

MINISTER TAN SEE LENG OUTLINES ASPIRATIONS TO BUILD A SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM FOR FOREIGN AND LOCAL TALENT TO GROW, DEVELOP AND MATURE TOGETHER FOR SINGAPORE'S FUTURE SUCCESS



Above: BritCham President Richard Warburton and Minister for Manpower Dr Tan See Leng

MINISTER TAN ADDRESSES MEMBERS AT A DIALOGUE WITH THE BRITISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON 28TH APRIL

Friday, April 29, 2022: In a dialogue with British Chamber of Commerce members at the NTUC Auditorium on April 28th, Minister for Manpower Dr Tan Tee Leng reiterated the importance of maintaining Singapore's ability to compete and connect globally. The dialogue was part of a series of business engagements between the Ministry and the TAC community following the recent announcement of the COMPASS framework. It provided the first opportunity for the Minister to meet members in person since he took on the role. In the past two years, the British Chamber and MOM team have arranged a number of virtual dialogues and content for members to continue a two-way flow of updates and feedback on manpower issues.

With the COMPASS framework providing increased transparency and clarity around the issuance of employment passes, British Chamber members are keen to understand the impacts on their businesses as they plan for future manpower needs in the post-pandemic period.

In his opening remarks, Minister Tan stated that building a sustainable ecosystem for foreign and local talent to grow, develop and mature together is key to Singapore's future success. Engagements such as this particular dialogue enable the Government to articulate their thinking on policy changes and gather feedback from the international business community, allowing for nuanced adaptations over time.

In a moderated discussion ahead of the British Chamber's Annual General Meeting, President Richard Warburton fielded questions from the audience on COMPASS, employment pass applications, the talent crunch, skills of the future, LOCs, STEM education and improving opportunities for women to return to the workforce. The dialogue event and AGM were generously supported by Title Event Partner DFI Retail Group and Future of Work Partner Globalization Partners.

British Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, David Kelly, said of the event:

"Providing opportunities for our business community to interact directly with the Minister of Manpower illustrates the value of being involved in a member network such as the British Chamber of Commerce. As companies forge a path ahead out of Covid and evaluate the potential impact of the new COMPASS framework on their recruitment needs ahead of implementation, we welcome future dialogues to provide answers and nuanced clarification that business leaders and their human resources teams will be asking for. Our bi-annual business sentiment survey and annual manpower survey will provide benchmark aggregated insights into the needs of businesses in Singapore, and form the basis for further discussion with our colleagues in Government. We thank the Minister and his team for continuing to listen to the feedback from our members."



Above: Minister for Manpower Dr Tan See Leng, BritCham President Richard Warburton and BritCham Executive Director David Kelly



Above: BritCham President Richard Warburton, Minister for Manpower Dr Tan See Leng, British High Commissioner Kara Owen and BritCham Executive Director David Kelly

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Note to the Editor:

About the British Chamber of Commerce Singapore (BritCham):

The British Chamber of Commerce Singapore (BritCham) is an independent not-for-profit membership organisation supporting approximately 3,200 members from 320 member organisations, part of the British Chambers of Commerce Global Network and a leading member of the Britain in South East Asia network (BiSEA). Our members vary from startups and SMEs to global MNCs, spanning all sectors and industries. Approximately two-thirds of the network in Singapore are British nationals or those employed by an organisation headquartered in the UK.

The Chamber is a registered Society, led by an Executive Team, overseen by an elected Board of members and operating under a published Constitution. Our mission is to drive British business growth in Singapore, create opportunities for our members, facilitate industry knowledge sharing, and support exporters from the UK. This is achieved by working alongside Government, our partners and our engaged members to deliver services, committee participation, activities and opportunities throughout the year.

Within our services to the British business community, we focus on five broad themes - the [Future of Trade](#) (creating jobs and boosting economic growth in Singapore), the [Future of Work](#) (supporting talent and the enhancement of people to support business growth), [Diversity & Inclusion](#) (ensuring that rich and diverse workforces are working together to support business innovation and growth), [Education & Learning](#) (focusing on quality education and future skills that businesses will require), and sustainability through our [Road to Net Zero campaign](#) (encouraging businesses to do their part for a world that we all want to live in in the future). We also maintain a [Covid-19 Information Hub](#) resource.

For more information on the Chamber, our advocacy and our areas of focus, visit www.britcham.org.sg.

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