



15 March 2019

Senior appointment changes at the Council for Estate Agencies

The Ministry of National Development (MND) announced today the following senior appointment changes at the Council for Estate Agencies (CEA):

- Mr Lee Kwong Weng (李广荣), currently Executive Director of CEA, will retire after 37 years in the Public Service on 24 April 2019.
- Mr Lim Chee Hwee (林志辉), currently Senior Director of Programmes Division at the Municipal Services Office (MSO), MND, will be appointed as Executive Director of CEA on 24 April 2019.

2 Under Mr Lee's leadership as Executive Director over the past four years, CEA spearheaded several initiatives to raise professionalism of property agents and developed the Real Estate Industry Transformation Map to enhance productivity of property transactions.

3 In his previous appointment as Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Corporate and Technology) at the Agri-food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) in 2011, he led in the formulation of a long term food security road map for Singapore.

4 Mr Lim Chee Hwee started his career in the Ministry of Home Affairs in 1987. He has served in several Ministries and helmed various portfolios. These included Director of Higher Education Division in Ministry of Education (2000 to 2006) where he was involved in restructuring Singapore's university sector, and Director of Energy Division (2007 to 2009) in the Ministry of Trade and Industry

where he set up the new Energy Division to focus on energy policies to support the liberalisation of the electricity market and to tackle climate change.

5 Prior to joining MSO, Mr Lim was Senior Director of Infrastructure Division at MND (2009 to 2014) where he oversaw policies concerning the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA), the Building and Construction Authority (BCA), and the National Parks Board (NParks). Through his various postings, Mr Lim has accumulated significant operational and policy experience. More detailed write-ups of Mr Lee and Mr Lim are in the **Annex**.

6 Council President of CEA, Mr Quek See Tiat said, “On behalf of the Council members and management team, I would like to extend our deepest appreciation to Kwong Weng for his pivotal role in steering CEA and the industry to a higher level of excellence. His leadership and collaborative approach have been invaluable in strengthening trust and teamwork between the industry and CEA to transform the industry, and working towards higher level of consumer satisfaction with their property agents. We wish Kwong Weng the very best for a happy retirement. We also warmly welcome Chee Hwee as CEA’s new Executive Director, and are confident that CEA and the industry will benefit from his experience as we press on towards realising our vision of a professional and trusted real estate agency industry.”

7 MND would like to thank Mr Lee for his commitment, dedication, and invaluable contributions to the Public Service in the past 37 years. We welcome Mr Lim to his new appointment at CEA.

Mr Lee Kwong Weng



Mr Lee Kwong Weng, a Colombo Plan scholar, started his career in 1982 as a transportation engineer with the former Public Works Department. During the course of his career, he helmed various positions in the Urban Development Authority (URA), including that of Group Director (Corporate Development), before he was posted to the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) as Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Corporate & Technology Group) in 2011.

2 Mr Lee was appointed as Deputy Executive Director of the Council for Estate Agencies (CEA) on 1 January 2015. On 22 October 2015, he was appointed as the CEA's Executive Director and concurrently Deputy Executive Director (Special Duties) in the Centre for Liveable Cities, Ministry of National Development.

3 Mr Lee has been instrumental in leading CEA's in continuing its mission to raise the professional standing and standards of property agencies and agents through its regulatory and professional development efforts. He enhanced the robustness of CEA's regulatory framework through regular reviews, ensuring that property agencies and agents satisfy the criteria for licensing and registration, adhere to ethical practices, and are qualified to provide sound advice and professional service to their clients.

4 Mr Lee also placed a high priority on CEA's outreach efforts with key stakeholders. He strengthened links with the real estate agent industry, and established engagement channels to gather feedback from practitioners, explained its policies and regulations to facilitate better understanding and compliance, as well as sought inputs on future plans and industry improvements.

He led CEA to work with the industry and labour union to develop the Real Estate Industry Transformation Map (ITM) in 2018, to enable property agencies and agents to enhance productivity, innovate, raise professionalism, and build stronger client relationships to remain relevant in the industry. He also extended its public outreach initiatives to educate and engage consumers more effectively.

Mr Lim Chee Hwee



Mr Lim Chee Hwee, 55, joined the Public Service in 1987 when he was awarded the Singapore Government Overseas Merit Scholarship and graduated from the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom (UK) with a Bachelor's degree in economics. He was also a recipient of the Chevening Fellowship Award by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).

2 Mr Lim is currently Senior Director of Programmes Division of the Municipal Services Office (MSO) in the Ministry of National Development (MND). He was a member of the pioneering management team when MSO was first set up in Oct 2014 as part of the Government's efforts to better coordinate the delivery of municipal services. He was instrumental in developing systems and digital channels (such as the OneService App and OneService Portal) to enable agencies to respond to residents' feedback on municipal issues in a timely manner.

3 As Senior Director of Infrastructure Division at MND, Mr Lim worked closely with BCA and NParks on the Construction Productivity Roadmap and the Landscape Productivity Roadmap respectively to boost productivity in the two sectors and to reduce their reliance on foreign manpower. Mr Lim led a multi-agency urban farming study team to recommend strategies for urban farming which set the foundation for subsequent initiatives by AVA to promote urban farming in Singapore.