

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
ON EMPLOYMENT PASS APPLICATION FACILITATION AND TRANSPARENCY

To facilitate Chinese investment and bilateral economic cooperation, the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Singapore (“the Parties”) have reached the following understandings in relation to transparency and facilitation of Employment Pass (“EP”) applications.

Transparency and Facilitation of EP Applications

1. Singapore will work with China on better transparency for Chinese enterprises and applicants applying for EP, based on the applicant's parameters such as salary, age, experience and the university attended, if applicable.
2. For most EP applications, Singapore will, within 3 weeks after an EP application is considered complete under its domestic laws and regulations, inform the applicant of the decision concerning the application. Singapore will also respond to requests for clarification from the applicant, if the decision is unclear for the applicant.

Institutional Provisions

3. The Parties agree to expand the function of the existing China-Singapore Labour Cooperation Working Group (“Working Group”), established under Article 15 of the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Singapore and the Government of the Republic of China on Bilateral Labour Service Cooperation*, signed on 23 October 2008. The function of the Working Group shall include reviewing, overseeing and giving guidance to the implementation of this Memorandum. For this purpose, the Working Group may formulate its Terms of Reference.
4. For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of this Memorandum, the following contact points are designated:

Contact Point from China:	Contact Point from Singapore:
Embassy of China in Singapore	Ministry of Manpower
Tel: 64121935	Tel: 63171106
Fax:67338590	Fax: 65340559
Email: sg@mofcom.gov.cn	Email: mom_wpsd@mom.gov.sg

A Party will promptly notify the other Party of any amendment to its Contact Point.

5. Any dispute between the Parties which may arise over the interpretation or application of this Memorandum will be settled through consultations between the Parties.
6. This Memorandum is signed together with the *Protocol to Upgrade the Free Trade Agreement between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Singapore*, and will take effect upon the entry into force of the Protocol.

SIGNED in duplicate at Singapore, this 12th day of November 2018 in the English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the
People's Republic of China

For the Government of the
Republic of Singapore

Fu Ziyang
China International Trade
Representative and Vice Minister
of Commerce

Josephine Teo
Minister for Manpower
and Second Minister for
Home Affairs