

**SPEECH BY MR LIM KOK THAI, CEO OF THE SINGAPORE FOOD AGENCY
(SFA) AT THE MOU SIGNING BETWEEN SFA AND ISE FOODS HOLDINGS ON
10 SEPTEMBER 2021**

Ms Grace Fu, Minister for Sustainability and the Environment

His Excellency Ambassador of Japan Jun Yamazaki

His Excellency Mr. Chandra Das, Director, ISE Foods Holdings

Mr. Hikonobu Ise, Owner of ISE Foods Inc.

Ms Tsukino Yoshikawa, Chief Executive Officer of ISE Foods Holdings

Ladies and Gentlemen

1. Good afternoon and thank you for joining us today.

2. Today marks the beginning of a landmark collaboration between SFA and ISE to develop new egg production facilities in Singapore.
 - a. We are happy to partner ISE, one of the top egg producers in the world, with operations in five countries to set up shop in Singapore.
 - b. Over the next few years, ISE will build four facilities – an egg layer farm, a DOC hatchery, a parent pullet farm and a parent layer farm.
 - c. This collaboration will enhance our local egg supply for Singaporeans, who consume an egg daily on average. In 2020, we imported over 70% of our eggs from more than 12 countries. Our local farms produce about 30% of our needs but they are dependent on imported agricultural inputs, such as Day Old Chicks (DOCs), vaccines and feed.
 - d. Overall, ISE's facilities will uplift our local egg production capabilities and capacity and more importantly, strengthen Singapore's food security.

3. This project is exciting for Singapore on **three** fronts:
 - a. **First**, it will significantly increase our egg production capacity. Being our fourth egg farm, Ise will be able to increase local egg production capacity by about 1 million eggs daily. Collectively, our egg farms will be able to produce about 50% of Singapore's demand for eggs.
 - b. **Second**, it will expand our egg production capabilities. Singapore will now be anchoring a DOC hatchery and parent stock farms locally.

Having these capabilities will allow us to better secure the upstream input needed for egg production, which we currently import, and hold a significant segment of the egg production cycle within Singapore. This will enhance our food supply resilience.

- c. **Third**, it will open up new jobs in the agri-food space. ISE will bring their accumulated know-how and state-of-the-art technologies into Singapore – from sustainable farm practices, waste/odor management control, IOT technology for remote monitoring to up-cycling of waste. ISE will need a strong local core of agri-food workers to enable smooth operations. This means exciting science and technology jobs in the agri-food space in the near future. This project will also enable ISE to build up exportable capabilities to develop “farms-of-the-future” which would strengthen food resilience in the region.

4. This MoU signifies our shared commitment to ensure the success of this project that will further enhance Singapore’s food security.

- a. SFA will continue to work with like-minded companies and partners to build capability and capacity of our agri-food industry to enhance Singapore’s food security.
- b. Beyond industry partners, Singapore’s efforts in strengthening food security would not be complete without the support of consumers. We encourage more Singaporeans to support local produce.

5. Thank you.