



MINISTER FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY
(TRADE)
SINGAPORE

11 October 2016

The Hon Steven Ciobo MP
Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment
Australia

Dear *Minister Ciobo,*

In connection with the Singapore-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, I have the honour to confirm the following mutual understandings reached between the Government of Singapore and the Government of Australia:

1. Australia and Singapore affirm the objectives of fostering closer people-to-people links and mutual understanding between Australia and Singapore and to enhance the role played by education in fostering such links.
2. Taking into account prevailing policy applicable to foreign universities, Singapore will facilitate consideration of a request from an Australian university to use the term 'university' in its business name for a campus in Singapore, in accordance with the following:
 - (a) the Council for Private Education, or successor body ("CPE") will provide an interested Australian university with the prevailing criteria relevant to the interested Australian university;
 - (b) any interested Australian university may submit a request to the CPE, to use the term 'university' in its business name for a campus in Singapore. Its request should include information regarding the consistency of its operations with prevailing criteria provided by CPE under sub-paragraph (a), and any other information that it considers relevant in support of its request;

- (c) CPE will provide the applicant Australian university with a response regarding the outcome of its request within a reasonable time period;
 - (d) if an application is unsuccessful, CPE will provide the university with an opportunity to resubmit the application; and
 - (e) once the request is approved by the CPE, the Australian university may use the term 'university' in its business name for a campus in Singapore, until such time the permission is withdrawn, due to the Australian university failing to continue to meet the prevailing policy, or due to changes in the law or prevailing policy. The CPE will provide reasonable notice to the Australian university of its intention to withdraw permission, and provide the university with an opportunity to address any concerns.
3. CPE will give fair consideration to feedback provided by Australian universities on the regulatory processes applicable to Australian higher education providers with institutions in Singapore.
4. CPE will provide Australian universities with an opportunity to comment on proposed changes to regulations which will impact the operation of its institutions in Singapore.

I have the further honour to propose that this letter, and your letter in reply confirming these mutual understandings, constitute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Singapore and the Government of Australia which will come into effect on the date of your letter in reply.

Yours *Sincerely,*

Lim Hng Kiang

LIM HNG KIANG



THE HON STEVEN CIOBO MP

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment

11 October 2016

Mr Lim Hng Kiang
Minister for Trade and Industry (Trade)
Singapore

Dear Minister

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 11 October 2016, which reads as follows:

“In connection with the Singapore-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, I have the honour to confirm the following mutual understandings reached between the Government of Singapore and the Government of Australia:

1. Australia and Singapore affirm the objectives of fostering closer people-to-people links and mutual understanding between Australia and Singapore and to enhance the role played by education in fostering such links.
2. Taking into account prevailing policy applicable to foreign universities, Singapore will facilitate consideration of a request from an Australian university to use the term ‘university’ in its business name for a campus in Singapore, in accordance with the following:
 - (a) the Council for Private Education, or successor body (“CPE”) will provide an interested Australian university with the prevailing criteria relevant to the interested Australian university;
 - (b) any interested Australian university may submit a request to the CPE, to use the term ‘university’ in its business name for a campus in Singapore. Its request should include information regarding the consistency of its operations with prevailing criteria provided by CPE under sub-paragraph (a), and any other information that it considers relevant in support of its request;

- (c) CPE will provide the applicant Australian university with a response regarding the outcome of its request within a reasonable time period;
- (d) if an application is unsuccessful, CPE will provide the university with an opportunity to resubmit the application; and
- (e) once the request is approved by the CPE, the Australian university may use the term 'university' in its business name for a campus in Singapore, until such time the permission is withdrawn, due to the Australian university failing to continue to meet the prevailing policy, or due to changes in the law or prevailing policy. The CPE will provide reasonable notice to the Australian university of its intention to withdraw permission, and provide the university with an opportunity to address any concerns.

3. CPE will give fair consideration to feedback provided by Australian universities on the regulatory processes applicable to Australian higher education providers with institutions in Singapore.

4. CPE will provide Australian universities with an opportunity to comment on proposed changes to regulations which will impact the operation of its institutions in Singapore.

I have the further honour to propose that this letter, and your letter in reply confirming these mutual understandings, constitute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Singapore and the Government of Australia which will come into effect on the date of your letter in reply."

I have the honour to confirm that the above reflects the mutual understandings reached between the Government of Australia and the Government of Singapore in connection with the Singapore-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, and that your letter and this letter in reply constitute a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Australia and the Government of Singapore.

Yours sincerely



Steven Ciobo