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# **SUN MEDIA NEWSLETTER**

Welcome to Sun Media Singapore weekly e-newsletter! Your go-to source for the latest news and insights on key markets that include Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia. In this edition, we'll be taking a closer look at the latest bilateral developments in Singapore, India, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, and Malaysia with a focus on the economy, and business. So whether you're a business professional, investor, or just interested in keeping up with the latest news from these dynamic regions, this newsletter is for you. Let's dive straight in!

### SINGAPORE



#### Strengthening Ties: Panama and Singapore **Enhance Bilateral Relations**

On May 21, 2024, Sun Media Singapore's Editor-in-Chief, Ms. Nomita Dhar, met with the Panama Ambassador to Singapore, H.E. Enrique Villegas González. The meeting highlighted ongoing efforts to strengthen bilateral relations through trade, maritime sectors, and educational exchanges. The two nations have leveraged their strategic locations to foster economic and cultural benefits, with collaborations aimed at enhancing port development, shipping services, and maritime training.

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### Singapore and South Africa Discuss Mutual Interests and G20 Presidency Plans

On May 23, 2024, the South African High Commissioner to Singapore, H.E. Madiepetsane Charlotte Lobe, and Singapore's Permanent Secretary for Finance, Ms. Tan Ching Yee, discussed mutual interests and preparations for South Africa's upcoming G20 Presidency in 2025. The discussions highlighted the role Singapore plays in global governance, despite not being a G20 member, and its commitment to contributing to the G20 process.

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#### Europe Day 2024 Celebrated in Singapore

Europe Day was celebrated in Singapore on May 10, 2024, with a grand reception at the Conrad Centennial Hotel, attended by nearly 40 Ambassadors and High Commissioners. The EU Ambassador to Singapore, H.E. Iwona Piórko, highlighted the 20th anniversary of the EU Delegation's establishment in Singapore. The event also marked the 20th anniversary of the 2004 EU enlargement.

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### **CHINA**



# China Defence Minister Makes Introductory Visit to Singapore

Admiral Dong Jun, China's Minister of National Defense, visited Singapore from May 30 to June 2, 2024, attending the 21st Shangri-La Dialogue and co-chairing the third Singapore-China Defence Ministers' Dialogue. The visit included discussions on enhancing military cooperation and exchanges, as well as touring key military facilities in Singapore.

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## **MONGOLIA**



### Mongolian Delegation Visits Singapore to Enhance Sovereign Wealth Fund Implementation

From May 27 to 28, 2024, a Mongolian delegation met with Singaporean officials to discuss the Sovereign Wealth Fund and public policy practices. The delegation included representatives from Mongolia's key ministries and institutions, aimed at learning from Singapore's experience in managing public funds and housing policies.

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### THAILAND



# Thai Prime Minister Discusses Bilateral Relations with Singapore's Prime Minister

Prime Minister Settha Thavisin of Thailand spoke with Singapore's Prime Minister Lawrence Wong on May 28, 2024, to strengthen ties and express gratitude for Singapore's assistance during a recent aviation emergency. The discussion also included plans for future cooperation and an invitation for Prime Minister Wong to visit Thailand.

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# Chief of Defence Forces of the Royal Thai Armed Forces Makes Introductory Visit to Singapore

General Songwit Noonpackdee, Chief of Defence Forces of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, visited Singapore from May 29 to 30, 2024. This visit reaffirmed the strong bilateral defence ties and included discussions on regional security and cooperation. General Songwit also attended the 21st Shangri-La Dialogue during his

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### **PHILIPPINES**



#### President of the Philippines Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to Give Keynote Address at IISS Shangri-La Dialogue 2024

Singapore businesses were able to seek clarifications and provide feedback in a dialogue session to seek improvements that involved Ho Chi Minh (HCM) City authorities, Vietnamese government agencies and Singapore Consulate. Singapore is one of the largest foreign investors in Vietnam with 1,821 projects there as of the end of November.

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