NEWS RELEASE

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NTU PARTNERS EUROPE’S LARGEST RESEARCH ORGANISATION

The Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), the French national centre for scientific research, has entered into a strategic partnership with NTU to collaborate on scientific programmes, joint projects and other research activities.

The landmark agreement is the first between the two organizations. Notably, the partnership will pave the way for NTU to collaborate with the vast network of laboratories under CNRS as well as its industrial partners, both within France and internationally, on research and industry-linked activities.

CNRS is arguably Europe’s largest publicly-funded research organization. It receives about 2.2 billion euros in funding a year, which represents one-quarter of all of France’s public spending on research. CNRS employs over 35,600 permanent research scientists and professors and has a network of 1,260 research units throughout the country. CNRS’ scientific departments and institutes encompass virtually all fields of knowledge, including life sciences, information science and technology, communications and the environment.

At CNRS headquarters in Paris today, 22 Sep 05, Dr Su Guaning, President,
NTU, and Dr Bernard Larrouturou, CNRS Director-General, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalize the partnership.

The visit to CNRS is part of Dr Su’s trip to visit NTU’s key partners in Europe and United States, and is part of NTU’s continued drive to build global links with world class institutions.

Dr Su said: “It is important that universities in Singapore build links with the international scientific community. We are honoured that CNRS, a scientific research giant in Europe, is now one of our strategic partners. Testament to CNRS’ expertise is the fact that it has over 4,500 patents, 500 licences and more than 100 start-ups. To be able to tap CNRS’ expertise and resources will certainly help NTU, and Singapore, advance in its drive towards R&D excellence. I believe that this MOU will pave the way to greater achievements in science and research, here and in the region.

“We share CNRS' goal of advancing knowledge and making it available to society. We look forward to joint effort in many research areas such as biomedical and pharmaceutical engineering, nanoscience, intelligent devices, among others.”

The two organizations will explore cooperation in suitable areas of mutual interest and strengths. Under the agreement, there will be sharing of scientific and academic information and publications, mutual visits by faculty and research staff and student exchanges. Opportunities for other forms of cooperation, including joint R&D projects and commercialization of technology, will be jointly identified at a later date.

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is an established tertiary institution with 12 Schools, including three new schools - the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, School of Art, Design and Media, and School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences.

NTU has a distinguished lineage with roots that go back to 1955. Today, we are a research-intensive university ranked among the top 50 in the world. Our strength in science and engineering is acknowledged globally. We have a business school with an MBA programme that is among the top 100 in the world, an internationally-acclaimed National Institute of Education, one of the best communication and information schools in Asia, and a biological sciences school at the forefront of Singapore’s life sciences initiative. The Institute of Defence & Strategic Studies is a world authority on terrorism.

Our New Undergraduate Experience featuring a holistic education including residential living and international experience has received external endorsement for its comprehensive curriculum featuring a rich selection of minors.

For more information, visit http://www.ntu.edu.sg/

About French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS)

The French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) is a publicly-funded research organization that defines its mission as producing knowledge and making it available to society.

Resources: 2.29 billion euros ex-Vat including 1.965 billion in government subsidies, over 280 million from government, industrial, and European partners, and nearly 45 million from royalties on patents and licenses.

CNRS Laboratories employ over 35,600 permanent research scientists and professors, and 17,600 engineers, technicians and administrative staff. 17,500 PH.D students are preparing their doctoral theses in CNRS Laboratories. CNRS accommodates over 2,000 post-doctoral researchers.

The 1,260 CNRS laboratories are spread throughout the country and cover all fields of research.

CNRS is active in all major scientific fields. CNRS scientific departments and institutes encompass virtually all fields of knowledge: Nuclear and Particle
Physics, Physical Sciences and Mathematics, Communication and Information Science and Technology, Engineering Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Earth Sciences and Astronomy, Life Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences.

CNRS strives to develop collaboration between specialists from different fields of expertise. These interdisciplinary programs and actions offer a gateway into new domains of scientific investigation and enable CNRS to address the needs of society and industry. Some examples of these new fields are: interactions between physics and chemistry of living forms, materials, biotechnologies, environment, urban matters, health, telecommunications and communication.

CNRS is open to partnerships. Over 1,200 CNRS units are operated in conjunction or association with universities and other research organizations.

Partnership with industry:

- 4,500 patents
- 500 licenses
- 3,000 industrial contracts
- Over 100 start-up enterprises from CNRS laboratories since 1999

International partnership:

- 14 CNRS laboratories with foreign partners
- 50 virtual laboratories in partnership with the world’s top research institutes
- 200 international research programs
- 100 European Union actions: networks of excellence, integrated programs
- 5,000 high-level foreign research scientists are working in CNRS laboratories

CNRS has 9 permanent offices abroad: in Brussels, Peking, Tokyo, Hanoi, Washington, Bonn, Moscow, Johannesburg, Santiago (Chile).

For more information, visit [http://www.cnrs.fr/](http://www.cnrs.fr/)

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