新广州知识城和深新智慧城市合作项目稳步推进，成果丰硕。十五年来，广州知识城已发展成为中新两国在大湾区合作的重要平台，聚集高端制造、绿色发展和创新创业，也吸引了多家新加坡及国际企业落户。深新智慧城市项目则在数字经济和科技创新等方面不断深化合作，为两地企业开展更广更深契机。展望未来，希望两项合作项目继续成为中新合作的示范，带动更多创新成果落地。

3. 接下来，我会以英语发言。

Good progress made by China-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City (CSGKC) and Singapore-China (Shenzhen) Smart City Initiative (SCI)

4. We've made good progress in our bilateral projects.

- a. This year, we mark the 15th anniversary of our China-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City (CSGKC) project, and we celebrate the many achievements in various domains including innovation, sustainability and biomedical sciences. We will continue to use the CSGKC as a landing pad for Singapore companies looking to land in Guangzhou to serve the Greater Bay Area (GBA) market as well as beyond.

- b. Turning to our Singapore-China (Shenzhen) Smart City Initiative, it continues to be a pathfinder for businesses to cooperate in digital connectivity, trade, innovation, entrepreneurship, and talent exchange and development.

5. These two flagship projects reflect both the depth as well as breadth of our long-standing partnership with Guangdong.

Singapore investments in Guangdong have seen good progress in areas of mutual interests and fast-growing sectors

6. Beyond these two flagship projects that we are all familiar with, Singapore investments in Guangdong continue to grow. This shows our companies have increasing confidence in Guangdong's growth potential and pro-business environment. Please allow me to share a few examples in recent times, in the areas of healthcare, eldercare, sustainability and financial services:

- a. In healthcare, Perennial Holdings is developing general and specialist hospitals in Guangzhou's Baiyun district and an integrated eldercare project with hospitals and eldercare homes in Huangpu district. The Perennial General Hospital in Baiyun, will be integrated with the adjacent high speed railway train station, and it will be the first wholly foreign-owned tertiary general hospital in Guangzhou and Southern China. This was made possible after China allowed wholly foreign-owned hospitals to be established from November 2024. Both projects will strengthen Guangdong's healthcare infrastructure and enhance access to quality medical and eldercare services.
- b. In the area of eldercare, Keppel is expanding its presence in China's eldercare sector. Its third Sindora Living eldercare facility in China set to begin operations in Foshan next year. This project helps Guangdong meet the needs of its rapidly aging population, no different from Singapore.
- c. In sustainability, Singapore and China have both set ambitious climate goals and can work together to achieve its goals. For example, SP Group is providing district cooling solutions in the CSGKC, including the Knowledge Tower, where we were at earlier this morning. Consis Engineering and Guangzhou Affordable Housing Group are also working together to deploy photovoltaic and vertical greening solutions in urban renewal projects here in Guangzhou.
- d. In the area of financial services, our financial institutions continue to expand their presence and investments in each other's markets. DBS Bank increased its stake in Shenzhen Rural Commercial Bank earlier this year, reflecting its long-term confidence in Guangdong's financial sector and growth prospects in the GBA. Last month, Guangfa Futures obtained in-principle approval from the Monetary Authority of Singapore to set up a Singapore subsidiary to serve as its international hub for derivatives trading, allowing it to better serve institutional clients in Asia.

- e. We are seeding and seeing greater connectivity in our capital markets in both Singapore and Guangdong. This year, we saw notable bond and equity listings from Guangdong-based enterprises, including China Medical System Holdings Limited's secondary listing on the SGX in July, which uses Singapore's international platform to access a broader pool of global investors and further expand. The SGX-Shenzhen Stock Exchange ETF Product Link also continues to expand, with the addition of the Amova-E Fund ChiNext Index ETF, further broadening investment opportunities for investors in both markets.

Further deepen collaboration in innovation

7. Despite all of this, I think you would agree that we can do more, particularly in the area of technology and innovation.

8. The inaugural Singapore-Shenzhen Joint Innovation Call which we started in 2023, has around 40 applications with 10 projects supported.

- a. One success story is AiTreat, a Singapore health-tech company behind EMMA¹, a therapeutic robot that delivers personalised, data-driven musculoskeletal treatment. Through the Innovation Call, AiTreat partnered with Shenzhen MileBot to enhance EMMA's design and clinical performance. This has enabled EMMA's medical version to qualify for China's NMPA Class II Innovative Medical Device Fast-Track, a major milestone that opens the door for regulatory approval and clinical deployment here in China.

9. This year, we received over 110 applications for our 2nd Joint Innovation Call. The projects are quite exciting, they cover areas like advanced manufacturing, green and low-carbon solutions, and biomedical technology. This reflects the strong demand for cross-border R&D collaboration and a rising interest from Singapore and Shenzhen companies to innovate together.

10. We can continue to accelerate innovation and commercialisation of new technologies by combining Singapore's strengths in research with Guangdong's advanced manufacturing strengths. A good example is LionsBot, a Singapore robotics company that I know well, which company has partnered Shenzhen-based RoboSense to integrate its LiDAR system into LionsBot's cleaning robots, greatly improving navigation precision and operational efficiency of these robots. Both LionsBots and Roosense are not stopping there. Building on this partnership, LionsBot has established an entity in Shenzhen to tap the region's R&D talent and a very strong supply chain network.

Conclusion

11. Ladies and Gentlemen, I just highlighted many different opportunities for us, what we have done and what we can continue to do. As we celebrate our milestones and build upon these strong foundations, I'm sure all of us believe that we can do more together, in both the

¹ EMMA - Expert Manipulative Massage Automation

traditional and emerging sectors. And I'm sure our meeting today will spark even more ideas, even more connections and new perspectives.

12. On that note, I wish everyone a successful and engaging meeting ahead.

13. Thank you. 谢谢大家！