

Media Release

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Launch of new seminar series to understand REITs with overseas properties

The REIT Association of Singapore (REITAS) and Singapore Exchange are launching a new **REITs Global Education Series** to enhance investor knowledge of the REITs sector and to strengthen Singapore's position as a REITs hub. This platform will serve local and global investors and will include in-depth content focusing on the opportunities and unique dynamics associated with REITs having overseas asset exposure.

Currently 75% of S-REITs have properties outside Singapore compared to less than 65% five years ago. In addition, 9 of the last 10 REIT IPOs have been of REITs with only overseas assets. Several REITs have also expanded their investment mandate to allow them to invest in new geographies. Going forward, we intend to further promote Singapore as a hub for REIT listings, including those with foreign assets.

The new Global Education Seminars will be a series of seminar and webcast sessions where senior practitioners from REITs will explain why they choose to go overseas or why they choose to list here, the property market dynamics in that market, how they deal with important issues such as hedging, cash repatriation, taxation etc. The presentations will go beyond what is normally covered in the introductory level programs that we are currently conducting. Local and global investors can tap into this platform to access the seminars and panel discussions and also pose questions for the panel discussion following the presentations. The first seminar in this series is scheduled for 31 May at SGX Centre and will be focused on REITs with Australian assets. Those interested in participating in the program can register at bit.ly/SGX-REITAS.

Mr. Chua Tiow Chye, President of REITAS said "The S-REIT sector has become more international over the years. Many retail investors may not fully appreciate the opportunities, unique dynamics and efforts that management of these REITs are putting in to tap into growth opportunities overseas while simultaneously safeguarding unitholders' distributions via hedging, holding structures, etc. We hope this seminar series will allow investors more insights into investing in REITs with overseas asset exposure. This complements our current on-going beginner level programs – the quarterly SGX-REITAS Education series and monthly webcast sessions."

Mr. Chan Kum Kong, Head of Research and Products, Equities and Fixed Income, Singapore Exchange, said, "There are currently more than 40 REITs and property trusts listed on SGX, accounting for a combined market capitalisation of over S\$90 billion. As the largest REIT platform in Asia ex-Japan, Singapore has over the years evolved into a global and cross-border REIT platform and our investment education efforts are aligned with this evolution. To widen our reach to local and international investors, we are going digital via webcast and videos to connect with investors seeking exposure in REITs with global exposure.

About REITAS

REITAS is the representative voice of the Singapore REIT (S-REIT) industry. It provides its members a representation and engagement in consultation opportunities with policy makers on issues affecting S-REITs. The association also organises talks, courses, investor conferences, retail education events etc. to promote understanding and investment in Singapore REITs.

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