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**MEDIA RELEASE**

**NCPG expands with new Members and will work with an International Advisory Panel**

1. The National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) will be expanded to include five new members, bringing total Council membership to 19. This expanded membership will help bring in more expertise into the council as it continues to expand its role to create more awareness of problem gambling and its impact on society and as it directs funding for and recommends services to address these issues.

2. These members include:

- a. Mr Goh Joon Seng (President of the Tribunal for the Maintenance of Parents, Retired Supreme Court Judge)
- b. Venerable Seck Kwang Phing (Secretary-General of the Singapore Buddhist Federation)
- c. Mr Joachim Lee (Executive Director, Tampines Family Service Centre)
- d. Dr. Lim Yun Chin (Consultant Psychiatrist, Raffles Medical Group)
- e. Associate Professor Fred Long Foo Yee (Adjunct Associate Professor, Division of Psychology, College of Humanities Arts and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University)

3. Their experience in law, clinical treatment, counselling and research as well as networks with community organisations will help ensure that the NCPG will be able to deliver on its mission to educate the public and recommend services and programmes to help problem gamblers. It is also in line with the next phase of its work – to focus on the impending regulatory framework required for casino exclusion; to beef up social services required for helping problem gamblers and to step up public education efforts to further raise awareness of problem gambling and help services available.

[Please refer to Appendix B for the full composition of NCPG's Second Term and bio-data of new members]

4. The NCPG is also pleased to announce that an International Advisory Panel will be set up to help the Council develop expertise in research, services, and prevention. The Panel will also advise the NCPG on global trends and issues to address problem gambling. This will supplement the expertise the NCPG already taps on in Ministry of Health's (MOH) existing Community Addictions Management Programme (CAMP) to develop and deliver help services to gambling addicts and their families.

5. The NCPG ended its first two-year term on 31 August 2007. The key highlights and achievements of the Council are spelt out in the NCPG's second Annual Report.

6. Some achievements of the first term include:

**a. Public Communications**

Implementing public education initiatives through the mass media including 'Bet Your Life', a 5-parter TV info-educational programme, a print media campaign during the World Cup season in 2006 and a TV media campaign during Chinese New Year 2007.

**b. Public Consultation**

Going beyond stakeholders to getting feedback from 25 recovering problem gamblers and their families; and the public and incorporating the feedback – to involve social work professionals in the family exclusion process.

**c. Responsible Gambling**

Getting 14 gambling operators to voluntarily adopt the Responsible Gambling Code of Practice.

**d. Service Delivery & Research**

Setting up 2 pilot counselling centres and conducting a follow up survey to understand the effectiveness of public education efforts. (The results will be released only in October 2007 and are still being analysed)

**e. Youth**

Reaching over 8,200 young people over the last year through targeted education projects with schools, VWOs, and grassroots organisations.

**The Way Forward**

7. Moving forward, the Council and its sub-committees will continue to work on programmes to raise awareness on problem gambling and help available for problem gamblers and their families. The NCPG will also continue to place emphasis on evidence-based research to support the future work of the Council, especially in services and other responses.

**Issued by:**

**National Council on Problem Gambling**



**For media queries, please contact:**

**NCPG Secretariat**

[admin@ncpg.org.sg](mailto:admin@ncpg.org.sg)

Tel: 6354 8154

**About the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG):**

The NCPG was appointed in August 2005 as part of Singapore's national framework to address problem gambling. It is a council comprising 19 members with expertise in public communications, psychiatry and psychology, social work, counselling and rehabilitative services. The Council's role is to provide advice and feedback to the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS) on public education programmes on problem gambling and on the effectiveness of treatment, counseling and rehabilitative programmes ; to decide on funding for these programmes; preventive and rehabilitative programmes; and on the applications for exclusion of persons from casinos. For more information, please see [www.ncpg.org.sg](http://www.ncpg.org.sg).



## **APPENDIX A: ENGLISH-CHINESE GLOSSARY**

National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG)	全国预防嗜赌理事会
Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS)	社会发展, 青年及体育部
Community Addictions Management Programme, Institute of Mental Health	社区戒瘾护理计划, 心理卫生学院
Problem Gambling	嗜赌
Gamblers	赌徒
Pathological/ Problem Gambler (PPG)	病态赌徒
Gambling Addiction	赌瘾
Addiction	癖瘾症

**ANNEX B: COMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PROBLEM  
GAMBLING, TERM 2 (2007 – 2009)**

The second term of the NCPG comprises 19 members of persons with expertise and experience in public communications, psychiatry and psychology, social services, legal as well as religious practices.

The following persons have been appointed for the second term of the NCPG:

1. (Chairman) Mr Lim Hock San, President & CEO, United Industrial Corporation Ltd
2. Dr Ang Beng Choo, Advisor, Brahm Education Centre
3. Dr Ang Yong Guan, Psychiatrist, Ang Yong Guan Psychiatry
4. Dr Bibi Jan Mohd Ayyub, President, Singapore Malay Teachers' Union
5. Professor David Chan, Professor of Psychology & Interim Dean, School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University
6. Ms Debra Soon, General Manager, Group Corporate Communications and Investor Relations, WBL Corp Ltd
7. Ms Elaine Lim, Principal, Fairfield Methodist Secondary School
8. **A/P Fred Long Foo Yee, Adjunct Associate Professor, Division of Psychology, College of Humanities Arts and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University**
9. **Mr Goh Joon Seng, President of the Tribunal for the Maintenance of Parents, Retired Supreme Court Judge**
10. **Mr Joachim Lee, Executive Director, Tampines Family Service Centre**
11. Mr Kwek Leng Joo, Managing Director, City Developments Ltd
12. **Dr Lim Yun Chin, Consultant Psychiatrist, Raffles Medical Group**
13. Mrs Mildred Tan, Managing Director (Partner), Ernst & Young Associates Pte Ltd
14. Mr Mohd Guntor Sadali, Editor, Berita Harian & Berita Minggu
15. Mr S. Rajendran, Chairman, Hindu Endowments Board
16. Dr Sudha Nair, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore
17. Mr Tan Kian Hoon, Chairman, National Crime Prevention Council
18. Mr Tan Thiam Lye, Chairman, Taoist Federation (Singapore)
19. **Venerable Seck Kwang Phing, Secretary-General, Singapore Buddhist Federation**

**\*New members in bold.**

## **PROFILE OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Fred Long Foo Yee**, BA(NSW), MA(Syd), DipClinPsych, C.Psychol(UK), AFBPsS

**Adjunct Associate Professor Fred Long** is a Clinical Psychologist trained in Australia and the UK. He is the Founder President and Fellow of the Singapore Psychological Society and an Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society. Altogether, he has served 34 years at the Woodbridge Hospital & Institute of Mental Health and headed the Government Psychological Service since 1984 until his retirement from the Civil Service. He has remained active after his retirement, lending his expertise to various leading universities in Singapore, and as consultant psychologist to the Ministry of Defence. In recognition of his service, he was awarded the National Day Public Administration Medal (Bronze) in 1985, the Long Service Medal in 1996 and the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in 2000. Since the mid-1980's, he conducted psychological assessment on political candidates earmarked for public office. He has played a key role in the development of the Police Psychological Unit and the Personnel Guidance Unit at the Public Service Division; provided psychological support in a number of civil emergencies; and served as chief facilitator in the Work Improvement Teams movement in the Civil Service. He also assisted in the mental preparation of team members of the successful Antarctica 2000 Expedition. To date, he has contributed to two book chapters and published 23 papers and articles in local and international journals.

**Goh Joon Seng**, LLB, PBM, BBM

**Mr Goh Joon Seng** is currently a consultant with Lee and Lee Advocates and Solicitors. Mr Goh retired as a Judge of the Supreme Court in 2000 after serving for almost 10 years. He practised at the Bar until his appointment to the Bench in 1990. Mr Goh also holds a number of concurrent positions including, among others, President of the Tribunal for the Maintenance of Parents; Chairman of Presidential Council for Religious Harmony; and Chairman of the Income Tax Board of Review. Mr Goh is also a Member of the Senate of the Singapore Academy of Law. Since 1970, Mr Goh has contributed to the public service in various capacities. Mr Goh was awarded the Public Service Medal (PBM) for his work in the Volunteer Special Constabulary, and the Public Service Star (BBM) for his contributions as Chairman of Presidential Council for Religious Harmony. He was also an Honorary Fellow of Singapore Institute of Arbitrators. Mr Goh has attended various international and regional conferences on dispute settlement, mediation and international trade law.

**Dr Lim Yun Chin**, MBBS (S'pore), DPM (UK), M Med (Psych) (S'pore), FAMS

**Dr Lim Yun Chin** is currently the Consultant Psychiatrist and Head of Raffles Hospital's Counselling Department, and is active in prisons and drug rehabilitation psychiatric work in Singapore. He is also a visiting psychiatrist to the Community Addictions Management Programme (CAMP) of the Institute of Medical Health (IMH). With 29 years of psychiatric practice behind him, Dr Lim also lectures on Addiction for the Graduate Diploma in Psychotherapy course at the Graduate School of Medical Studies, National University of Singapore. Dr Lim has authored a chapter on opiate abuse in the book entitled, "Drug Abuse in Singapore" as well as a chapter on drug abuse in the Textbook on Psychiatry for Doctors and Medical Students. Dr Lim pioneered the establishment of the Alcohol Treatment Unit in Woodbridge Hospital. He has served as President of the Singapore



Psychiatric Association, and as Vice-Chairman of the Academy of Medicine's Psychiatric Chapter. He served as a committee member in the Specialist Training Committee for Postgraduate School of Medical Studies, National University of Singapore.

**Joachim Lee Tai Loong, B.Th (Melb), MSoc.Sc. (UniSA)**

**Mr Joachim Lee** is currently the Director of Tampines Family Service Centre. He has a Bachelor of Theology from Melbourne College of Divinity and holds a Masters in Counselling from the University of South Australia. He has also completed advanced training in Interpersonal Psychotherapy and Solution-Oriented Therapy. He is a certified Gambling Addictions Counsellor. Mr Lee had many years of counseling experience at the NUS counseling centre where he was Senior Counsellor. He was also responsible for both the counselling services and the ongoing training of the counsellors at the centre.

**Venerable Seck Kwang Phing**

**Ven. Seck Kwang Phing** started life under the lay-name of Lim Hock Hwa. He majored in sociology at Nanyang University (NU), where he was also president of NU's Buddhist Society. He renounced secular life in 1980. He travelled to Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Sri Lanka for further studies and returned to Singapore in 1985. Ven. Seck Kwang Phing is a member of the Singapore Government's Presidential Council for Religious Harmony. He is Secretary-General of the Singapore Buddhist Federation, and Abbot of Leong San See Temple. Ven. Seck Kwang Phing was conferred Long Service Awards by the Ministry of Education in 1997 and 2002.