

LAUNCH OF FORWARD SINGAPORE: PARTNERING SINGAPOREANS TO REFRESH OUR SOCIAL COMPACT

1. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Lawrence Wong launched Forward Singapore at a Labour Movement Conversation organised by the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) earlier today. Forward Singapore is a collective effort led by DPM Wong and his 4G leadership team, working in partnership with Singaporeans, to review and refresh Singapore's social compact and set out a roadmap for the next decade and beyond.

Our Social Compact

2. Singapore's social compact is a shared understanding of how we relate to each other. It is an expression of our shared values and norms, and determines the roles and responsibilities of the Government, the community, businesses, and individuals in society. A social compact that all of society accepts as fair strengthens social capital, fosters trust, and enables us to progress together to build a better future.

3. The world around us and our own society are changing, presenting new challenges and opportunities. External developments such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war have altered the geopolitical reality that we live in. Domestically, we must manage the impact of trends such as an ageing population and slowing social mobility. These circumstances make it timely for us to re-examine our social compact and so guide our next phase of nation-building.

Forward Singapore Exercise

4. Through Forward Singapore, the 4G leadership will partner Singaporeans to explore how we can ensure greater opportunities for all; provide better assurance and care for Singaporeans in a volatile world; steward our shared resources; and foster a greater sense of shared ownership and responsibility across society. The exercise will be organised along six pillars, each headed by 4G leaders*:

- a. **Empower:** Economy and Jobs
- b. **Equip:** Education and Lifelong Learning
- c. **Care:** Health and Social Support
- d. **Build:** Home and Living Environment
- e. **Steward:** Environmental and Fiscal Sustainability
- f. **Unite:** Singapore Identity

**Details on the pillars and the 4G leaders overseeing them can be found in Annex A.*

5. The pillar leads will engage Singaporeans to understand their concerns, listen to their feedback, and explore the trade-offs involved in various policy shifts. In the process, they will review and update policies, and establish new partnerships with stakeholders to implement changes.

6. Forward Singapore will build on the ideas gathered and partnerships built across various engagements in recent years, including the Singapore Together Emerging Stronger Conversations, the Conversations on Women's Development, and the Long-Term Plan Review, among others.

7. The Forward Singapore exercise will span a year and conclude with the publication of a report in mid-2023. This report will set out policy recommendations to underpin our refreshed social compact, and highlight how different segments of society can be more involved in contributing towards our shared goals.

8. We encourage all Singaporeans to step forward to offer your views and ideas, and work with the Government and the rest of society to turn our shared vision into reality. By partnering one another through Forward Singapore, we will build a fairer and more inclusive society, with opportunities for all. To view details of upcoming engagements, please visit www.forwardsingapore.gov.sg.

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About Forward Singapore

Forward Singapore is a whole-of-society effort to refresh our social compact, so as to facilitate greater opportunities for all; provide better assurance and care for Singaporeans in a volatile world; steward our shared resources; and foster a greater sense of shared ownership and responsibility across society.

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

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ANNEX A

Overall lead: Lawrence Wong, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister for Finance			
Pillar	Description	Pillar Leads*	
Empower: Economy and Jobs	To empower every Singaporean to have lifelong employability in a more competitive economy amidst an uncertain world.	Tan See Leng	Minister for Manpower & Second Minister for Trade and Industry
		Ng Chee Meng	Secretary-General, National Trades Union Congress
		Koh Poh Koon	Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Manpower & Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment
Equip: Education and Lifelong Learning	To equip every Singaporean with the opportunity to thrive, grow and realise their aspirations, regardless of their starting point in life.	Chan Chun Sing	Minister for Education
		Zaqy Mohamad	Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence & Ministry of Manpower
		Tan Kiat How	Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information & Ministry of National Development
Care: Health and Social Support	To enable every Singaporean to lead a dignified and fulfilling life, and to better care for themselves and for others around them.	Ong Ye Kung	Minister for Health
		Masagos Zulkifli	Minister for Social and Family Development, Second Minister for Health & Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs
		Indranee Rajah	Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Finance & National Development

Overall lead: Lawrence Wong, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister for Finance			
Pillar	Description	Pillar Leads*	
Build: Home and Living Environment	To transform our living environment, and to build a more liveable home for all who stake their futures here.	Desmond Lee	Minister for National Development & Minister-in-charge of Social Services Integration
		S Iswaran	Minister for Transport & Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations
		Josephine Teo	Minister for Communications and Information & Second Minister for Home Affairs
		Sim Ann	Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Ministry of National Development
Steward: Environmental and Fiscal Sustainability	To foster a more sustainable way of life that stewards our resources responsibly for future generations.	Grace Fu	Minister for Sustainability and the Environment
		Tan Chuan-Jin	Speaker of Parliament
		Chee Hong Tat	Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Finance & Ministry of Transport
Unite: Singapore Identity	To grow our sense of belonging to Singapore, our commitment to citizenship and our sense of mutual responsibility towards each other.	Edwin Tong	Minister for Culture, Community and Youth & Second Minister for Law
		Maliki Osman	Minister, Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Education & Foreign Affairs
		Janil Puthucheary	Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information & Ministry of Health

* The Pillar Leads will involve other political office-holders to widely engage with all stakeholders in the course of their work.

ANNEX B

Translations for Forward Singapore	
Chinese	新加坡携手前进
Malay	Melakar Hala Tuju Singapura
Tamil	முன்னேறும் சிங்கப்பூர்