#### REPORT OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP (MSJCE WG) 19–20 MAY 2016

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Malaysia-Singapore Joint Committee on the Environment Working Group (MSJCE WG) was held in Malaysia on 19–20 May 2016. The respective delegation lists are attached in **Annex 1**.

### 2 WELCOME REMARKS

2.1 Dato' Dr. Ahmad Kamarulnajuib bin Che Ibrahim, Co-Chair of the MSJCE WG, extended a warm welcome to all delegates of the 14<sup>th</sup> MSJCE WG. He informed that the Department of Environment, Malaysia has moved forward and taken a new approach under the new management team. The DOE has committed to fortify the "Environmental Mainstreaming" agenda to their stakeholders. He recorded his appreciation towards Dato' Halimah Hassan, the former Director General of Department of Environment, Malaysia, for having a harmonious working relationship with Singapore. He also noted that the Meeting would discuss many issues related to environmental quality on both sides, such as vehicular emissions, water quality, and environmental training, and hoped for the continual exchange of views on environmental issues of mutual interest.

2.2 Mr Ronnie Tay, Co-Chair of the MSJCE WG, thanked Malaysia on behalf of the Singapore delegation for Malaysia's warm hospitality. He expressed appreciation for former DG of DOE Dato' Halimah Hassan's contributions to the MSJCE WG and congratulated the new DOE senior management on their appointments. As close neighbours, the MSJCE is an important platform for both sides to ensure a clean and healthy environment through exchanges of information and the development of capabilities to respond to environmental threats and incidents. He looked forward to continuing the close working relationship with DOE at various levels to protect the environment.

## 3 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3.1 Singapore sought Malaysia's concurrence on Singapore's proposed agenda. Singapore explained that Singapore's proposal to shift the reclamation-related items from "Other Matters" to "Exchange of Information under Settlement Agreement" arose from the 29<sup>th</sup> MSJCE meeting discussion in October 2015 where it was suggested that all reclamation-related items be streamlined under one agenda item.

3.2 In response, Malaysia said that it preferred to retain the reclamation-related items under "Other Matters". Singapore clarified that Singapore's proposal would shorten the list of items to be discussed under "Other Matters" and there was a need to explain to the MSJCE co-chairs as to why the proposal mooted at the 29<sup>th</sup> MSJCE meeting could not be adopted, if this was not done. Malaysia responded that they

would need to refer to the 2005 Settlement Agreement and assess the implications of shifting the reclamation-related items to "Exchange of Information under Settlement Agreement". For the purpose of this meeting, Malaysia preferred to revert to the original agenda where the reclamation-related items were under "Other Matters".

3.3 In response to Malaysia's concerns, Singapore said that the Settlement Agreement mandated Singapore and Malaysia to exchange information and discuss matters affecting our environment in the Straits of Johor. In this regard, the issues that had been discussed under the "Exchange of Information under Settlement Agreement" were of the same nature as the reclamation items under "Other Matters". Malaysia replied that Singapore's interpretation of the Settlement Agreement might be different from Malaysia's; nevertheless, it will study the proposal and respond in due course. Singapore requested Malaysia's prompt review of the issue so that both sides could consider adopting this approach at the next MSJCE meeting.

3.4 The Meeting adopted the Agenda as attached in **Annex 2**.

#### 4 BUSINESS ARRANGEMENT

4.1 The Meeting was conducted in plenary.

### 5 VEHICULAR EMISSIONS

5.1 Malaysia presented the Joint Information Paper on Vehicular Emissions as attached in **Annex 3**.

5.2 Malaysia informed the meeting that the EURO4M RON97 petrol had been implemented since 1 September 2015 and highlighted the availability of EURO5 Diesel in several Malaysia's fuel service stations, namely in the North South Plus Highway, in Klang Valley and Johor State.

5.3 Malaysia also informed that they were in the process of reviewing the current regulations to enhance the enforcement of controlling pollution from motor vehicles and to tighten the emission standards. Malaysia hoped that both countries would continue to exchange relevant information and knowledge to control vehicular emissions.

5.4 On the air quality issues, Malaysia acknowledged the issue of transboundary haze that had severely affected both countries in 2015. Malaysia hoped that Singapore would continue to share their technical experiences with Malaysia in the air quality and haze monitoring systems. Malaysia extended their appreciation to Singapore for enhancing website information on haze via the ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC) based in Singapore. Malaysia wished for both countries to continue working closely with the other ASEAN countries towards achieving a haze-free region.

5.5 Singapore thanked Malaysia for their co-operation and assistance in minimizing the number of Malaysian smoky vehicles entering Singapore, by conducting enforcement operations and raising awareness of emission standards and the importance of vehicle maintenance. Singapore noted that there had been a decrease in the number of smoky vehicles in 2015 compared to 2014, and looked forward to continuing the close bilateral cooperation to reduce the number of smoky vehicles, so as to promote better air quality on both sides of the Causeway.

5.6 Singapore expressed appreciation for Malaysia's assistance during the recent incident involving flaring and dark smoke emissions from a factory in Pasir Gudang in March 2016. Both sides had shared relevant information using the adopted notification procedure to deal with the incident promptly. Singapore also noted that it would be useful for both countries to continue sharing information and notifying each other of air pollution incidents, such as fires and industrial process upsets. Singapore requested that both sides continue to keep the information on their points of contact updated.

5.7 Singapore noted that air quality was affected not only by vehicular emissions but also other causes such as land/forest fires and regional haze. Singapore thanked Malaysia for their support in sharing information on haze-related activities at bilateral and multi-lateral fora, and looked forward to the strengthening of such co-operation.

## 6 WATER QUALITY IN THE STRAITS OF JOHOR (SOJ)

#### Joint Seawater Quality Monitoring Report

6.1 Singapore presented the Joint Information Paper as attached in **Annex 4**, which summarised the results of the joint seawater monitoring programme of the Straits of Johor (SOJ) based on the results of sampling conducted in November 2015 and January 2016.

6.2 Singapore noted that at the Expert Group (EG) meeting on 30 March 2016, the EG had noted that the last MSJCE meeting in October 2015 had reported a similar trend of deteriorating water quality in the East SOJ, resulting in fish kills and algal blooms; Malaysia had also shared their preliminary findings that the main cause of fish death was likely due to low levels of dissolved oxygen. Malaysia would provide further update subsequently, if available.

6.3 Singapore also expressed appreciation for Malaysia's update at the same EG meeting on the installation of a centralized sewage treatment plant in Johor, which would be completed by July 2016. Singapore reported that the EG was working together on sharing updates on the plans for the resettlement of squatters along Sungai Skudai and Sungai Tebrau, and to reduce pollution loading into the SOJ, in order to update the WG.

6.4 The Meeting noted that the overall water quality along the SOJ was in the 'Good' to 'Moderate' range for the period under review. There was some improvement in the water quality of West SOJ in 2015 compared to 2014 but

deterioration in East SOJ. Dissolved Oxygen (DO) readings were in the supersaturation range and faecal coliform readings exceeding the water quality guidelines for recreational activity at some of the sampling points indicated that water quality along some stretches of the SOJ continued to be affected by algal blooms and faecal contamination.

6.5 The Meeting noted Malaysia's long-terms plans to improve the water quality of the rivers under the Iskandar Malaysia project. These included programmes on river rehabilitation and clean-up to improve the water quality of Sungai Segget, Sungai Skudai and Sungai Tebrau, removal of sediments, deepening of rivers, flood mitigation measures, installation of mechanical trash removal systems and construction of centralised sewerage treatment systems as well as resettlement of the squatters along Sungai Skudai and Sungai Tebrau. The installation of a centralised sewage treatment plant at Sungai Segget would be completed by July 2016.

6.6 Singapore noted that the water quality of the West SOJ had seen some improvement compared to 2015, but the water quality of the East SOJ had deteriorated, which was an issue that Singapore was very concerned about. Singapore thus looked forward to the continued exchange of information, including the outcome of the investigation into the fish kill incidents. Singapore also noted the update on the installation in July 2016 of the centralized sewage treatment plant at Sungai Segget to serve southern Johor, and requested information on its area of coverage.

6.7 Malaysia took note of Singapore's request for the update on the progress and coverage area of the sewage treatment plant at Sungai Segget. Malaysia agreed to provide the information to Singapore accordingly.

6.8 Singapore highlighted that out of the three Water Reclamation Plants (WRPs) under Singapore that discharged treated effluent into the SOJ, treated effluent discharge from Seletar WRP and Kim Chuan WRP had ceased in February 2006 and December 2007 respectively with the decommissioning of the two plants under the first phase of the Deep Tunnel Sewerage System project.

#### 7 PROGRESS REPORT ON THE MONITORING OF THE ECOLOGY AND MORPHOLOGY IN AND AROUND THE STRAITS OF JOHOR

7.1 Malaysia thanked Singapore for sharing the hard copies of the research publication *The Comprehensive Marine Biodiversity Survey: Johor Straits International Workshop (2012)* published in *The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology, Supplement No. 31* at the 29<sup>th</sup> MSJCE meeting. Malaysia also informed the Meeting that they continued to carry out their own ecology monitoring activities within their own territorial waters which cover ecosystem changes and socio-economic impacts to the fishing communities to ensure ecosystem integrity and sustainability along the SOJ. Malaysia updated the Meeting that they are in the final stage of analysing the data of the bathymetric survey and would share the results in due course.

7.2 Singapore informed Malaysia that they had no further updates on this item beyond what had been shared at the 29<sup>th</sup> MSJCE meeting, and that Singapore would continue to monitor the ecology and morphology in and around the SOJ.

# 8 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN (ERP) FOR CHEMICAL SPILL AT MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE SECOND CROSSING

8.1 Singapore presented the Joint Paper on Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for Chemical Spills at the Malaysia-Singapore Second Crossing as attached in **Annex 5**.

8.2 The Meeting noted that the ERP was recently reviewed and the revised version, dated October 2015, had since been adopted by the EG on 30 March 2016.

8.3 Singapore highlighted that the joint emergency response plan exercises were important as they allowed agencies from both sides to develop the capabilities and procedures to respond to chemical spills at the Second Crossing. It was also important to review the plan regularly to ensure that it remained effective and relevant. Malaysia looked forward to hosting the 11<sup>th</sup> Joint Field Exercise in 2017 and Singapore looked forward to participating in that exercise.

## 9 **REPORT BY MSJCE EXPERT GROUP**

## 9.1 Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for Chemical Spills in the East Johor Strait

9.1.1 Malaysia presented the Joint Paper on Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for Chemical Spills in the East Johor Strait, as attached in **Annex 6.** 

9.1.2 The meeting noted the deployment exercise that would be hosted by Malaysia on 28 July 2016. Malaysia hoped to get the full cooperation and support of agencies from both countries to ensure the successful conduct of the exercise.

9.1.3 Singapore noted that there was high vessel traffic and movement of tankers carrying hazardous chemical cargos in the SOJ, and both sides had worked hard to develop capabilities for the ERP. Singapore also noted that both countries had agreed to and adjusted the scheduling of the ERP exercises at the Second Crossing and East Johor Strait to alternate with each other. Singapore would give full support to Malaysia's organization of the next exercise for chemical spill in the East Johor Strait in July 2016.

#### 9.2 Collaboration between Malaysia & Singapore in the Area of Oil Spill Prevention and Control in the Straits of Johor

9.2.1 Malaysia presented a paper titled Collaboration between Malaysia and Singapore in the Area of Oil Spill Prevention and Control in the Straits of Johor on the progress made under the collaboration between Malaysia and Singapore in the area of oil spill prevention and control in SOJ, as attached in **Annex 7**.

9.2.2 Malaysia highlighted that during the EG meeting that was held on 30 March 2016 in Singapore, the meeting agreed with the proposal by Joint Planning Team (JPT) to conduct a capacity-building and experience-sharing workshop by the end of this year.

9.2.3 Malaysia took note that during the EG meeting on 30 March 2016 in Singapore, the TOR item (iv) for collaboration on capacity building and experience sharing, the title was amended from "joint enforcement programme on marine pollution response in the SOJ" to "information sharing programme on marine pollution response in the SOJ". Malaysia hoped that the exchange of relevant information, skills, knowledge and experience on the marine pollution responses would be beneficial to both countries.

9.2.4 The Meeting also noted that the EG meeting had also agreed that, upon completion of the workshop, the JPT would update the existing Procedure for Coordination of Control of Tanker Desludging Activities and Disposal of Tanker Sludge in Malaysia and Singapore.

9.2.5 Malaysia acknowledged the importance of control on sludge disposal from tanker desludging and deslopping activities in the Straits of Johor as it could increase the adverse environmental impact to the sensitive areas as well as potential transboundary effect from oil pollution on both countries. Malaysia also supported the effort taken by the JPT and EG to conduct a workshop to explore the areas of collaboration, capacity building and future collaboration of training and exercises for both countries.

9.2.6 Singapore noted the update from the JPT, and expressed appreciation for the JPT's efforts to further their collaboration in capacity-building and experience-sharing through the joint workshop which was proposed to be held by the end of 2016. The workshop will focus on sharing of best practices in pollution prevention and control of oil pollution, investigation techniques due to deliberate discharge or negligence from ship activities like bunkering, deslopping, ship-to-ship (STS) transfer focusing on evidence collection and source identification and shoreline clean-up assessment techniques. The relevant operational staff from member agencies of the MSJCE will be encouraged to attend the workshop. The proposed workshop would allow both sides to learn how to protect our shared coastal and ecological environment. Singapore also noted the usefulness of reviewing the existing procedure on controlling tanker desludging activities, to ensure its effectiveness.

9.2.7 Singapore reiterated their commitment to working with Malaysia to prevent oil pollution and illegal disposal of sludge, and looked forward to further collaboration in capacity-building in this regard.

#### 10 EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION UNDER THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

#### 10.1 Update on Lido Boulevard Project

10.1.1 Malaysia updated that the Lido Boulevard project's reclamation works have not recommenced.

10.1.2 In response to Singapore's query on the Notice to Mariners (NTM) dated 30 September 2015 which indicated that there was a large area, stretching from Danga Bay to Princess Cove, which could be new reclamation projects, Malaysia said that they had issued an amended NTM dated 31 October 2015. Singapore thanked Malaysia for the update and requested that Malaysia extend a copy of the amended NTM for Singapore's information.

#### 10.2 Update on Pulau Tekong Reclamation

10.2.1 Singapore updated the meeting that the digital bathymetry survey of the "nose" and area adjacent the maritime boundary had been sent to DOE via NEA's letter dated 27 April 2016, as requested by Malaysia.

10.2.2 Malaysia thanked Singapore for the update on the reclamation works at Pulau Tekong. Malaysia expressed appreciation to Singapore on the digital format of the bathymetry data of the "nose" and area adjacent to the maritime boundary which was shared with Malaysia via NEA's letter dated 27 April 2016. Malaysia would respond to Singapore after Malaysia's analysis of the data had been completed.

10.2.3 Malaysia reiterated their concern regarding stability of the seabed slope adjacent to Malaysia and requested that Singapore monitor to ensure no slope failure takes place. Malaysia also expressed their concern over the rate of sedimentation at the "nose" which was the narrowest portion of Calder Channel and very close to the Johor Port Anchorage Area.

10.2.4 As for Malaysia's concern on slope instability issues, Singapore reassured Malaysia that the underwater slope at the dredged area had a Factor of Safety significantly higher than the minimum standard stipulated under Singapore's established code of practice.

10.2.5 On the sedimentation rate at the "nose" area, Singapore informed that they had shared with Malaysia on various occasions that Chapter 5 of the Case M1 report, which had been shared on 15 June 2007, had concluded that the "nose" would not result in significant sedimentation.

#### 10.3 Update on the Streamlining of Changi East Finger

10.3.1 Singapore said that the survey findings had been sent to Malaysia in NEA's letter dated 27 April 2016. Malaysia thanked Singapore for the data and reiterated their concerns on the effective reduction of eddy currents. Singapore reassured Malaysia that with the completion of the streamlining works at the Changi East Finger, the current instability issue had been resolved.

10.3.2 Malaysia thanked Singapore for the update on the streamlining of Changi East Finger. Malaysia also thanked Singapore on the findings of the survey which were shared with Malaysia via NEA's letter dated 27 April 2016. Malaysia would study the findings and respond to Singapore accordingly.

10.3.3 Malaysia reiterated that their most important concern was the effective reduction of current instability (eddy formation) at the Changi East Finger, in ensuring smooth and safe passage of vessels up to Malaysia Marine Heavy Engineering (MMHE), Pasir Gudang and Tanjung Langsat, Johor.

#### 11 COLLABORATION BETWEEN SINGAPORE ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE (SEI) AND ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE OF MALAYSIA (E*i*MAS)

11.1 Malaysia presented the Joint Information Paper on the Collaboration Between E*I*MAS and SEI as attached in **Annex 8**.

11.2 Malaysia welcomed Singapore to participate in the course on Chemicals Management to be hosted by E*i*MAS. However, Malaysia would not be able to conduct training under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) this year as the E*i*MAS complex would be temporarily closed for upgrading.

11.3 Singapore expressed appreciation to E*i*MAS for the cross exchanges between the environmental training institutes. Singapore noted Malaysia's participation in SEI's course on "Urban Solid Waste Management" under the Singapore Cooperation Training Programme Award (SCTPA) / Small Island Developing States Technical Cooperation Programme (SIDSTEC) in February 2016, and welcomed Malaysian officials to participate in SEI's international training programme to be held in mid-August on "Sustainable Development and Environmental Management", which is also under the SCTPA. Singapore added that it would be keen to send officials to participate in the relevant environmental training programmes conducted by E*i*MAS.

11.4 The Meeting noted the close cooperation between the training institutes on the exchange of training opportunities and resources between the environmental officers of both countries, and encouraged both sides to continue to offer and participate in each other's courses. Singapore also noted that the training topics were interesting and useful, and would help to build relationships between officers on both sides.

#### 12 **OTHER MATTERS**

## 12.1 Refinery and Petrochemical Integrated Development (RAPID) in Pengerang

12.1.1 Malaysia updated the meeting that as of 15 May 2016, the earthworks for Phase 2 RAPID project had been 96% completed and would be completed by June 2016. Malaysia informed that there was no change of the EIA report. Singapore thanked Malaysia for the update.

#### 12.2 **Tuas Desalination Plant**

12.2.1 Singapore informed the meeting that the queries that Malaysia had raised during the 29<sup>th</sup> MSJCE meeting were clarified by Singapore then and in NEA's letter dated 27 April 2016. Singapore did not have further comments. Malaysia thanked

Singapore for the update and for the EIA report for Singapore's third Tuas Desalination Plant. Malaysia informed that they would study the report and would provide their comments on the report in due course.

#### 12.3 **Development of a Port at Tuas**

12.3.1 Singapore updated the meeting that the issues raised by Malaysia via DOE's letter dated 20 October 2015 and during the 29th MSJCE meeting, regarding the current and wave pattern of the project, technical parameter of the sand used and method statement for reclamation, had been clarified via NEA's letters dated 7 October 2015 and 27 April 2016.

12.3.2 Malaysia thanked Singapore for the update on the development of a Port at Tuas. Malaysia also thanked Singapore for the feedback on the issues regarding the current and wave pattern of the project, technical parameter of the sand used and method statement for reclamation via NEA's letters dated 7 October 2015 and 27 April 2016. Malaysia informed that they would study the information and would provide their comments on the report in due course.

#### 12.4 **Coastal Waterfront Development at Tuas and Jurong Island**

12.4.1 Singapore updated the meeting that they had shared the information requested by Malaysia regarding the current and wave pattern of the project, technical parameter of the sand used and method statement for reclamation via NEA's letters dated 7 October 2015 and 27 April 2016.

12.4.2 Malaysia thanked Singapore for the feedback on the issues regarding the current and wave pattern of the project, technical parameter of the sand used and method statement for reclamation via NEA's letters dated 7 October 2015 and 27 April 2016. Malaysia informed that they would study the report and would provide their comments on the report in due course.

12.4.3 Malaysia reiterated its position and concerns on Singapore's development projects, namely the Tuas Desalination Plant, the port development at Tuas and other development at the Tuas View Extension. Malaysia said that these projects and developments are in close proximity to or in Point 20 of Malaysia's Map of 1979 and Point 20 is located within Malaysia's territorial waters. Malaysia also emphasized that the territorial waters boundaries as depicted in Malaysia's Map of 1979 were drawn in accordance of the Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone 1958, as well as principles and rules under customary international law. These principles are also recognized under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS 1982).

12.4.4 Singapore reaffirmed that its position was as set out in Paragraph 16 of NEA's letter to DOE dated 27 April 2016, and asked that the minutes reflect what was included in Paragraph 16, namely, that Singapore reiterated its position stated in NEA's letter to DOE dated 13 May 2015, as well as during the 29<sup>th</sup> MSJCE meeting, that the maritime boundaries depicted in the Environmental Impact Statement report on the modified reclamation profile at Tuas View Extension, reflect those set out in the Agreement between the Government of Malaysia and the Government of the

Republic of Singapore to Delimit Precisely the Territorial Waters Boundary in Accordance with the Straits Settlement and Johore Territorial Waters Agreement 1927 (1995 Agreement) and the Treaty between the Republic of Indonesia and the Republic of Singapore relating to the delimitation of the territorial seas of the two countries in the western part of the Strait of Singapore (2009 Treaty). The two treaties had been registered with the United Nations Secretariat pursuant to Article 102 of the United Nations Charter. Singapore had on several occasions categorically rejected the unilateral demarcation of Malaysia's territorial waters to include an area around the so-called "Point 20". The area around "Point 20" has always been well within Singapore's territorial waters, and "Point 20" remains well behind the agreed maritime boundary between Singapore and Malaysia in the 1995 Agreement.

#### 12.5 **Proposed Reclamation at Mukim Plentong**

12.5.1 Malaysia informed the meeting that there was a plan to expand the above project which includes reclamation works. DOE was in the process of reviewing the EIA report which also addresses issues regarding the development of Phase 1 as raised by Singapore via NEA's letter to DOE dated 20 November 2014. DOE would share the EIA report once the internal process had been completed.

12.5.2 UPEN updated the meeting that they had not received any updates from Tebrau Bay Bhd since the meeting between technical consultants from Tebrau Bay Bhd and PUB on 19 October 2015. UPEN would request Tebrau Bay Bhd to arrange a subsequent meeting and provide an update on the project status. Singapore noted that as DOE had updated that the scope of the project had been reviewed and DOE was reviewing the EIA report, Singapore would await DOE's sharing of the revised EIA report with Singapore as well as UPEN's update on the subsequent technical meeting with the developer. Singapore reiterated its request that no reclamation works be carried out until Singapore had received the revised EIA report and was assured that there would be no adverse transboundary impact on Singapore and PUB's pipelines.

#### 12.6 **Country Garden Reclamation Project**

12.6.1 Malaysia took note on the issues raised in NEA's letter dated 16 May 2016 and would respond in due course. The implementation of this project was closely monitored by DOE and other related agencies to ensure that there would be no adverse transboundary impact. Malaysia would also share the relevant information with Singapore once the internal process had been completed.

12.6.2 Singapore highlighted that the reclamation works on the ground did not appear to be in accordance with the Detailed Environmental Impact Assessment (DEIA). For instance, the proposed access road 2 was to be constructed only in Phase 3 (Year 2035) but Singapore's observation of the physical works showed that this access road had already been completed. Another example was that while the DEIA did not specify whether the three access roads would be built on reclaimed land or take the form of bridges, Singapore observed that the access roads had been built on reclaimed land and this could result in a different impact assessment conclusion from what had been presented in the DEIA which Malaysia had shared with Singapore. As such, Singapore requested that Malaysia look into Singapore's

queries and suspend reclamation works at the project site, until Singapore had established that there would be no adverse transboundary impact on Singapore from this project.

### 12.7 **R&F Guangzhou Reclamation Project**

12.7.1 Malaysia updated the meeting that the reclamation works for Plot 1 and Plot 2 had been completed with slope stabilisation and the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) would be shared in due course. Singapore thanked Malaysia and looked forward to receiving the EMP.

#### 12.8 Reclamation Works at Danga Bay

12.8.1 Malaysia informed the meeting that the reclamation works at Danga Bay had not recommenced and there was no increase in the area reclaimed since 1 May 2015. DOE and other related agencies would monitor closely the implementation of this project to ensure that there would be no adverse transboundary impact.

12.8.2 Malaysia also informed that the Royal Malaysian Navy had issued an amended NTM dated 31 October 2015 and would share a copy of the NTM as requested by Singapore.

12.8.3 Malaysia reiterated that they were in the final stage of analysing the data of its bathymetric survey and would share the results in due course. Singapore requested that Malaysia expedite the survey analysis as it had been nearly a year since Singapore shared their survey analysis with Malaysia.

12.8.4 On the EIA reports for Senibong Cove and Sungai Rekoh, Malaysia would share them once the internal process had been completed.

12.8.5 Singapore reiterated its request for clarification on the two projects as stated in NEA's letter dated 20 October 2015, i.e. the Tanjung Piai Integrated Petroleum Hub and Maritime Industrial Park, and Phase 3 Development at Pelabuhan Tanjung Pelepas. Malaysia updated the meeting that they would reply to NEA's letter in due course.

12.8.6 Singapore requested that Malaysia update on when the Pengerang Petroleum and Maritime Industrial Park project would commence as Singapore had learnt from media reports that the EIA report for this project had been approved by DOE earlier this year. Malaysia said that it would respond to Singapore's request in due course.

## 12.9 Complaint on Smell (Proposed Procedures for Notification and Mutual Assistance for Smell Nuisance Incidents)

12.9.1 Malaysia reiterated that they had provided and updated the information on the contact persons from DOE HQ and DOE Johor through DOE's letters dated 20 October 2015 and 25 February 2016 respectively. Malaysia also thanked Singapore for sharing their contact details through NEA's letter dated 11 February 2016. Through this channel, Malaysia believed that both parties would be able to share information and expedite response to complaints on smell nuisances.

12.9.2 Malaysia reiterated that they had their own standard operating procedure (SOP) for the handling and investigation of environmental complaints received from the public.

12.9.3 Singapore noted that at the EG meeting on 30 March 2016, the EG had discussed the notification procedure and its usefulness. There had been some pollution incidents recently when the notification procedure was activated. Besides the flaring and dark smoke emissions incident at Pasir Gudang, both sides had made use of the procedure to quickly exchange information about incidents such as the sighting of brown and white discharges in the SOJ. Singapore noted that when such pollution incidents happened, the first step was to promptly notify each other, and the notification procedure had proved to be an important and useful channel for both sides to quickly inform each other. Singapore requested that both sides update their points of contact if there were any changes, and proposed, on behalf of the EG, that this agenda item be removed from the agenda of future EG meetings.

12.9.4 Malaysia took note of Singapore's proposal to remove the agenda item from future EG Meeting. Malaysia also proposed that the agenda item be dropped from MSJCE WG. The Meeting agreed that the item be removed from the agenda of the MSJCE WG.

#### 12.10 Importation of Wastes and e-Wastes

12.10.1 Malaysia gave a presentation on the issue of "Importation of Waste and e-Wastes" as attached in **Annex 9**.

12.10.2 Malaysia thanked Singapore for understanding its concern on issues related to the movement of wastes and e-wastes. Malaysia hoped that the information on the relevant importers and exporters could assist both countries to ensure all importation and exportation adhere to the legal requirements of both countries, as well as the international convention. Malaysia proposed for this matter to be deliberated further by the EG.

12.10.3 Singapore reiterated that Singapore did not condone illegal transboundary movement of hazardous wastes as defined under the Basel Convention. Noting the information presented by Malaysia, Singapore said that this was the first time Singapore was receiving the information and requested more details from Malaysia in order to verify the information and follow up accordingly.

12.10.4 Singapore requested Malaysia to share their presentation slides, in addition to Malaysia's information paper in the meeting folder. Singapore noted that the presentation slides included more information and details that were not in the paper circulated at the meeting. Malaysia agreed to provide information on the movement of wastes and e-wastes.

12.10.5 Both sides agreed to co-operate to address and to follow up on this issue at the staff level.

## 13. PROPOSED DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MSJCE/AEV MEETING AND MSJCE WG MEETING

13.1 Malaysia informed that the 30<sup>th</sup> MSJCE and 29<sup>th</sup> AEV Meetings had been tentatively scheduled on 8-9 September 2016 in Malaysia.

13.2 Noting that Malaysia was not planning to hold the Annual Friendly Games this year, Singapore suggested that the games could be organized in an appropriate arrangement so that both sides could continue with the tradition of strengthening ties through games.

13.3 Singapore informed that the 15<sup>th</sup> MSJCE WG Meeting would be held in Singapore in the second quarter of 2017.

#### 14. CLOSING

14.1 The Meeting adjourned with the Co-Chairs expressing their appreciation to all present for their input and contributions towards a successful meeting. Singapore expressed their appreciation to Malaysia for their warm hospitality.