

## **MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS MEDIA RELEASE**

### **LEADERSHIP RENEWAL AND CHANGES IN SENIOR HOME TEAM APPOINTMENTS**

Mr Khoo Boon Hui, 55, will be appointed Senior Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on 1 February 2010. He will be handing over command as the Commissioner of Police to Mr Ng Joo Hee, currently Director of Prisons. Mr Khoo, who has given 12 1/2 years of exemplary service at the helm of the SPF as Commissioner of Police, will remain in the Administrative Service where he is a Senior Administrative Officer Grade 5. Mr Khoo will, inter alia, oversee the strategic development of MHA's regional and international collaboration and capacity development initiatives/ projects across the Home Team departments. Concurrently, Mr Khoo will also continue to fulfill his responsibilities as President of INTERPOL.

2 Mr Ng Joo Hee will be appointed Commissioner of Police on 1 February 2010. Mr Ng, 43, has served 24 years in the SPF, during which time, he has held various key appointments, including that of Deputy Director Criminal Investigation Department and Director Police Intelligence Department.

3 Mr Soh Wai Wah, 46, the current Chief of Staff in the Police will be appointed Director of Prisons on 1 January 2010.

## **Background**

Khoo Boon Hui [邱文暉]



Mr Khoo Boon Hui, 55, joined the Singapore Police Force (SPF) in 1977, after a short stint in the Singapore Armed Forces. During his career with the Police, he has held various appointments, including Director Strategic Planning in 1987, Police Chief of Staff in 1990, Director Criminal Investigation Department in 1991 and Deputy Commissioner of Police in 1995. In July 1997, he was appointed Commissioner of the Singapore Police Force.

Mr Khoo has continued to lead the SPF to achieve low crime rates in Singapore, making it one of the safest cities in the world. Under his strategic vision and leadership, Mr Khoo transformed the SPF into a resilient, innovative and progressive organisation. Its successes have been attributed to its key thrusts of Developing Community Partnership, Enhancing Operational Capability and Strengthening Internal Resilience.

During Mr Khoo's tenure, community policing continued to be a key policing strategy in tackling crime and dealing with the community's safety and security concerns, including the threat of terrorism. Mr Khoo led the force through a transition from the old Neighbourhood Police Post system to a network of the Neighbourhood Police Centres (NPC) that sought to better utilised Police resources and enhanced the level of community policing island-wide. Coastal and maritime security, intelligence, techno-crime investigations and other operational capabilities have also been significantly enhanced. New specialised units such as the Police Transcom were also set up to better deal with new urban threats and tactics that are being utilised by terrorists to cripple a nation's transport system.

In 2003, the SPF played a critical role in the national effort in containing the spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), particularly in the areas of enforcement of provisions in the Infectious Diseases Act, security of medical establishments and contingency planning. The SPF also set up a dedicated peacekeeping contingent in 1998 to fulfill Singapore's commitment to the UN Peacekeeping efforts.

In the area of organisational excellence and internal resilience, Mr Khoo has adopted progressive organisation management and development tools as well as practices in organisational learning. These include benchmarking organisational and service

excellence, corporate communications and human resource programmes, such as introducing workplace health, work-life balance and organisational health surveys. His emphasis on developing an open and learning culture that places a high value on team learning, staff training and welfare has won SPF many accolades. The SPF was awarded the Singapore Quality Award in 2002. It received the Singapore Innovation Class in 2003, the Singapore Service Class and the Distinguished Public Service Award in 2004. In 2006, the SPF also received seven Human Resource achievement awards as well as the Top Public Service Award, which is the pinnacle award in the Singapore Civil Service. For all of its achievements, in 2007, the SPF became one of 2 organisations to be awarded the inaugural pinnacle Singapore Quality Award with Special Commendation.

In 2006, Mr Khoo was elected to the INTERPOL Executive Committee as Vice-President for Asia. During his two years in the post, he actively worked to strengthen ties between INTERPOL and Southeast Asian police forces, culminating in the signing of a Declaration of Co-operation between ASEANAPOL and INTERPOL in June 2007. In October 2008, Mr Khoo was elected INTERPOL President for a 4-year term from 2008 to 2012.

Mr Khoo was awarded the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in 1992 and the Meritorious Service Medal in 2003. He has also received numerous honours from foreign governments including Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia and Australia. In Aug 2005, Mr Khoo was awarded the Darjah Kebesaran Panglima Setia Mahkota (Kehormat) (Knight of the Most Distinguished Order of the Crown) which carries the title "Tan Sri" by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia.

Mr Khoo is married to Betty and they have two children.

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**Ng Joo Hee [黄裕喜]**



Ng Joo Hee, 43, joined the Singapore Police Force when he was awarded the SPF Overseas Scholarship in 1985. He read Engineering Science and Economics at the University of Oxford, graduating with honours in 1988. Mr Ng also has an MBA from NTU (1998) and an MPA from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University (2001).

Mr Ng's 24 years of public service were spent in increasingly responsible positions in the Police, ISD and other government ministries and departments. In 1992-93, he had worked as a police monitor with the UN peacekeeping mission in Cambodia. From 1993 to 1996, he helped to establish and then led the STAR Unit, the Police's elite hostage-rescue outfit. From 2001 to 2003, he successfully commanded Central Police Division. Mr Ng was also previously Deputy Director, CID and the Director of the Police Intelligence Department. He was appointed Director of Prisons on 1 Nov 2007. Mr Ng was absorbed into the Administrative Service in 1999, and has served stints in both Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Mr Ng is married to Joyce, and is father to two young daughters.

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**Soh Wai Wah [苏卫华]**



Soh Wai Wah, 46, graduated with a 2nd Upper Honours in Bachelor of Arts (Economics) from the University of Cambridge, UK in 1985 on a Singapore Police Force Overseas Scholarship. He obtained a Master of Science (Criminal Justice) from Michigan State University in USA in 1995.

Mr Soh has served the SPF since 1982. In the course of his career, he has held many appointments, including Commander Clementi Police Division, Director (Planning and Organisation) and Director (Operations). He was appointed as Chief-of-Staff on 16 Aug 2004 and has held the post since. He was awarded the Public Administration (Silver) medal in 2000 and the Public Administration (Gold) medal in 2009. He is married to Siew Mei and they have three children.