METI MINISTRY OF ENERGY, TRADE AND INDUSTRY SINGAPORE

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE REPORTING

SINGAPORE CALLS FOR STRONGER COOPERATION ON RULES-BASED TRADE, TRADE DIGITALISATION AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AT THE 37TH ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION MINISTERIAL MEETING

1. Minister of State for Energy, Trade and Industry Foo Cexiang and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and National Development Alvin Tan attended the 37th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting (AMM) on 3 November 2026. The virtual meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Wang Yi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, China and H.E. Wang Wentao, Minister for Commerce, China, and attended by representatives from the 21 APEC Economies.

2. Under the theme of "Building an Asia-Pacific Community to Prosper Together", the APEC Ministers exchanged views on strengthening economic cooperation amid geopolitical and technological shifts, including through an open and predictable trade and investment environment. They also committed to working together to foster an enabling environment for innovation and agreed to deepen economic integration to navigate the evolving global environment and to foster resilient growth.

3. At the AMM, Minister of State Foo underscored the importance of keeping economies open and connected to sustain growth and resilience. He reaffirmed Singapore's commitment to the rules-based multilateral trading system, with the WTO at its core, and support for reforms to strengthen it, including through open and inclusive plurilateral initiatives. In line with China's APEC 2026 priorities of openness, innovation and cooperation, he called for stronger collaboration on trade digitalisation, particularly through the APEC Centre of Excellence for Paperless Trade (ACCEPT), an initiative driven by Singapore, Australia and other APEC economies, as well as the Singapore Business Federation to address gaps in cross-border interoperability. He also emphasised the importance of harnessing AI responsibly to unlock new growth opportunities, and deepening physical, institutional and people-to-people connectivity to strengthen regional economic integration.

4. Minister of State Foo said, "We must keep our economies open and connected to create new opportunities for businesses and withstand external shocks. Singapore stands ready to continue strong collective effort to build on initiatives that empower and enhance economic integration, to help businesses seize new opportunities and drive sustainable growth."

Annex A: Photo of MOS Foo Cexiang at the 37th APEC Ministerial Meeting

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY, TRADE AND INDUSTRY
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ANNEX A

PHOTO OF MOS FOO CEXIANG AT THE 37TH APEC MINISTERIAL MEETING



Caption: Minister of State for Energy, Trade and Industry Foo Cexiang at the 37th APEC Ministerial Meeting on 3 November 2026.