NEWS RELEASE

Embargoed until 12.00pm 10 March 2006

Total: 2 pg(s) including this pg

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Singapore, 9 March 2006

NTU and ISEAS offer insights into financial reform and liberalisation of ASEAN 10 + 5 economies

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has collaborated with the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) to conduct the first independent assessment of financial reforms in East Asia.

The research provides a model framework to quantify the progress made thus far in financial sector reforms and liberalisation amongst 15 economies, including ASEAN-10, Japan, South Korea, China, Hong Kong and Chinese Taipei. Such an independent and objective initiative will be of significant contribution to financial reform and liberalisation efforts of these economies, and will also allow investors, businessmen and policymakers to gain a more in-depth understanding of financial reform and liberalisation efforts in East Asia.

Dr Chen Kang (陈抗) and Dr Tan Khee Giap (陈企业) from NTU are principal researchers of this joint project. They will present the findings at a seminar on 10 March 2006. Both are visiting senior research fellows at ISEAS and founding members of the Asia Research Centre at NTU.

Dr Tan shares: "This ISEAS-NTU assessment ranking is a non-confrontational, non-negotiating, non-obligatory and non-committal Peer Pressure System. The study is intended not so much to single out top economies, but more to encourage weaker economies to identify areas in need of reforms through our ‘What If’ simulation exercises.

“At NTU, we are always keen to spearhead key research areas that meet real world needs. For this project, we aim to offer insights into financial reforms in East Asia and have partnered ISEAS to assess these economies based on indicators such as financial
institutions' stability and soundness, financial market developments and liberalisation, central banking policies and management and corporate governance and compliance."

Entitled “ISEAS-NTU Financial Sector Reform and Liberalisation Ranking Assessment for ASEAN 10 + 5 Economies”, participants of the seminar include financial professionals, members of the diplomatic community and academics.

A comprehensive report of the research will be on sale after the seminar. Those who are interested in purchasing a copy can contact Dr Tan Khee Giap at email: ATANKG@ntu.edu.sg or tel: 6790 4832.

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About Nanyang Technological University

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) is a research-intensive university with globally acknowledged strengths in science and engineering. The university has a beautiful garden campus and a distinguished lineage with roots that go back to 1955.

NTU's 12 schools span diverse disciplines – from engineering and the sciences to art, design and media. The university has a strong engineering college focused on innovation, a business school with one of the top 100 MBA programmes 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 and Strategic Studies is a world authority on terrorism issues.

Ranked among the top 50 universities in the world, NTU has in place multi-country programmes and initiatives, many established through its strategic alliances with 300 institutions in more than 45 countries, including Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, California Institute of Technology, Cornell University, Cambridge University, and Beijing University.

For more information, visit www.ntu.edu.sg