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ENV Minister Presents The Inaugural SGP 2012 Awards

News Release no: 26/2004
News Release date: 5 Jun 04

Minister for the Environment, Mr Lim Swee Say, marked World Environment Day this morning by presenting the inaugural Singapore Green Plan (SGP) 2012 Awards to six proud recipients. The ceremony took place in an aptly natural setting - under the trees at Upper Peirce Reservoir Park.

2 The SGP 2012 Award, which builds on the former Green Leaf Award, recognizes outstanding individuals, organizations and companies that are role models of environmental protection and have contributed significantly to Singapore's efforts to achieve environmental sustainability and attain some of the targets set out in the SGP 2012. The SGP 2012 is Singapore's blueprint for environmental sustainability.

3 The public made their nominations online via the NEA website from 29 March to 8 May 2004. A total of 71 nominations were received; out of which the six recipients were chosen.

4 An SGP 2012 Award Selection Panel, comprising representatives from the 3P (public, private and people) sectors reviewed the nominations and chose the six.

5 The six recipients of the SGP 2012 Awards 2004 are

a) Individuals:

- i) **Lady Yuen-Peng McNeice** - for her lifelong contributions to nature conservation and education.
- ii) **Mr Jack Sim** - for tackling the public health concern about dirty and poorly maintained toilets; and bringing a fresh perspective and approach in dealing with the issue locally, as well as internationally.

b) Organisations:

- i) **Singapore Environment Council** - for its significant contributions of environmental programmes and activities in support of the SGP 2012.
- ii) **Nan Hua Secondary School** - for its exemplary achievements in environmental programmes; both within the school and with other schools.

c) Companies:

- i) **STMicroelectronics Pte Ltd** - for its best practices in energy efficiency, waste and water recycling, and pro-environment culture company-wide.
- ii) **HSBC** - for its contributions to nature conservation and education, and a pro-environment culture among its staff.

6 Feeling honoured to receive the Award, Lady McNeice said 'This Award shows that

Singapore do place some importance on the conservation of biodiversity. It has always been my belief that our work in conserving biodiversity does not stop in Singapore. Whatever happens to the environment in other countries will also ultimately affect us. I hope that through our efforts over the years, many more will come to realise that biodiversity conservation is important for the sustainability of all life on earth.'

A jubilant Jack Sim said: 'People need good and clean toilets. This Award embodies our aspiration to develop good toilet environment in Singapore and world-wide.'

7 The proud principal of Nan Hua Secondary School, Mr Foo Suan Fong, said: 'This award has affirmed our school's efforts in raising environmental awareness among our students over the past four years. We will continue to educate and inspire our pupils to care for and to protect the environment; increase knowledge of and confidence of our pupils to help the environment and carry out and co-ordinate projects with other organizations for environmental protection and promotion.'

Attributing the Award to the passion and commitment of SEC's volunteers, board members, committees, and staff, Mr Heng Chiang Meng, Vice Chairman of Singapore Environment Council added, 'I think all of them should regard this award as an affirmation that they have made a significant contribution towards the greening of this nation.'

8 The SGP2012 Award is particularly meaningful for HSBC as the bank's focus is also on sustainability. Mr Paul Lawrence, CEO of HSBC Singapore, added: 'With this Award, we will continue to strive to make the bank's programmes even more relevant and responsive to the needs of the community. We look forward to continuing our efforts and being able to play our part to make a tangible difference in safeguarding our environment.'

'This Award is a recognition of our environmental efforts', said Mr Jeffery See, General Manager & Vice President, Asia Pacific, STMicroelectronics Pte Ltd. 'From our long history of environmental protection, we have found that 'Ecology is Free'. The benefits far exceed our investments, both financially and socially. Eventually, the environment becomes less polluted contributing to a healthier society', he added.

9 The SGP 2012 Award is a hand-made triangular plaque moulded from recycled glass and laced with a molten lava-like texture featuring three luminescent shades of blue, green and bronze, symbolizing water, nature and land-based issues. Its triangular shape represents the close partnership of the 3P (people, private and public) sectors on environmental issues.

~~~ End of Media Release ~~~

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