



JOINT MEDIA RELEASE BY SINGAPORE CUSTOMS, THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

300 OFFICIALS FROM 75 COUNTRIES TO CONVENE IN SINGAPORE FOR 12TH INTERNATIONAL EXPORT CONTROL CONFERENCE

The Governments of Singapore and of the United States of America and the European Union are co-sponsoring the 12th International Export Control Conference “**Building the Network of Non-proliferators**,” from 24 to 26 May 2011. About 300 officials from 75 countries, as well as experts from international and non-governmental organisations will meet in Singapore at the Raffles City Convention Centre.

2 This year’s conference is the first in the series of annual conferences to be held in Asia, and it is the first time that Singapore is hosting this international export control conference. The conference brings together officials to address the latest developments in strategic trade control and related border security issues. The conference will help galvanise efforts to collaboratively address the global threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), and to meet shared international obligations to manage trade in strategic goods, including the UN Security Council Resolution 1540.

3 A panel of distinguished speakers will share insights on export control at the conference. These include:

- Mr. Chee Wee Kiong, the Second Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore;
- Mr. Fong Yong Kian, the Director-General of Customs, Singapore Customs;
- Amb. David Adelman, the United States Ambassador to Singapore;
- Mr. Vann Van Diepen, the United States Acting Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Nonproliferation;
- Dr. Arnold Wallraff, the President of the German Federal Office of Economics and Export Control; and
- Amb. Marc Ungeheuer, the Head of the European Union Delegation to Singapore.

4 During the conference, participants will discuss evolving proliferation challenges, recent developments in the multilateral nonproliferation regimes, as well as shared responsibilities for implementing UN Security Council Resolutions and improving practices for licensing controlled items. The conference provides a forum for participants to explore common challenges, identify and discuss practical solutions, and establish regional and global contacts to strengthen cooperation on strategic trade control and related border security activities.

End of Release

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