

**TENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE**

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**First Session**

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**THIRD REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON NOMINATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT  
AS NOMINATED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

**Parl. 7 of 2004**

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**Presented to Parliament:**

**10 November 2004**

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## COMPOSITION OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE

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Mr Speaker (Mr Abdullah Tarmugi) (East Coast) (Chairman)

Mrs Lim Hwee Hua (Marine Parade)  
Minister of State, Ministry of Finance  
& Ministry of Transport

Mdm Halimah Yacob (Jurong)

Ms Indranee Rajah (Tanjong Pagar)

Mr Low Thia Khiang (Hougang)

Mr Mah Bow Tan (Tampines)  
Minister for National Development

Dr Teo Ho Pin (Holland-Bukit Panjang)  
Mayor, North West District

Mr Wong Kan Seng (Bishan –Toa Payoh)  
Minister for Home Affairs

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*Clerk to Committee:* Mr P O Ram

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## **THIRD REPORT OF SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT AS NOMINATED MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**

The Special Select Committee, appointed pursuant to the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore to nominate persons for appointment by the President as nominated Members of Parliament, has agreed to the following report:

### **Introduction**

1. On 5<sup>th</sup> April 2002, Parliament resolved in accordance with the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of the Republic of Singapore that there shall be nominated Members of Parliament during the term of the Tenth Parliament. On 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2002, the President, on the nomination of the Special Select Committee of Parliament, appointed nine persons as nominated Members of Parliament for a two year term. The term of service of the nine nominated Members of Parliament expired on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2004 and, under section 1(5) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution, the President, on the advice of the Special Select Committee, extended the term of service of the nominated Members of Parliament for a further period of six months to end on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005. Under section 4(1) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution, the vacancies that will arise shall be filled by the President by making appointment on the nomination of the Special Select Committee.

2. The Members of the Special Select Committee were nominated by the Committee of Selection with the Speaker as ex-officio Chairman. The Committee comprised the following:

Chairman: Mr Abdullah Tarmugi (Speaker)

Members: Mdm Halimah Yacob  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Mrs Lim Hwee Hua  
Mr Low Thia Kiang  
Mr Mah Bow Tan

Dr Teo Ho Pin

Mr Wong Kan Seng

**Invitation to the General Public to Submit Names of Persons  
for Consideration by the Committee**

3. Under sections 2(1) and 2(2) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution, the Special Select Committee decided that an advertisement inviting the general public to submit names of persons for consideration by the Committee be inserted in the *Lianhe Zaobao*, *Berita Harian*, *Tamil Murasu* and *The Straits Times* on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2004. Publicity to the invitation was also given in a press release.

4. Submission of names was required to be made on forms obtainable at the office of the Clerk of Parliament. Each form had to be signed by a proposer and a seconder and by not less than four other persons, all of whose names shall appear in a current register of electors. The person to be proposed was also required to complete a *curriculum vitae* form in which, *inter alia*, he was required to write an essay on the kind of contribution he hoped to make as nominated Member of Parliament and to submit written references from two referees sealed in separate envelopes to the Committee. The closing date for the submission of names was 1<sup>st</sup> September 2004.

**Formation of Functional Groups**

5. On 27<sup>th</sup> July 2004, the Committee decided that it would continue the practice of inviting the six functional groups, namely, business and industry, labour, the professions, tertiary education institutions, social and community service organisations and media, arts and sports organisations to submit names of suitable candidates for the Special Select Committee to consider.

## **Consideration of Persons Proposed**

6. By the closing date, 37 valid proposal forms were received by the Committee, including those from the functional groups.

7. Section 2(3) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution provides that, before making any nomination for appointment by the President as nominated Members of Parliament, “the Special Select Committee shall, wherever possible, consult other Members of Parliament in such manner as it thinks fit”.

8. On the advice of the Committee, the Speaker wrote to all the elected Members of Parliament on 3 September 2004, informing them of the names of the persons proposed for consideration for nomination for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament and asking the Members of Parliament if they had any comments on these persons and if they knew of any reason why any of them should not be considered for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament.

9. The Committee assessed the suitability of all the 37 persons proposed in accordance with the criteria set out in section 3(2) of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution.

## **Nominations of the Committee**

10. Under the Constitution, not more than nine nominated Members of Parliament can be appointed.

11. The Committee has therefore nominated the following nine persons to the President for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament:

- (1) Mr Alexander Chan Meng Wah
- (2) Dr Geh Min
- (3) Mr Lawrence Leow Chin Hin
- (4) Dr Loo Choon Yong

- (5) Ms Eunice Elizabeth Olsen
  - (6) Ms Ong Soh Khim
  - (7) Professor Ivan Png Paak Liang
  - (8) Dr Tan Sze Wee
  - (9) Mr Teo Yock Ngee
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## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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### 5th Meeting

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Tuesday, 27 July 2004

2.00 p.m.

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#### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Abdullah Tarmugi) (*in the Chair*)  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Mdm Halimah Yacob  
Mr Low Thia Khiang  
Mr Mah Bow Tan  
Dr Teo Ho Pin  
Mr Wong Kan Seng

#### ABSENT:

Mrs Lim Hwee Hua

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1. The Committee deliberated.
2. The following were considered and approved -
  - (1) invitation to the general public to submit names of persons who may be considered for nomination by the Committee for appointment by the President as nominated Members of Parliament;
  - (2) Committee's press release; and
  - (3) Proposal Form and form for *curriculum vitae* of the person proposed to be used in the submission of names to the Committee.
3. Agreed —
  - (a) that the invitation be inserted as an advertisement in one Chinese, one Malay, one Tamil and one English local newspaper on Wednesday, 28 July 2004;
  - (b) that the closing date for the submission of names to the Committee be Wednesday, 1 September 2004;

- (c) that elected Members of Parliament be consulted on the persons the committee is considering for nomination; and
- (d) that the list of constituent organisations be updated to include new organisations formed since the last nomination exercise in 2002 and that the Chairman invite representatives of the constituent organisations from the six functional groups for a tea session to inform them of the procedure in submitting nominations to the committee.

Adjourned till 10.00am on  
Saturday, 18 September 2004.

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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### 6th Meeting

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Saturday, 18 September 2004

10.00 a.m.

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#### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Abdullah Tarmugi) (*in the Chair*)  
Mdm Halimah Yacob  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Mrs Lim Hwee Hua  
Mr Low Thia Kiang  
Mr Mah Bow Tan  
Dr Teo Ho Pin  
Mr Wong Kan Seng

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1. The Committee deliberated.
2. The Committee considered -
  - (a) the 37 proposals received from members of the public and the functional groups, namely, business and industry, professions, labour movement, tertiary education institutions, social and community service organisations, and media, arts and sports organisations, for consideration by the Committee as nominated Members of Parliament; and
  - (b) the views and comments received from elected Members of Parliament and the referees respectively.
3. Agreed that the Committee do interview certain persons proposed on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2004.
4. Agreed that the Committee do meet on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> November 2004 to finalise its report to Parliament.

Adjourned till 2.00 pm on  
Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2004.

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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### 7th Meeting

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Monday, 11 October 2004

2.00 p.m.

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#### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Abdullah Tarmugi) (*in the Chair*)  
Mdm Halimah Yacob  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Mrs Lim Hwee Hua  
Mr Low Thia Kiang  
Mr Mah Bow Tan  
Dr Teo Ho Pin  
Mr Wong Kan Seng

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1. The Committee interviewed persons proposed.
2. Agreed that the Committee do meet again on Tuesday, 12 October 2004 at 2.00pm to continue interviewing certain persons proposed.

Adjourned till 2.00 pm on  
Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2004.

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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### 8th Meeting

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Tuesday, 12 October 2004

2.00 p.m.

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#### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Abdullah Tarmugi) (*in the Chair*)  
Mdm Halimah Yacob  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Mrs Lim Hwee Hua  
Mr Low Thia Kiang  
Mr Mah Bow Tan  
Dr Teo Ho Pin  
Mr Wong Kan Seng

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1. The Committee further interviewed persons proposed.
2. Agreed that the Committee do meet again on Friday, 22 October 2004 at 9.30am to conclude interviewing certain persons proposed.

Adjourned till 9.30am on  
Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2004.

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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### 9th Meeting

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Friday, 22 October 2004

9.30 a.m.

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#### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Abdullah Tarmugi) (*in the Chair*)  
Mdm Halimah Yacob  
Ms Indranee Rajah  
Mrs Lim Hwee Hua  
Mr Low Thia Kiang  
Mr Mah Bow Tan  
Dr Teo Ho Pin  
Mr Wong Kan Seng

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1. The Committee further interviewed persons proposed.
2. Agreed that the Committee do meet again on Friday, 5 November 2004 at 11.00am to finalise its recommendations to the President and its report to Parliament.

Adjourned till 11.00am on  
Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> November 2004.

## MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

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### 10th Meeting

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Friday, 5 November 2004

11.00 a.m.

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#### PRESENT:

Mr Speaker (Mr Abdullah Tarmugi) (*in the Chair*)  
Mdm Halimah Yacob  
Mrs Lim Hwee Hua  
Mr Low Thia Kiang  
Mr Mah Bow Tan  
Dr Teo Ho Pin  
Mr Wong Kan Seng

#### ABSENT:

Ms Indranee Rajah

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1. The Committee deliberated.
2. Agreed that the following nine persons be nominated to the President for appointment as nominated Members of Parliament:
  - (1) Mr Alexander Chan Meng Wah
  - (2) Dr Geh Min
  - (3) Mr Lawrence Leow Chin Hin
  - (4) Dr Loo Choon Yong
  - (5) Ms Eunice Elizabeth Olsen
  - (6) Ms Ong Soh Khim
  - (7) Professor Ivan Png Paak Liang
  - (8) Dr Tan Sze Wee
  - (9) Mr Teo Yock Ngee

## **Report**

3. Draft report, brought up by the Chairman, read the first time.
4. Resolved, “That the Chairman’s report be read a second time paragraph by paragraph.”  
Paragraph 1 to 11 inclusive read and agreed to.
5. Resolved, “That this report be the report of the Committee to Parliament.”
6. Agreed that the Chairman do present the Report to Parliament when printed copies are available for distribution to Members of Parliament.

*Adjourned sine die.*