

# WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: THE SINGAPORE AND MEXICO EXPERIENCE

## 9 TO 13 JULY 2016

In conjunction with

## SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL WATER WEEK

Jointly sponsored by the

#### SINGAPORE COOPERATION PROGRAMME

and the

# MEXICAN AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

under the

## SINGAPORE - MEXICO THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMME

to be conducted by

#### PUB SINGAPORE

and the

## NATIONAL WATER COMMISSION OF MEXICO

# **Singapore Cooperation Programme**

Singapore has provided technical assistance to other developing countries since the 1960s. As a country whose only resource is its people, Singapore believes that human resource development is vital for economic and social progress. Singapore itself has benefited from training provided by other countries and international organisations.

In 1992, the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) was established to bring together under one framework the various technical assistance programmes offered by Singapore. Through the SCP, the range and number of training programmes

were increased to share Singapore's development experience with other developing countries. To date, Singapore has sponsored training courses and study visits for more than 100,000 officials from more than 170 countries. The SCP is managed by the Technical Cooperation Directorate of the Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

# Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation

The Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) is a decentralized body of the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs (SRE). The agency was created on September 28, 2011, and was provided with specific powers to deal with matters relating to international development cooperation, AMEXCID's Directorate General of Technical and Scientific Cooperation (DGCTC) coordinates Mexico's involvement in various aspects of the technical, scientific and technological cooperation with industrialized, mid-level and developing countries, as well as with multilateral agencies and international forums. Mexico's strategy of technical and scientific cooperation is intended to contribute to the strengthening of national capabilities through the implementation of projects in support of social and integral sustainable development.

## **PUB Singapore**

PUB, Singapore's national water agency, is a statutory board under the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources. PUB oversees the collection, production, distribution and reclamation of water in Singapore. Through integrated water resource management, PUB has ensured a diversified and sustainable supply of water for Singapore with the Four National Taps-local catchment water, imported water, NEWater and desalinated water.

# National Water Commission of Mexico

Water in Mexico is considered a national asset. Water administration corresponds to the President of Mexico, who delegates it to the National Water Commission. The National Water Commission (CONAGUA) is an administrative, normative, technical, consultative and decentralized agency of the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT). CONAGUA's tasks includes: Administration of the National Waters, Management and control of the hydrologic system, and Promotion of social development.

## **Course Objectives**

The Governments of Mexico and Singapore recognise that South-South Cooperation is an effective resource to strengthen the relations among developing countries and middle-income economies. In this context, both governments have prepared an initiative that combines the efforts of both countries to support the development of Latin American and Caribbean counties.

A water-rich region, Latin America is home to nearly 31% of the world's freshwater resources, but it also has large arid and semi-arid areas with recurring droughts common from Mexico to Chile. Access to safe drinking water in the region can and should be improved. Given that good water resource management is a key pillar of sustainable development, and the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) and the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) have agreed to hold a regional course on "Water Resource Management: The Singapore and Mexico Experience", which will be conducted by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), through the National Water Commission (CONAGUA), and PUB. Singapore's national water agency. The objective is to share Mexico's and Singapore's experience in water resource management with Latin American countries, with a focus on safe drinking water supply.

# Synopsis and Methodology

This five day course in Singapore will define the regional challenges surrounding water resource management; present a portfolio of successful case studies, best practices, and practical solutions; and identify strategies for the effective management of water resource in the Latin American context. Water experts from the public and private sectors in Singapore and Mexico will share effective strategies and technologies to manage watersheds, treat drinking water and ensure the safety of drinking water through quality control and monitoring. The course participants are also expected to share their experiences in water resource management in their respective countries.

The course will comprise of classroom lectures, discussions and site visits to facilities such as the NEWater Visitor Centre, Tuaspring Desalination Plant, and Lorong Halus Wetland. The topics include:

- Overview of water resource management
- Watershed management
- Pollution control and water quality
- Solid waste management: leachate treatment
- Drinking water treatment
- Drinking water quality control and monitoring
- Desalination
- Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

The Workshop will be held in conjunction with the Singapore International Water Week (SIWW), a biennial event that gathers stakeholders from the global water industry to share best practices, showcase the latest technologies and tap business opportunities, to give participants additional opportunities to gain exposure to the latest technologies and solutions in the field. Course participants will have the opportunity to attend relevant activities at SIWW and network with as many as 20,000 participants from 133 countries / regions (based on figures from SIWW 2014).

## **Course Duration**

The course will be held from 9 to 13 July 2016 in Singapore.

## Applicant criteria

Applicants should be:

• Mid to senior level officials of Water Institutions in Latin American and Caribbean countries (Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Montserrat, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela) involved in the supervision and operation of potable water supply or water resource management;

- Nominated by their respective Governments;
- Proficient in spoken and written English as the course is conducted fully in English without translation; and
- In good health.

#### Terms of Award

This course is sponsored by the Governments of Singapore and Mexico under the Singapore - Mexico Third Country Training Programme. Under this arrangement, both Governments will cover the following expenses for successful applicants, hereafter known as participants, during the seminar in Singapore:

- An economy class, round-trip air ticket between the respective international airports designated by the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID);
- A daily training allowance of one hundred and twenty Singapore dollars (\$\$120) from the first day to last day of the course to cover meals and daily expenses. [Complimentary breakfast is provided in the hotel from first day to one day after the course];
- Transportation to the course venue and site visits;
- Medical insurance for participants to cover accident and hospitalisation during their stay in Singapore in accordance with the policy of a local insurance company; and
- Accommodation for the entire duration of the seminar.

#### Note:

- Participants are to bear their personal miscellaneous expenses that may be incurred prior to receiving the allowance.
- (ii) Any expenses for out-patient medical/dental treatment will be borne by the participants themselves.

## Regulations

Participants are required to comply with the following:

- Strictly observe course schedules and not miss training sessions;
- (b) Not bring any member of their family and/or aide for the duration of the course;
- (c) Carry out instructions and abide by conditions as may be stipulated by the nominating Government or the Government of Singapore with respect to the course;
- (d) Refrain from engaging in political activities, or any form of employment for profit or gain while in Singapore;
- (e) Discontinue the course, in the event they fall seriously ill and are considered unable to continue the training or have committed an improper act; and
- (f) Return to their respective home countries upon completion of the course.

## **Application Procedure**

Application deadline: Friday, 20 May 2016.

The Governments of Singapore and Mexico are pleased to invite the respective National Focal Points for Technical Assistance to nominate <u>one (1)</u> suitable applicant for consideration. Selection of applicants for the limited number of training awards will be based on merit.

The Governments of Singapore and Mexico seek the understanding of the respective National Focal Points for Technical Assistance in the event their nominee is not selected.

All nominations are to be carried out by the respective Government Institutions, using the official application form. The application forms are to be submitted and should reach the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore not later than <a href="Friday">Friday</a>, 20 May 2016.

Please address the forms to:

Director-General Technical Cooperation Directorate Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore Tanglin Singapore 248163

Attn : Mr Andy Sim
Tel : (65) 6379 8463
Fax : (65) 6479 3357

E-mail: andy\_sim@mfa.gov.sg

- To expedite the process, a copy of the completed application forms can be scanned and sent via email or faxed to the email address or fax number stated above. The original application forms can be mailed through diplomatic or normal channels.
- All application forms should be completed in full and must bear the endorsement of the respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs or National Focal Point responsible for technical assistance
- Incomplete application forms or forms which are not endorsed will not be accepted.
- Applicants should refrain from making telephone, fax and email inquiries on the status of their applications.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore will inform all applicants of the outcome of their applications. Their National Focal Point will also be informed directly or through our diplomatic representations in the nominating country.

## Information on Singapore

For more information about Singapore, you may wish to visit the Singapore Tourism Board website at <a href="https://www.yoursingapore.com">www.yoursingapore.com</a>

