

PRESS RELEASE

APPLICATIONS FOR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OPEN ON 1 JUN, AMENDMENTS TO SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION TAKE EFFECT FROM 1 JUN

Start of Application Period

Applications for the 2017 Presidential Election (PE) certificates will open on 1 Jun 2017 and close on the 5th day after the Writ of Election is issued. The Writ of Election will be issued later in August. PE 2017 will be held in September.

2 PE 2017 is a reserved election for the Malay community. Prospective candidates must apply to the Presidential Elections Committee for a Certificate of Eligibility and to the Community Committee for a Malay Community Certificate. Application forms can be obtained from the Elections Department website and office¹ from 1 Jun 2017 onwards. Applicants will be notified of the outcome before Nomination Day.

3 The Presidential Elections Committee is chaired by Mr Eddie Teo, Chairman of the Public Service Commission. The Community Committee is chaired by Mr Timothy James de Souza. The compositions of the committees are at Annexes A and B.

4 The current President, Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, will complete his term of office on 31 Aug 2017. In the short interim period from 1 Sep 2017 to the new President taking office, the law provides for an acting President² to perform the role of the President.

Amendments to Subsidiary Legislation

5 Amendments to subsidiary legislation will be made, consequential to the amendments to the Constitution in Nov 2016 and the Presidential Elections Act in Feb 2017, and to improve PE processes. The full list of subsidiary legislation, which will come into effect on 1 Jun 2017, is at Annex C.

Forms for Presidential elections

6 Amendments will be made to the subsidiary legislation to provide for the following forms:

(a) Certificate of Eligibility application form

¹ ELD is located at 11 Prinsep Link, Singapore 187949. Operating hours are:
Weekdays - 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
Saturdays - 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

² Article 22N of the Constitution provides for an acting President until a new President is elected and assumes office.

The Certificate of Eligibility application form will be revised based on changes to the Constitution and the Presidential Elections Act. Prospective candidates will need to provide their public or private sector service experience in the relevant section of the form. (A copy of the form is at Annex D.)

(b) Community Declaration form

Prospective candidates will have to make a declaration stating the community that they consider themselves to belong to and to apply for the Community Certificate. The Community Declaration form is modelled after the forms used at Parliamentary elections. (A copy of the form is at Annex E.)

(c) Nomination Paper

The Nomination Paper will be revised to include a statutory declaration that prospective candidates have read the explanatory material on the role of the President provided by the Returning Officer and that he understands the role of the President under the Constitution. This is so that candidates will not be drawn to making statements or promises which exceed the constitutionally-prescribed role of the President. (The new Nomination Paper is at Annex F., and the explanatory material on the role of the President is at Annex G.)

7 In addition, there will be a new form for candidates to voluntarily undertake that they will campaign for election as President in a manner that is dignified, decorous and consistent with the President's position as the Head of State and the symbol of national unity. Signed undertakings will be put up on the notice board, together with the Nomination Paper, during nomination proceedings on Nomination Day. (A copy of the form is at Annex H.)

8 The following amendments have been made to improve the PE process:

a) *Overseas elector registration form*

The overseas elector registration form will be revised to remove the need for applicants to fill in the periods he resided in Singapore in the 3 years before the cut-off date of the registers of electors. Applicants will still be required to declare that they meet the minimum residency period to qualify as overseas electors.

b) *Ballot Paper*

The new ballot paper format will have clearly demarcated areas for the voter to mark an 'X' for his choice of candidate. Only markings made within the

demarcated areas on ballot papers will be considered by the Returning Officer for more efficient adjudication during counting of votes.

c) Posters & banners

The radius of the prohibition zone for the display of posters and banners has been reduced from 200m to 50m to allow for wider areas for the legitimate display of posters and banners by candidates.

ISSUED BY
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

31 May 2017

Composition of Presidential Elections Committee

CHAIRMAN
Mr Eddie Teo Chairman of the Public Service Commission
MEMBERS
Ms Lim Soo Hoon Chairman of the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority
Prof Chan Heng Chee Member of the Presidential Council for Minority Rights
Mr Po'ad Bin Shaik Abu Bakar Mattar Member of the Council of Presidential Advisers
Justice Tay Yong Kwang Judge of Appeal
Mr Peter Seah Lim Huat Member from the private sector appointed by the Prime Minister

Composition of Community Committee

Chairman	Mr de Souza Timothy James
Chinese Community Sub-Committee	Chairman
	Mr Lee Kwok Kie (Patrick Lee)
	Members
	Mr Ee Hock Kim Gerard
	Prof Lily Kong Lee Lee
	Mr Lim Jim Koon Mr Teo Siong Seng
Malay Community Sub-Committee	Chairman
	Mr Imram Bin Mohamed
	Members
	Mdm Fatimah Binte Azimullah
	Mr Mohammad Alami Musa
	Mr Yatiman Bin Yusof Mr Zulkifli Bin Baharudin
Indian and Other Minority Communities Sub-Committee	Chairman
	Mr Kaisavapany s/o Krishnasamy (K Kesavapany)
	Members
	Mr de Silva Gerard Francis
	Mr Rangareddy Jayachandran
	Mr Ravinder Singh s/o Harchand Singh Prof Satkunanantham s/o Kandiah

List of Subsidiary Legislation which will come into effect on 1 Jun 2017

No.	Title of Subsidiary Legislation
<i>Subsidiary legislation under Presidential Elections Act</i>	
1	Presidential Elections (Certificate of Eligibility) Regulations 2017
2	Presidential Elections (Community Declaration and Community Certificate) Regulations 2017
3	Presidential Elections (Overseas Voting) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
4	Presidential Elections (Forms and Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
5	Presidential Elections (Voting) Regulations 2017
6	Presidential Elections (Posters and Banners) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
7	Presidential Elections (Composition of Offences) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
8	Presidential Elections (Excluded Election Advertising) Notification 2017
<i>Subsidiary legislation under Parliamentary Elections Act</i>	
9	Parliamentary Elections (Registration of Overseas Electors) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
10	Parliamentary Elections (Electronic Applications) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
<i>Subsidiary legislation under other Acts</i>	
11	Public Order (Election Meetings in Presidential Elections) Regulations 2017
12	Public Order (Election Meetings) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
13	Public Order (Amendment) Regulations 2017
14	Public Order (Composition of Offences) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
15	Public Order (Exempt Assemblies and Processions) (Amendment) Order 2017
16	Attorney-General (Additional Functions) Act (Amendment of Schedule) Order 2017
17	Supreme Court (Presidential Elections) (Application for Avoidance of Elections) (Amendment) Rules 2017

Certificate of Eligibility Application Form

FORM 1

Regulations 3, 4 and 5(1)

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS ACT
(CHAPTER 240A)

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

I apply for a certificate of eligibility under the Presidential Elections Act on the basis of the information stated in and attached to this Form.

Instructions to applicants

1. There should be no blanks. Non-applicable fields should be filled in with "N/A".
2. For fields marked with an asterisk (*), cross out any text which is not applicable.
3. For "Yes / No" questions, circle the option that applies.
4. Dates should be written in the format (DD/MM/YYYY).
5. If the space for any field is insufficient, separate sheets may be used. The information on any separate sheet must be typewritten. Each separate sheet must state the name of the applicant and must be signed by the applicant.
6. Only certified true copies of supporting documents should be provided in the first instance, but applicants should be ready to provide the originals if requested.

Instruction to Returning Officer

Particulars marked with a "^" must be redacted before this Form (including its Annexes) is published.

A. PARTICULARS OF APPLICANT

1. Name (including alias, if any) (as shown in NRIC)	NRIC No.^																			
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>																			
2. Address (for correspondence)^	Contact No.^																			
3. Email address (for correspondence)^																				

B. SERVICE RELIED ON
For the purposes of satisfying Article 19(2)(g) of the Constitution, I seek to rely on (tick only one box)
<input type="checkbox"/> Article 19(3)(a) (Annex B1) <input type="checkbox"/> Article 19(3)(b) (Annex B2) <input type="checkbox"/> Article 19(3)(c) (Annex B3) <input type="checkbox"/> Article 19(3)(d) (Annex B4, and either Annex B1, B2 or B3 for each period of service) <input type="checkbox"/> Article 19(4)(a) (Annex B5) <input type="checkbox"/> Article 19(4)(b) (Annex B5) <input type="checkbox"/> Article 19(4)(c) (one Annex B5 for each period of service)
State the Annexes attached:
C. INTEGRITY, GOOD CHARACTER AND REPUTATION
Complete and attach Annex C.
D. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY
Complete and attach Annex D.
E. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS PROVIDED
Complete and attach Annex E.
F. ADDITIONAL SHEETS
Number of additional sheets submitted:

G. DECLARATION

I, _____, do solemnly and sincerely declare that the information supplied by me, in this application, to be true and factual.

And I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths and Declarations Act (Cap. 211), and subject to the penalties provided by that Act for the making of false statements in statutory declarations, conscientiously believing the statements contained in this declaration to be true in every particular.

.....
Signature of Applicant

Date of declaration:

Before me:

.....
Signature of Commissioner for Oaths/
Justice of the Peace

Name of Commissioner for Oaths/Justice of the Peace:

ANNEX B1		
Service in key public offices Article 19(3)(a) of the Constitution		
1. OFFICE HELD		
Office held	First day of service	Last day of service
2. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS		
Attach documents showing that you held the office mentioned in Section 1.		

ANNEX B2			
Service as chief executive of Fifth Schedule entity Article 19(3)(b) of the Constitution			
1. OFFICE HELD			
Name of entity	First day of service	Last day of service	Position held during service period
2. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES			
Describe the functions and responsibilities of the position stated in Section 1.			
3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS			
Attach documents evidencing appointment to the office stated in Section 1 and supporting the facts relied on in Section 2.			

ANNEX B3**Public sector discretionary limb under
Article 19(3)(c) of the Constitution****1. OFFICE HELD**

Office / organisation	First day of service	Last day of service

2. COMPARABILITY OF OFFICE

Describe the nature of the office stated in Section 1, your performance in that office, and explain why your service in that position has given you experience and ability that is comparable to the experience and ability of a person who satisfies Article 19(3)(a) or (b).

3. EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY

State why you have the experience and ability to effectively carry out the functions and duties of the office of President.

4. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Attach documents evidencing appointment to the office stated in Section 1 and supporting the facts relied on in Sections 2 and 3.

ANNEX B4**Combination of 2 periods of public sector service
Article 19(3)(d) of the Constitution****1. FIRST PERIOD OF SERVICE**

Office / organisation	First day of service	Last day of service

This period of service falls under paragraph **(a) / (b) / (c)* of Article 19(3).

2. SECOND PERIOD OF SERVICE

Office / organisation	First day of service	Last day of service

This period of service falls under paragraph **(a) / (b) / (c)* of Article 19(3).

3. ADDITIONAL ANNEXES

Attach the relevant Annex (and the requisite supporting documents) for each period of service as follows:

1. For service under Article 19(3)(a), attach Annex B1.
2. For service under Article 19(3)(b), attach Annex B2.
3. For service under Article 19(3)(c), attach Annex B3.

Attach a separate Annex for each period of service.

ANNEX B5**Private Sector Service
Article 19(4)(a), (b) or (c) of the Constitution****1. TYPE OF PRIVATE SECTOR SERVICE**

I seek to rely on (tick only one box):

- Article 19(4)(a)
- Article 19(4)(b)
- Article 19(4)(c) (both periods under Article 19(4)(a))
- Article 19(4)(c) (both periods under Article 19(4)(b))
- Article 19(4)(c) (one period under Article 19(4)(a) and one period under Article 19(4)(b))

If you rely on Article 19(4)(c) for 2 periods of service in 2 different entities, complete one copy of this Annex for each entity.

2. ENTITY RELIED ON

Name of entity	
Type of entity	
Unique entity number or any equivalent identification number	
Country where entity is incorporated or constituted	
Is the entity the parent of a group under the accounting standards it applies?	
If you are relying on Article 19(4)(c), are you relying on Article 19(4)(a) or Article 19(4)(b) for your service in this entity?	

3. PERIOD OF SERVICE RELIED ON

State the first and last day of the period of service in the entity that you are relying on to satisfy Article 19(4)(a), (b) or (c), as the case may be.	
If you seek to satisfy Article 19(4)(b) for a 3-year period, or for one or both of the periods under Article 19(4)(c), state the position in which you served and seek to rely on.	

4. SERVICE IN ENTITY

State all the periods where you served in the entity, in any position. Use a new row for every different position held and start from the most recent period.

No.	First day of period	Last day of period	Position held	Is position equivalent to chief executive? (Y/N)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

5. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Describe your functions and responsibilities in the periods during which you served in the position that you seek to rely on.

--

6. FINANCIAL INFORMATION SUBMITTED

(a) Financial statements: List all the financial years or financial periods during which you served in the position that you are relying on, and describe the financial statements (if any) you submitted for each financial year or financial period. Use one row for each financial year/financial period. Use financial periods only where the financial year is not over at the time of the application.

No.	First and last day of financial year/financial period	Describe the financial statements submitted for the financial year/financial period, including (a) whether the statements are consolidated; (b) whether the statements are audited; (c) if the statements are not audited, whether there are any other assurances of their reliability; (d) whether accepted accounting standards are used in preparing the statements and if not, whether the documents required under regulation 15(8) are submitted.	State the items in the financial statements you consider to be the equivalent of shareholders' equity and profit after tax (put "N/A" if the financial statements are prepared under the Singapore Accounting Standards).
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

(b) Compliance	
To the best of your knowledge and belief, does each set of financial statements described above (other than interim unaudited financial statements) comply with all the legal and regulatory requirements that apply in relation to it, including the legal and regulatory requirements that apply to the audit of the financial statements?	Yes / No
If no, provide the details of the non-compliance, including the requirement that was not complied with and any sanction imposed for the non-compliance.	
(c) Explanation: Give an explanation if (a) you did not submit any document required under regulation 14 or 15 for any period of service; (b) you submitted a document that does not fully comply with the requirements of regulation 14 or 15; or (c) you did not submit any financial statements for any period of service. Put "N/A" if this is not applicable.	
(d) Assurance: If you did not submit any financial statements at all for any period of service, sign in the signature block below.	
I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, nothing has occurred during any period of service for which I did not submit any financial statements that may negatively affect the financial position and financial performance of the entity *(and the group that the entity is the parent of) in a way that is material to this application. Signature

7. SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY				
No.	State each financial year/financial period of the entity which ended during the qualifying period in Section 3, starting from the most recent financial year/financial period. Use financial periods only if the financial year is not over at the date of the application.	Shareholders' equity (or equivalent) at the end of the financial period (in presentation currency), based on the financial statements submitted. [#] Put "N/A" if no financial statements are submitted.	Shareholders' equity at the end of the financial period (converted to Singapore dollars).	State the exchange rates used and how they were obtained
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
<p>[#] The financial statements used for this column must be financial statements prepared using any accepted accounting standards or converted to the Singapore Accounting Standards.</p>				

8. PROFIT AFTER TAX					
No.	State each financial year/financial period of the entity which ended during the period when you served in the position you are relying on. Use financial periods only if the financial year is not over at the date of the application.	Profit after tax (or equivalent) for the financial year/financial period (in presentation currency), based on the financial statements submitted.# Put "N/A" if no financial statements are submitted.	Profit after tax for the financial year/financial period (in Singapore dollars) Put "N/A" if the entity uses only one presentation currency.	If you served in the position you are relying on for only part of the financial year/financial period, state the first and last days of the financial year/financial period where you served as the chief executive.	If you served in the position you are relying on for only part of the financial year/financial period, state the pro-rated profit for the financial year/financial period.
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
# The financial statements used for this column must be financial statements prepared using any accepted accounting standards or converted to the Singapore Accounting Standards.					

9. DECLARATION OF SOLVENCY	
This section applies only if the applicant is relying on service in a company for the purposes of Article 19(4)(a) (including for one or both of the 2 periods under Article 19(4)(c)).	
(a) Last day of service	
What is your last day of service in the position you are relying on, as at the date of the writ?	
(b) Declaration: Sign against the applicable declaration	
(1) I declare that, within 3 years after my last day of service, the company has not been subject to any insolvency event within the meaning of regulation 32. Signature
(2) I declare that, within 3 years after my last day of service, the company has been subject to an insolvency event within the meaning of regulation *32(2)(b)/(3)(a)/(3)(b), but its assets exceeded its liabilities at the time of the insolvency event. Signature
(3) I declare that, from my last day of service to the date of the writ, the company has not been subject to any insolvency event within the meaning of regulation 32. Signature
(4) I declare that, from my last day of service to the date of the writ, the company has been subject to an insolvency event within the meaning of regulation *32(2)(b)/(3)(a)/(3)(b), but its assets exceeded its liabilities at the time of the insolvency event. Signature

(c) Supporting documents	
If you signed declaration (1) or (3), provide supporting documents (e.g. a company register search or a winding-up search) showing that the company has not been wound up at the relevant date.	
(d) Details of insolvency event	
If you signed declaration (2) or (4), provide details of the insolvency event and attach proof that the company's assets exceeded its liabilities at the time of the insolvency event.	
10. QUALITATIVE CRITERIA	
Fill in this section only if you are relying on Article 19(4)(b) for your service in this entity.	
(a) Comparability of position: Explain, with reference to the position you are relying on, the size and complexity of the entity and your performance in the position, why you consider yourself to have experience and ability that is comparable to a person who has served as the chief executive of a typical company with at least \$500 million in shareholders' equity and who satisfies Article 19(4)(a).	
(b) Experience and ability: Explain why you consider yourself to have the experience and ability to effectively carry out the functions and duties of the office of President, having regard to any matter you think is relevant.	

Integrity, Good Character and Reputation

1. CONVICTIONS

Have you ever been convicted of an offence by a court of law in Singapore or elsewhere? If yes, provide the details below.	Yes / No
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------

No.	Nature of offence	Date of conviction	Court	Date of pardon (if any)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

2. BANKRUPTCY

Have you ever been made a bankrupt, whether in Singapore or elsewhere? If yes, provide the details below.	Yes / No
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------

No.	Date of bankruptcy order	Court	Date of discharge (if any)
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

3. DISCIPLINARY OR REGULATORY PROCEEDINGS				
Have you ever been subject to disciplinary or regulatory proceedings, whether in Singapore or elsewhere?				Yes / No
If yes, provide the details below.				
No.	Date of proceedings	Disciplinary body	Nature of proceedings (including any charge, complaint or claim, by whatever name called)	Outcome (including findings made and any sanctions ordered)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
4. OTHER LEGAL PROCEEDINGS				
Has an injunction or a similar order (including a personal protection order) been sought against you in any legal proceedings in Singapore or elsewhere?				Yes / No
If yes, provide the details below.				
No.	Date of proceedings	Court	Nature of proceedings (including the relief sought against you)	Outcome (including any order made against you)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

5. CHARACTER REFERENCES	
Provide typed and signed references from 3 persons, who must have known you for at least 2 years and who must not be your relatives. The references must be in separate sealed envelopes with your name written on the envelope.	
Provide the details of your referees below.	
Referee 1	
Name	
NRIC No.^	
Occupation	
Relationship to you	
Length of time which referee has known you	
Address^	
Contact No.^	
Email address^	
Referee 2	
Name	
NRIC No.^	
Occupation	
Relationship to you	
Length of time which referee has known you	
Address^	
Contact No.^	
Email address^	

Referee 3	
Name	
NRIC No.^	
Occupation	
Relationship to you	
Length of time which referee has known you	
Address^	
Contact No.^	
Email address^	

ANNEX D			
Current Employment and Employment History			
No.	Period	Employer	Job Description
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

ANNEX E		
List of Supporting Documents		
State all the supporting documents you provided (e.g. appointment letters, financial statements, character references), even if the documents have been stated elsewhere in the application.		
No.	Date of document	Description of document
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

Community Declaration Form

FORM 1

Regulations 3 and 4

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS ACT
(CHAPTER 240A)

COMMUNITY DECLARATION

PARTICULARS OF DECLARANT (as shown in NRIC)		
Name (in block letters)		NRIC No.
Place of birth	Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	Race
OTHER PARTICULARS OF DECLARANT		
Religion	Language(s) spoken	
Address (for correspondence)	Contact Number	Email address (for correspondence)
<p>In accordance with section 8F of the Presidential Elections Act, I declare that —</p> <p><i>*(a)</i> I consider myself to be a member of the Chinese community, and wish to apply for a community certificate stating that I belong to the Chinese community;</p> <p><i>*(b)</i> I consider myself to be a member of the Malay community, and wish to apply for a community certificate stating that I belong to the Malay community;</p> <p><i>*(c)</i> I consider myself to be a member of the Indian or other minority communities, and wish to apply for a community certificate stating that I belong to the Indian or other minority communities;</p> <p><i>*(d)</i> I do not consider myself to be a member of the Chinese community, the Malay community, or the Indian or other minority communities.</p>		
<p>.....</p> <p>Date</p>		<p>.....</p> <p>Signature of Declarant</p>
<p><i>*Delete whichever is inapplicable.</i></p>		

Nomination Paper

FORM P4

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS ACT
(CHAPTER 240A)

NOMINATION PAPER

Section 9(3)

Symbol of candidate to be assigned by Returning Officer

SECTION A: TO BE COMPLETED BY PERSONS NOMINATING													
DETAILS OF NOMINEE													
NAME <i>(in block letters)</i>			NRIC NO.					SEX <i>(Please circle)</i>		OCCUPATION			
									M	F			
DETAILS OF PERSONS NOMINATING													
We, the undersigned registered electors, do nominate the abovenamed person to be a candidate for election as the President of the Republic of Singapore:													
NAME			NRIC NO.					SIGNATURE					
PROPOSER													
SECONDER													
ASSENTOR 1													
ASSENTOR 2													
ASSENTOR 3													
ASSENTOR 4													
ASSENTOR 5													
ASSENTOR 6													
ASSENTOR 7													
ASSENTOR 8													

SECTION B: DECLARATION TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

I, the person nominated in Section A, do solemnly and sincerely declare that —

- (a) I am duly qualified to be elected as the President of the Republic of Singapore;
- (b) I consent to this nomination as candidate for election as the President of the Republic of Singapore;
- (c) I am not a member of any political party; and
- (d) I have read the explanatory material provided by the Returning Officer and understand the President's role under the Constitution, and in particular that —
 - (i) the President is the Head of State and the symbol of national unity;
 - (ii) it is also the function of the President to safeguard the reserves of Singapore and the integrity of the Public Services of Singapore, in accordance with the specific discretionary powers conferred on the President by the Constitution; and
 - (iii) the President must exercise his functions according to the advice of the Cabinet, except where the Constitution otherwise provides.

And I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the Oaths and Declarations Act (Cap. 211), and subject to the penalties provided by that Act for the making of false statements in statutory declarations, conscientiously believing the statements contained in this declaration to be true in every particular.

.....
Signature of Nominee

Dated..... 20.....

Before Me

.....
*Name of Commissioner for Oaths/
Justice of the Peace (in block letters)*

.....
*Signature of Commissioner for Oaths/
Justice of the Peace*

I, the nominee, can be contacted
at

Address:

Contact Number:

Email address:

**EXPLANATORY MATERIAL ON ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT
UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

(Prospective candidates must read this note
prior to making the statutory declaration in the Nomination Paper.)

1. Head of State

- 1.1. Singapore's system of government is established by the Constitution.
- 1.2. Under the Constitution, the President is the Head of State. The Prime Minister is the Head of Government and together with the rest of the Cabinet has the direction and control of the Government.
- 1.3. As the Head of State, the President is the symbol of national unity and presides over important national events, such as the National Day Parade and the Opening of Parliament. The President also represents Singapore at the highest levels in international relations.
- 1.4. The President cannot be a member of a political party, and stands above party politics.

2. How the President works with Parliament and the Cabinet

- 2.1. The Cabinet has the general direction and control of the Government. It makes and implements policies. The Cabinet is led by the Prime Minister, who must command the confidence of Parliament. The Cabinet as a whole is collectively responsible to Parliament. Parliament, in turn, is responsible for scrutinising and passing legislation. The Cabinet and Parliament are ultimately accountable to the electorate for the laws and policies that they make.
- 2.2. Under the Constitution, the President is required to act on the Cabinet's advice in exercising his functions, except in specific areas where the Constitution empowers the President to act in his discretion. For example, the President is generally required to act on the Cabinet's advice in assenting to Bills passed by Parliament; the President is likewise required to act on the advice of the Cabinet when deciding on clemency petitions.

3. The President's custodial functions

- 3.1. The Constitution confers on the President a number of custodial powers. These powers enable the President to veto certain proposed measures, notwithstanding the advice tendered by the Cabinet. These custodial powers fall into three broad categories.
- 3.2. The first category concerns Singapore's past reserves (that is, the reserves which were not accumulated during the present term of the Government). The President is empowered to veto measures taken by Parliament or the Government if he considers that they would draw on the past reserves. For example, the President can refuse to assent to a Supply Bill passed by Parliament if he considers that the Bill would draw on the Government's past reserves. The President's powers extend to key statutory boards (CPF Board, HDB, MAS and JTC) and key Government companies (Temasek and GIC).

The President can disapprove the budgets and transactions of these entities if he considers that they draw on the entities' past reserves.

- 3.3. The second category concerns the Public Service. The President can veto appointments to key public offices, including the Chief Justice and the Judges of the Supreme Court; the Chiefs of Defence Force, Army, Navy and Air Force; the Attorney-General; and the Public Service Commission and Legal Service Commission. The President can also veto the removal of an individual from these appointments.
- 3.4. The third category serves a protective function. The President can authorise an investigation by the Director of the Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau if the Prime Minister refuses to give such authorisation. The President's concurrence is required for a person to be detained under the Internal Security Act (ISA) if the ISA advisory board recommends against the detention. The President can also cancel or vary a restraining order made under the Maintenance of Religious Harmony Act if the Cabinet's advice was contrary to the recommendation of the Presidential Council for Religious Harmony.
- 3.5. In exercising the first two categories of custodial powers, the President must consult the Council of Presidential Advisers. If the President exercises a veto contrary to the recommendation of the Council, Parliament can choose to overrule the President. A motion to overrule the President must be supported by no less than two-thirds of the total number of MPs (excluding nominated MPs).

RETURNING OFFICER

Form for Voluntary Undertaking on Campaigning

**VOLUNTARY UNDERTAKING ON CAMPAIGNING
BY PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CANDIDATE**

<p>To:</p> <p>RETURNING OFFICER</p> <p>Elections Department</p> <p>11 Prinsep Link</p> <p>Singapore 187949</p> <p>REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE</p>	<p>From:</p> <p>_____</p> <p><i>Name of Candidate</i></p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------

I undertake to campaign for election as President in a manner that is dignified, decorous and consistent with the President's position as the Head of State and the symbol of national unity.

Date

Signature of Candidate