

MEDIA RELEASE

**SCCCI AND SCO BRING TOGETHER SINGAPORE'S DIPLOMATIC
COMMUNITY FOR SPECIAL "HARMONY" CONCERT
MARKING 120TH AND 30TH ANNIVERSARIES**

1. The Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCCI) and the Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) are honoured to present a special cultural evening with resounding success on 14 August 2026 at the SCO Concert Hall, bringing together members of Singapore's diplomatic community to commemorate SCCCI's 120th anniversary and SCO's 30th anniversary.
2. Titled "Harmony" (聚商惠民, 乐融四海), the evening was attended by more than 600 guests, including 31 Ambassadors and High Commissioners and representatives from 37 embassies and high commissions, alongside business leaders, and key partners and stakeholders of SCCCI and SCO. The concert also marked the first time in Singapore that a dedicated event of this nature was held for the diplomatic community. Ms Sim Ann, Second Minister for Foreign Affairs and Second Minister for Home Affairs, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour.



(SCCCI President Kho Choon Keng and SCO Chairman Ng Siew Quan presenting tokens of appreciation to H.E. Agustín García-López Loaeza, Ambassador of Mexico and Dean of the Diplomatic & Consular Corps in Singapore, witnessed by Ms Sim Ann, Second Minister for Foreign Affairs and Second Minister for Home Affairs)

3. This special evening commemorates two proud milestones. SCCCI, founded in 1906, has been actively promoting economic and enterprise development while advancing cultural, educational and community causes in Singapore. The SCO, in its 30 years as Singapore's professional Chinese orchestra, is renowned for its excellence in traditional Chinese music as well as its distinctive Singapore character, with critically acclaimed performances across major cities in Asia and Europe.

4. This cultural evening is specially dedicated to members of Singapore's diplomatic community as a heartfelt gesture of appreciation by SCCCI and SCO for their steadfast support in advancing bilateral business and economic cooperation and strengthening international partnerships with Singapore. It reflects our deep appreciation for the important role that cultural diplomacy and trusted people-to-people connections play in strengthening ties between Singapore and the world.



(Ms Sim Ann interacting with members of Singapore's diplomatic community during the networking session)

5. The evening began with a dinner reception and networking session, followed by a concert performance by the SCO under the baton of its Conductor Emeritus, Mr Tsung Yeh (葉聰). The programme included the presentation of *Spirit of Enterprise* (《聚商惠民》), a specially commissioned work by former SCO Composer-in-Residence, Mr Wang Chenwei, reflecting the growing partnership between SCCCI and SCO. The concert performance stood as a celebration of twin milestones — SCCCI's 120th anniversary and SCO's 30th

anniversary — as well as a vivid expression of Singapore's multicultural identity and global connectedness through a shared appreciation of music.



(SCO Conductor Emeritus Mr Tsung Yeh (葉聰) leads the Singapore Chinese Orchestra during the concert performance)

Music Transcends Borders, Celebrates Diversity and Inspire International Partnerships

6. SCCCI President Mr Kho Choon Keng said the evening celebrated two milestones shaped by a common thread: Singapore's openness to the world.

"This evening is also about expressing our appreciation to all who have helped Singapore remain connected to the world," said Mr Kho. "Excellencies and diplomats play an important role in building these bridges. They help our businesses understand markets, open doors to new partnerships, and strengthen ties between Singapore and countries around the world."

Mr Kho added that as Singapore navigates an increasingly complex and uncertain international landscape, such international partnerships matter more than ever, and SCCCI remains committed to strengthening these connections through business, friendship and a shared belief in an open and connected Singapore.

"Music transcends borders. It speaks across languages, cultures and generations. It reminds us that while our backgrounds may be different, we can still find harmony in a shared experience," Mr Kho said.

7. SCO Chairman Mr Ng Siew Quan said the evening brought together the milestone anniversaries of SCO and SCCCI through a shared commitment to strengthening Singapore's connections with the world.

"Tonight marks the first time SCO has presented a concert specially for Singapore's diplomatic community," said Mr Ng. "As Singapore's national Chinese orchestra, SCO has spent the past 30 years developing a distinctive Singaporean voice, rooted in Chinese traditions and shaped by our multicultural heritage. We are pleased to share that voice with our Excellencies and diplomats, and through music, offer a glimpse of Singapore's diversity and openness to the world.

Music has a unique ability to bring people together through shared experiences. We hope this evening strengthens friendships between Singapore and the international community and creates connections that continue beyond the concert hall."

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About Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Established in 1906, the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCCI) is an internationally renowned business organisation and the apex body of the Chinese business community in Singapore. It is the founder of the biennial World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention, a global business convention. It plays a key and pro-active role in representing the interests of the local business community.

The SCCCI has a membership network comprising 5,000 corporate members and has more than 150 trade association members, representing over 40,000 companies including large financial and business organisations, multinational corporations, government-linked companies, and small and medium enterprises from a wide spectrum of trades and industries. These members together provide vast resources and opportunities which enable the SCCCI to develop an influential global Chinese business network for business, education, culture and community development. In return, they share a strong sense of pride and identity together and benefit immensely from the SCCCI's membership services, facilities and activities.

For more information, please visit www.sccci.org.sg

About Singapore Chinese Orchestra

Singapore Chinese Orchestra (SCO) is Singapore's only professional Chinese orchestra. Inaugurated in 1996, the orchestra made up of more than 80 musicians took on the twin role of preserving traditional arts and culture and establishing new frontiers through the incorporation of Nanyang music elements in its repertoire. SCO has impressed a broadening audience with its blockbuster presentations and is fast establishing itself among its counterparts around the world. Known for its high-performance standards and versatility, the SCO is recognized through invitations to perform at numerous prestigious events locally and internationally. In line with its vision to be a world-renowned people's orchestra, SCO continues to inspire, educate and communicate through its music.