

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release

26 May 2014

YOUNG LEADERS TO SEED CHANGE AT WORLD CITIES SUMMIT 2014

Inaugural World Cities Summit Young Leaders Symposium will gather over 60 young leaders to catalyse change in cities

Singapore, 26 May 2014 – Over 60 Young Leaders from diverse urban sectors will gather in Singapore on Saturday, 31 May 2014, for the inaugural World Cities Summit Young Leaders Symposium, to catalyse change in cities.

The WCS Young Leaders Symposium is a key highlight at this year’s World Cities Summit, a biennial global event for world leaders and industry experts to address liveable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions and forge strategic partnerships.

Themed “Seeding Change in My City”, the Symposium is a platform for Young Leaders from different urban fields, with the capability to adapt to rapid changes, to pool their knowledge, engage in intellectual discourse and discuss initiatives to tackle challenges faced by cities.

The Symposium will bring together government officials, industry experts, urban planners, architects, designers, mobility experts, economists and researchers from 28 countries. Typically aged between 30 and 45, they are united in their commitment to help shape urban development agendas in cities around the world.

At the forum, participants will share fundamental changes that their cities need to adopt to facilitate the creation of more sustainable, liveable and desirable cities. They will also discuss practical initiatives that will drive the much-needed changes in their urban environments. The Symposium’s Guest-of-Honour will be Minister of State (National Development) Singapore, Mr Desmond Lee, and the discussion will be chaired by Ambassador Burhan Gafoor, Chief Negotiator for Climate Change, Singapore.

Participants at the WCS Young Leaders Symposium include the Mayor of Bandung, Indonesia, Mr Ridwan Kamil; Chief Representative Officer of GDF Suez China, Mr Raphael Schoentgen; Chairman of the Lien Foundation, Mr Laurence Lien; and



Chief Operating Officer for EMBARQ World Resource Institute, Mr Clayton Lane and many other senior personages.

More than 200 Young Leaders were selected from hundreds of nominations to be part of the inaugural initiative. Young Leaders are selected once every two years and each has a three-year tenure. During their term, WCS Young Leaders are invited to exclusive meetings and events to encourage sharing of best practices and initiate projects. Upon completion, members will join the alumnus and mentor other WCS Young Leaders.

“The issues we aim to address at WCS and the solutions that we hope to co-create will impact the world in the decades to come. It is therefore very crucial to include the next generation in the conversation to ensure that their ideas and voices are heard,” said Mr Khoo Teng Chye, Executive Director of the Centre for Liveable Cities. “Through this forum, I hope that the Young Leaders will form lasting partnerships to influence the urban development plans of the future.”

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Refer to **Annex A** for full list of attendees at the WCS Young Leaders Symposium.

About the World Cities Summit

The World Cities Summit is the exclusive and premier platform for government leaders and industry experts to address liveable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions and forge high-level partnerships. Themed "Liveable and Sustainable Cities - Common Challenges, Shared Solutions", the fourth edition of WCS will focus on the state of urban challenges today to identify principles of shared solutions applicable to cities. More than 1,500 stakeholders across government, industry, international organisations and academia, including over 110 mayors, will come together to address the world's most pressing urbanisation issues by discussing emerging trends, sharing best practices, and exploring cutting edge technologies and integrated urban solutions.

For more information, visit www.worldcitiessummit.com.sg

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