

# ITF Office in Singapore Strengthens Outreach in Southeast Asia



# SAMUDRA

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52 Chin Swee Road, #09-00, Seacare Building, Singapore 169875 Tel: (65) 6379 5666 · Fax: (65) 6734 5525 · Email: sosea@seacare.com.sg

WWW.SOSEA.ORG.SG / WWW.SEACARE.COM.SG







# ITF OPENS ITS SINGAPORE OFFICE AT SEACARE BUILDING

he International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) opened a new sub regional office in Singapore on 6 September 2017.

The first of its kind in Southeast Asia, the office at the Seacare Building aims to expand the ITF's representativeness and outreach to a diverse group of transport workers. Three members of staff will be based in the office.

It was officially launched in an opening ceremony attended by the SOS family and some 200 ITF Asia Pacific region affiliates and local tripartite partner representatives.



Guest-of-Honour ITF President Paddy Crumlin



ITF General Secretary Stephen Cotton



NTUC President Mary Liew



At the ceremony, Guest-of-Honour ITF President Paddy Crumlin said: "As a trade union organisation we've identified Asia Pacific as a major area of growth. We want to see more unions in the region affiliating to the ITF family. We'll be working in countries where we believe we can help build stronger unions and make solid improvements to labour standards."

"The location and stability of Singapore make it the ideal hub for this work and we know the new office is going to play a vital role in coordinating and managing our activities across Asia Pacific together with the other ITF centers of organising excellence in the region." "This is one of the significant things that we're doing here. We're demonstrating that we can build a better world. Singapore provides so much to the world in terms of leadership and functionality...we are challenging ourselves to build better cities, have decent transportation, and create a more functional shipping industry."

ITF General Secretary Stephen Cotton, who was also at the event, added: "It is about using a strong base to grow our influence in Southeast Asia. In Singapore, the tripartite approach to labour negotiations is really working and we want to explore how we could apply that method successfully elsewhere."



"We see this office and our congress next year as a gateway to understanding and appreciating what is special about Singapore."

Applauding the ITF's move, NTUC President Mary Liew commended ITF's commitment to advancing the interests of Southeast Asian transport workers, and how future collaborations will benefit them.

As one of several global union federations allied with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), the ITF, headquartered in London, has a membership base of close to 700 unions representing over 16 million transport workers from 149 countries. It has nine offices worldwide, including three existing in the Asia Pacific region in Delhi, Tokyo and Sydney.

We are pleased to welcome the ITF to Singapore. Their presence here will not only positively impact the lives of more transport workers, but also strengthen the development of the maritime sector and transportation industry in general.

- SOS General Secretary Kam Soon Huat







#### CONNECTING SHIPS, PORTS AND PEOPLE ON WORLD MARITIME DAY



he maritime sector can create conditions for increased employment, prosperity and stability ashore by promoting trade by sea, and enhancing the port and maritime sector as wealth creators both on land and – through developing a sustainable blue economy – at sea.

The industry's integral and significant role in world trade and global economy was recognised by International Maritime Organization's (IMO) World Maritime Day 2017, which fell on 28 September.

At the IMO headquarters, maritime guests and professionals gathered to receive updates on safety, security and humanitarian issues that the organisation was currently tackling, as well as discuss ways to strengthen connections between IMO Member States, ports, seafarers and ship operators. There was also a meeting involving the IMO Maritime Ambassadors, spokespersons nominated by Member States or non-governmental organisations to advocate seafaring professions among the young.





All over the world, other members of the maritime community staged conferences, seminars and public events to celebrate the annual United Nations (UN) day under the theme "Connecting Ships, Ports and People", which focused on the people involved in the shipping and logistic areas.

INTERNATIONAL

ORGANIZATION

MARITIME

"Our theme will enable us to shine a spotlight on the existing cooperation between ports and ships to maintain and enhance a safe, secure and efficient maritime transportation system," IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim underscored in his World Maritime Day message.

"We will help our Member States develop and implement strategies that address a wide range of issues including the facilitation of maritime transport, and increasing efficiency, navigational safety, protection of the marine environment, and maritime security," he added, pointing out how the benefits of free and efficient trade extend beyond the shipping sector to improve lives in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Established by the UN, the SDGs seek to rectify world concerns such as poverty and climate change. IMO, being a UN agency, has a strong commitment to achieving the SDGs, Mr Lim said.

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#### ITF YOUTH CONGRESS GROUP MEETS IN SINGAPORE

he first International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) Young Transport Workers' Youth Congress Group meeting transpired at the Seacare Building in Singapore, from 28 to 29 September 2017.

The youth congress group, formed with the objective of letting young transport workers have their say in ITF's political and campaigning future, comprises delegates from the host unions in Singapore and international youth committee members representing women transport workers, industrial transport sections and all ITF regions.

Led by ITF youth coordinator Baker Khundakji, they mapped out action plans for establishing the visibility and legacy of young transport workers at the upcoming ITF Congress in 2018. Among the participants was SOS ExCo member, Youth Committee member and ITF young transport worker Chen Chuanyi, who highlighted the need to adapt to technology in the workplace.



Photo credit: Singapore Maritime Officers' Union

"It will be a digital and youth-focused congress. We went through an overview of the congress and brainstormed on youth activities that we could showcase to international young transport workers when they come to Singapore," he said.

Chuanyi also noted that the theme on the Future of Work would significantly affect young workers, adding: "Robots and automation will become common at work in the near future, so unions need to ensure that the workers benefit from these changes."

#### YOUNG TRANSPORT WORKERS BUILD ALLIANCES

Oung transport workers from International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) unions in Asia Pacific are working on becoming the next generation of union campaigners, organisers and leaders. The "Building and Strengthening Regional Young Workers Campaign Networks" workshop from 31 July to 2 August 2017 in Kathmandu, Nepal was a step in the right direction.

Twenty-six young unionists including SOS representatives Chen Chuanyi and Jullienne Low attended the workshop, which was held in collaboration with unions Nepal Yatayat





Mazdoor Sangh (NETWON) and Independent Transport Workers' Association of Nepal (ITWAN), and supported by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES).

With a focus on expanding the leadership roles of young transport workers in ITF campaigns, the participants tackled key issues such as an aging membership base, the strategies to involve and educate workers on the objectives and initiatives of unions, and the social and economic impact of automaton at work. These take into consideration the growing trend of precarious work arrangements that are denying workers access to workplace entitlements and career progression.

The ITF will continue to support the growth of young transport workers and make them a priority on its agenda, ITF youth coordinator Baker Khundakji said.

# WOMEN & WORK: MAIN FOCUS OF LEARNING JOURNEY TO PENANG



or 39 members of the NTUC Women's Committee, a two-day learning journey to Penang, Malaysia generated a wealth of knowledge on women empowerment in the workplace. Representing SOS were Halimahtul Saa'diah Mohamed Sadon and Mariana Amad.

From 7 to 9 September 2017, the delegation, headed by Committee Chairperson K Thanaletchimi, visited various organisations that supported individuals in reaching their full potential by addressing advancement of women and workforce transformation and progression.

They were Penang Skills Development Centre (PSDC), an industry-led skills training and education centre; Penang Women's Development Corporation (PWDC), a non-profit organisation that works to bolster social justice and gender equality in Penang; and Paramit Malaysia Sdn Bhd, a factory designed for productivity and efficient manpower deployment. Through their discussions with PSDC, PWDC and Paramit Malaysia, the delegates found out more about existing initiatives that strengthened the voices of women and allowed women leaders to take on crucial decision-making positions. These included institutionalising Gender Responsive & Participatory Budgeting (GRPB) in local governments, imposing a gender quota on key communities like the Village Development and Security Committee, and giving double tax exemption to companies that bring women back to work.

The delegates were also enlightened on the tripartite collaboration between industries, academia and the Malaysian government to leverage technology, develop talents and meet the training needs of sectors. Together, they brainstormed ways in which unions can serve as change agents and inspire better workplace practices.

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(SEACARE

#### CELEBRATING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL ONBOARD 20 VESSELS

OS remembers its members no matter the occasion. This Mid-Autumn Festival, the union extended the celebration to seafarers who were sailing by presenting them with boxes of mooncakes from The Seacare Hotel.

The mooncakes, together with towels and other gifts, were delivered by SOS President Mohamad Abu Bakar and Industrial Relations officers Maximilian Theodore and Alan Kor in the months of August and September. The team, which visited 20 vessels that had Collective Bargaining Agreements with the union, also took the chance to check in on the welfare of the crews and ensure they were coping with being away from their families.

It was rewarding to see the thrilled expressions on the seafarers' faces and to know that SOS is always there for them.



#### SOS HOSTS VISIT FOR BANGLADESH DELEGATES



Infair practices, dispute resolutions and safety in the workplace were among the labour issues discussed at the meeting between SOS and the Bangladesh Ministry of Labour and Employment, held on 26 September 2017 at the Seacare Building.

SOS General Secretary Kam Soon Huat and union officers welcomed the 20-delegation team led by Mr Md Shah Alam, Director (Joint Secretary) of the Bangladesh National Skills Development Council (NSDC) and accompanied by officers from Nanyang Polytechnic's Programmes and Services Group. Through gaining insight into SOS's industrial relations framework, operations and membership activities, the Bangladesh delegates strengthened their understanding of tripartism and the wage system in Singapore. Their learning journey to SOS was part of a Labour Management, Productivity, Workplace Safety & Health Programme sponsored by Temasek Foundation International and coordinated by Nanyang Polytechnic International.



# RIDING THE WAVES OF KNOWLEDGE

The trainees demonstrated a strong willingness to learn by enthusiastically participating in the class activities. They are also very hard-working and I believe they will be of great assets to the ships they work on.

#### - Lilith, SQRT trainer

I'm not well-versed in English, so writing and speaking the language has been a challenge. The course not only helped me master the basics, but also contributed to my professional knowledge of onboard safety regulations.

- Li Zhen Hua, 36 years old, from Liaoning

Which the intention of improving their proficiency in English and equipping themselves with relevant and practical maritime knowledge and abilities, 15 pre-seafaring trainees enrolled into the 49th Seacare Quality Ratings Training (SQRT) course conducted by the Singapore (Nantong) International Maritime Institute (SNIMI) in Nantong, China.

From 28 August to 22 September 2017, the trainees went through a series of high-quality tests and lessons on safety awareness, health and other specialised topics relating to deck, engine and galley matters. With the skills enhancements, the graduates emerged more confident that they will be working productively on board.

SOS has been sponsoring aspiring seafarers for the SQRT programme, as part of the union's aim to cater to the education and training needs of seafarers and requirements of the maritime industry under its Seacare Maritime Training Scheme. The latest venture into Myanmar saw the first batch of SQRT graduates completing their training on 2 June 2017 in Yangon.



# "WHY YOU DO WHAT YOU DO"



hat does it mean to serve with passion? About 50 members of the SOS Executive Committee, Standing Committee and Administrative Secretary of the Standing Committee found the answer to that question at the "Serving from the Heart – Why You Do What You Do" workshop, which took place at the Seacare Building on 16 August 2017.

The workshop organised by the SOS Leadership Development Committee aimed to hone the leadership skills and qualities of SOS leaders in creating a culture of servant leadership.

Conducted by trainer Dr Low Huat Tin from the Ong Teng Cheong Labour Leadership Institute (OTCi), the course inspired the participants to cultivate self-awareness and examine the reasons and meaning behind their actions. In addition to enhancing their understanding of how to be the best version of themselves, they learnt to commit their skills and talents to improving the well-being of others.

"In context of the Labour Movement, the knowledge that one's actions can make a difference to the community serves as a driving force and increases our commitment to a worthy cause," Dr Low said. She cited Mother Teresa, Mahatma Gandhi and local unionists as examples of people who left a lasting impact on the world because of their perseverance and inner conviction.

She also pointed out the need to reflect upon one's life, nail down priorities, and build long-lasting and close-knit relationships with the people around us. The participants were riveted by Dr Low's wisdom and well-meaning advice.



#### SEACARE SAILORS' HOME SCHEME GETS A BIG BOOST

he Seacare Sailors' Home Scheme (SSS), an ongoing initiative by SOS that caters to the accommodation needs of the shipping community by providing affordable lodging, has been given a further boost. This comes after the scheme was first enhanced with a funding investment of S\$1 million and launched on 1 April 2017.

With the latest enhancement, SOS's hospitality coverage for members is expanded. Announced at the Seacare Annual General Meeting on 20 October 2017, this enhancement will entitle union members to a wider selection of hotels for their complimentary hotel stays.

They can now opt for any of the 13 hotels worldwide, up from the existing 8 in Singapore, Malaysia and the UK.



Valid for a year, starting from **1 November 2017**, members can claim 8 nights of fully subsidised accommodation (Standard Room + daily breakfast for two) at the existing hotels, now including 5 new ones:

- 1. Crown Spa Hotel, Scarborough, United Kingdom
- 2. Best Western Queens Hotel, Dundee, Scotland
- 3. KSL Hotel & Resort, Johor Bahru, Malaysia
- 4. Hatten Hotel, Melaka, Malaysia
- 5. Nagoya Hill Hotel, Batam, Indonesia

Members can still enjoy the existing 5 nights of complimentary stays at the Seacare Sailor's Home in Manila.

To book your complimentary hotel stays or for further enquiries, please contact SOS Membership and Welfare Division at **6379 5671 / 672.** 



## FAMILY OUTING IN THE LAND OF SMILES



hailand, "The Land of Smiles", gave 119 SOS members and their families much to smile about when they arrived at the country for a four-day vacation.

From 2 to 5 September 2017, they visited renowned places of attraction such as the Chocolate Ville, a restaurant with an European village theme; the Maeklong Railway Market, the only market in the world situated on an active train line; and the Ancient City which featured 116 structures of Thailand's famous monuments and architecture.



Travelling through the Damnoen Saduak Floating Market on the long-tail boat



At the interactive 3D museum Art in Paradise, the participants had fun posing with and snapping photos of the creations. They also dropped by a coconut sugar factory to learn about the process of making the sweetener, toured the Damnoen Saduak Floating Market in long-tail boats to purchase local products and soaked up a picturesque view of the sunset at Asiatique, a night market and mall rolled into one.

Taking full advantage of the opportunity to try authentic Thai food, they indulged their taste buds with a tantalising buffet dinner at Grand Sukhumvit Hotel and seafood set dinner at the Baan Klang Nam 2 restaurant.

From the oldest participant at 86 years old to the youngest at nine, everyone beamed with joy as they went home laden with souvenirs like NaRaYa bags and snacks bought from shopping malls like Platinum Mall and Big C Supermarket.















# **SOS MEMBERS' NIGHT ROARS TO LIFE**

lub@52 was bursting with vibrancy on SOS Members' Night as union members turned up in droves to catch up with each other and celebrate Singapore's 52nd birthday under this year's National Day theme #OneNationTogether.

The exclusive event on 5 August 2017 featured a live band playing popular National Day songs, as well as National Day-themed stage games and entertainment. Ramping up the electrifying atmosphere was a lucky draw segment and a best-dressed competition that encouraged participants to dress up as Singapore icons, with prizes being awarded to those who sported creative outfits.

Members also tucked into a delectable buffet, enjoyed the free flow of beverages and took photos at an instant photo booth to commemorate the special moments.





#### S E A C A R E F O C U S

#### SEACAREFOCU





# SEACARE OKIKI P-HUB INVESTS IN PHIL BREW GOLF ACADEMY



o create a more engaging and stimulating learning environment for children, Seacare OKiKi P-Hub (S) Pte Ltd sealed a partnership with Phil Brew Golf Academy to include golf lessons in its pre-schools' curricula. The fun sport acts as a resource to help students develop physical literary skills

and acquire the knowledge, skills and attitude needed to lead a well-balanced and active life.

As a cross-border company that coordinates the training of premium pre-school educators, Seacare OKiKi P-Hub believes in expanding its range of value-added services to meet the evolving needs of clients. Mirroring this view is its chairman, Mr Yuan Min, who sheds light on the company's decision to include professional golf coaching among its services.



Seacare OKiKi P-Hub Chairman Yuan Min believes in expanding its range of value-added services to meet the evolving needs of clients



#### What does Seacare OKiKi P-Hub hope to achieve by collaborating with Phil Brew Golf Academy?

OKiKi's pre-schools contain a small putting green which teachers can use for their golf putting demonstration, an activity that has garnered much interest from children and parents alike.

We plan to bring Phil Brew Golf Academy to China so that clients can enjoy a game of golf at a reasonable cost. To counter the obstacle of fluctuating prices brought on by China's seasonal weather, we will set up training centres where clients can try their hands at the sport in a controlled and safe environment. With the Academy's help, we also hope to attract an influx of Chinese customers to Singapore and Australia.

#### What are the company's short and long-term goals?

Right now, we are concentrating our efforts on students from China. We intend to make use of their school break to fly them to Singapore or Australia, which has Phil Brew Golf Academy outlets. By the end of this year, we aim to set up an investment company with the Academy based in Shanghai, China. This company will oversee training centres, established in shopping malls for the convenience of students living in the city area, that use virtual and 3D reality to simulate the golfing experience.

Looking ahead, we will design a study trip for students and parents to Singapore and Australia, where they have the liberty to work on their golf game. Factors such as the period of training have to be considered.



#### Who is the target audience?

Parents in China are very willing to invest in their children's development. This is a good opportunity to reach out to parents who may be golfers themselves, and tap into this previously unexplored market. We can provide student care services for parents who are interested in enrolling for the golf programmes.

It is not just the parents and current preschoolers we want on board. We also hope to reach out to students who have graduated from our preschools and moved on to a higher education level.

#### Where is Seacare OKiKi P-Hub headed?

We are going in two directions: one is towards China and the other, towards expanding the training courses in other countries overseas.

Coaches in China usually conduct trainings in Mandarin. As our schools are bilingual, parents are more open to their children learning from English-speaking coaches, so there is a high demand for golf lessons which are taught in that language. The similarity in prices also means that clients are able to take golf training in another country without worrying about the finances.

SOS and Seacare members who sign up for Phil Brew Golf Academy's programmes are entitled to a **10 per cent discount**.



#### Golf Brewed to Perfection at Phil Brew Golf Academy

Phil Brew Golf Academy, set up in 2007, takes a holistic approach to golf instruction with experts in their respective fields contributing towards the common goal of player development.

Outside of its global team of golf professionals which includes former tour players, national coaches and highly skilled and trained individuals, the Academy has sports psychologists and physical fitness experts on its team of service providers.

With years of experience under his belt in teaching the sport at National Service Resort & Country Club (NSRCC), founder Phil Brew aims to spread the Academy's brand of golf instruction to the wider community, especially the youth. When it comes to coach selection, he handpicks international and local golfers who have standard PGA (Professional Golfers' Association) qualifications, are versatile and passionate about the game. Today, the team comprises a fair mix of ages, genders and nationalities.

#### Teaching Life Values through Golf

One of the hallmarks of Phil Brew Golf Academy is its Junior Golf Camps. The programme encourages creativity and instils valuable life skills in students as they learn how to golf at their own pace, under the guidance of certified golf professionals. All bases are covered by the progression system of Level 1 for beginners to Level 10 for elites.

The Academy has also been working with and extending its Junior Golf Camps to various educational institutions, including Raffles Girls' School and Singapore Sports School.

Mr Brew said: "Through golf, many life skills are learned; skills that will stand the child in good stead for the future. The kid can pick up core values like integrity, honesty, perseverance, judgement, sportsmanship, courtesy, confidence, responsibility and respect. These core values represent some of the many inherently positive values connected with the game of golf.

Parents are encouraged to reinforce these behaviours by talking about them, what they mean and what these behaviours can look like at home."







# CROWN SPA HOTEL - SEACARE'S 7TH UK ACQUISITION

The second



addition to its fast growing cluster of United Kingdom (UK) hotels.

The award-winning 4-star Crown Spa Hotel in Scarborough, which houses 116 rooms over four floors, was acquired by Seacare in September 2017. This was following the co-operative's acquisition of six other hotels in England and Scotland from 2015 to 2016: the Big Sleep Hotel portfolio in Cardiff, Cheltenham and Eastbourne; The Victoria Hotel in Manchester; Columba Hotel in Inverness; and Best Western Plus Milford Hotel in Leeds.

"The UK is an interesting and exciting market where we see potential of growth and stability for the hospitality business. The addition of the Crown Spa Hotel to our UK portfolio is a significant milestone, being the largest investment to date. It reinforces the Group's strategy and focus on acquiring three and four-star businesses," Seacare Hospitality CEO Lim Chye Teen said.

"Due to its quality and convenient location, the hotel is very popular with travellers and familiar to return guests. As the hotel prides itself on being the only 4-Star hotel in Scarborough, the greatest challenge and direction ahead now is to not only retain its top hotel status but also excel further under the ownership of Seacare. We will strive even harder and work closely with the hotel management to deliver the highest quality of service to our guests," he added.

Located within walking distance of Scarborough Railway Station and Scarborough Harbour, the Crown Spa Hotel offers a breathtaking view of South Bay Beach. It boasts complimentary on-site parking, a luxury leisure centre and the Taste Restaurant, a fine dining place that offers a fusion of modern European and traditional Yorkshire cuisine.

Within the hotel, the Crown Spa Health Club comes with a fully equipped gymnasium with qualified instructors, facilities such as a Jacuzzi, steam room and indoor pool, and services ranging from personal training to aromatherapy sessions. Crown Spa Treatments to aid in relaxation and rejuvenation are also available.

Being one of the first purpose-built hotels in the world and the first in Scarborough, the Crown Spa Hotel has been used for location shooting in television and film productions.



## SEACARE HOSPITALITY (UK) WELCOMES TWO NEW DIRECTORS

Seacare Hospitality (UK) Ltd has appointed two new directors – OMG Capital CEO Steve Kek and Essential Werkz Managing Director Roger Wang.

#### Steve Kek, Chief Executive Officer, OMG Capital

Mr Kek has more than 19 years of experience in private equity, corporate finance, business consulting and public listed companies in the engineering, biotechnology and property industries as well as the Public Sector.

He currently holds directorships on the boards of several organisations, including an India-based infrastructure fund company and Singapore-based companies focusing on IP Technology, programmatic TV advertising as well as robotics and artificial intelligence.

Mr Kek was formerly the CFO of Weiye Holdings Limited, a property developer, the EVP (Business Development – International) and CFO of Transcu Group Ltd, a Japanese biotechnology company and Group CFO of Advanced Holdings Limited, which are all listed on SGX Mainboard. He was also previously Associate Director at KPMG Corporate Finance Pte Ltd and Assistant Director at Ministry of Finance.



#### Roger Wang, Managing Director, Essential Werkz Pte Ltd

Mr Wang has more than 25 years of business, marketing and event management experiences and is an outstanding entrepreneur and a prominent player in Singapore MICE industry.

Under his leadership as a founder, Essential Werkz Pte Ltd has played key roles for major clients such as M1, LG, Sony Ericsson, Toshiba, Huawei, LG, HSBC, Standard Chartered, CIMB and POSB in creation of many exceptional event successes through the years.

Mr Wang is also the President of the Marketing Institute of Singapore and Marketing Institute of Singapore Training Centre, President of Karate-do Union of Singapore as well as Founding Member and President of Global Chinese Marketing Federation. In addition, he is the Chief Representative of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade Commercial Sub Council for Singapore since 2016.

We wish them all the best in their new positions!



# **NEW DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE FOR SENIORS**

OS officer Evelyn Yeo has been co-opted as a Director of the Centre for Seniors (CFS), a Voluntary Welfare Organisation (VWO) of which Seacare Co-operative Ltd is an Institutional Member.

Founded in 2006, CFS is dedicated to promoting the mental and physical well-being of Singapore's older persons. By offering a slew of training programmes, activities and projects designed to foster and maintain an active ageing mindset, CFS aims to create a society where senior citizens can remain gainfully employed and age with dignity both at home and within the community.

Congratulations to Evelyn on her new appointment!

I am delighted to be given the opportunity to promote active ageing in Singapore through my new role at CFS. It is similar to my work in SOS's Membership & Welfare Services Division, where we attend to the needs of our senior seafaring members. I will put my knowledge and skills to good use and share the best practices of both organisations to ensure beneficiaries reap maximum benefits.

– Evelyn Yeo

# SEACARE DEPUTY CEO ELECTED AS SNCF SERVICE SECTOR CHAIRPERSON



Shena Foo was elected Chairperson for the Service Sector, one of four co-operative sectors under Singapore National Co-operative Federation (SNCF), during the 13th SNCF Triennial General Assembly (TGA).

This was following an earlier election on 29 May 2017, which saw Shena being elected and recommended as a Service Sector Co-operative representative for SNCF's Executive Council (ExCo).

At the TGA, she was among the individuals who were appointed as SNCF ExCo members for 2017 to 2020. The others included Mr Leon Luai, Head of Clinical Services and Wellness of NTUC



Health Co-operative Ltd (NTUC Sector); Mr Shareef Abdul Jaffar, 1st Vice-Chairman of TCC Credit Cooperative Ltd (Credit Sector); and Mr Leow Teck Sim, Executive Director of Ngee Ann Polytechnic Consumer Co-operative Society Ltd (Campus Sector).

The election of the SNCF ExCo, Sector Chairpersons, and Council Chairman for the next three years formed part of the agenda of the TGA, which was held on 20 September at One Farrer Hotel & Spa.

Led by SNCF Chairman Kwek Kok Kwong and CEO Dolly Goh, the assembly provided a good opportunity for the 42 affiliates present to reflect on the growth of the Co-operative Movement in Singapore and how local co-operatives have been contributing to the greater good during the past three years from 2014 to 2017.

Besides going through updates on SNCF's programmes and services for its members and the community, the affiliates also identified imminent challenges that required cooperatives to rethink and recreate their business approaches.

All these were done while taking into consideration the international Co-operative Movement's vision for the future, which is for co-operatives to be seen as "recognised drivers in economic, social and environmental sustainability, and as a preferred form of enterprise around the world".

We congratulate Shena on her new role!



Bottom two photos credited to: Singapore National Co-operative Federation

# FESTIVE PLAZA





Seacare Manpower Services recruitment officer (centre) with President Halimah Yacob, who was then Speaker of Parliament



Seacare Manpower Services got into the thick of action in promoting union membership to the public at the community carnival organised by NTUC to celebrate Singapore's national day.

Held at Our Tampines Hub on 8 August, the fun-filled carnival, which featured rhapsodic live performances, cheerleading activities and lucky draws, attracted a large turnout. Distinguished guests included NTUC Secretary-General Chan Chun Sing, Minister of Manpower Lim Swee Say and President Halimah Yacob, who attended the event when she was then Speaker of Parliament.

Seacare Manpower Services made its presence felt at the NTUC Linkcard roadshow booth where the many benefits of union membership were shared and many new members recruited.



Free legal clinics Workplace

All set to recruit members at the NTUC Linkcard roadshow booth



#### **MATCHING FIRMS AND WORKERS**





Seacare Manpower Services Pte Ltd's participation in two job fairs in August led to 300 potential candidates signing up, most of whom were middle-age applicants and residents from the heartlands.

Its booths at Project Success and the Employment and Employability Institute (e2i) recruitment drive, held at the Punggol Community Club and Pasir Ris East Community Club on 16 and 30 August 2017 respectively, generated a large turnout and strong interest.

Seacare Manpower Services Director Sulena Supaat as well as recruitment officers Nurul Shadrina, Norsabrina Norhisham, Dianah Osneh, Jessie Koh Kim Ho, Nor Sameshah Sapari and Fatimah Mohamad were on hand to answer queries and



promote career opportunities to members of the public.

As one of the biggest and most reputable suppliers of manpower in Singapore, Seacare Manpower Services collaborates with government agencies and community partners to provide rewarding employment opportunities for Singaporeans and PRs.





Sharing mooncakes is a hallmark tradition of the Mid-Autumn Festival. SOS and Seacare Co-operative Ltd ensured that needy families in the Jalan Kukoh estate got to partake in the festivity by delivering the baked pastries straight to their doorsteps.

On 28 September 2017, the staff of both organisations visited 12 blocks of flats to give out over 300 boxes of halal-certified mooncakes supplied by

The Seacare Hotel. The thoughtful gesture was warmly welcomed by the residents, many of whom were seniors with mobility challenges.



The volunteers also put the beneficiaries at ease by communicating with them in a language they were comfortable with and encouraging them to exercise and lead healthier lifestyles.

This is the second consecutive year that SOS and Seacare have commemorated the Mid-Autumn Festival in this personal manner. It is a joint effort on the organisations' part to strengthen their community involvement and contribute positively to the lives of their neighbours.









# **ALL SOS Seafarers' Provident Fund (SPF) Members!**

#### DEADLINE IS DRAWING NEAR

With the termination of the SPF Scheme, all SOS SPF members can come forward to apply for withdrawal from their SPF account. Deadline for submission of Withdrawal Form and Supporting Documents are to reach SOS Singapore Office by 31st AUGUST 2019.

All applications received after the above date WILL NOT BE PROCESSED NOR ENTERTAINED.

Application for Withdrawal Form is available at www.ispf.org.sg You may also contact us at:

#### Singapore Seacare Thrift Pte Ltd

52 Chin Swee Road #08-00 Seacare Building Singapore 169875 Tel: +65 6379 5666 Fax: +65 6836 3976 Email: thrift@seacare.com.sg

#### Philippines

Seacare International Phils. Inc. Unit 515 5th floor, S&L Building 1 1500 Roxas Boulevard Ermita, Manila 1000, Philippines Tel: +63 2 521 6839 Fax: +63 2 521 7170 Email: phils@seacare.com.sg

#### China

Singhai Marine Services (Shanghai) Co. Ltd Building 4, 600 Min Sheng Road Pudong District, Shanghai, China 200135 Tel: +86 21 5885 9799 Fax: +86 21 6855 4760 Email: sunjiajia@singhai.com

#### Indonesia

c/o Kesatuan Pelaut Indonesia (KPI Jalan Cikini Raya No. 58 AA/BB Jakarta Pusat 10330 Tel: +62 21 314 1495 Fax: +62 21 314 1491 Email: psonny@kpiunion.org ppkpi@indosat.net.id

#### China Singhai Marine Services (Wuhan) Co. Ltd

HePing Avenue, Wuchang District #19-01, KanJiang Building, Shui An International, Wuhan, China 430000 Email: sunjiajia@singhai.com

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