

Singapore PM Announces Changes To Cabinet, Political Appointments
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SINGAPORE, April 29 (Bernama) -- Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong announced changes to the Cabinet and other political appointments aimed at strengthening the Cabinet line-up to address the republic's priorities and challenges, and see Singapore through its next phase of development.

This is the third round of changes made after the 2011 general election.

In a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office, Lee said Singapore was going through an important transition.

He said these major policy shifts required good political leadership, close coordination across ministries, effective ground implementation, and strong support from Singaporeans.

Under the changes, Acting Manpower Minister Tan Chuan-Jin and Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth Lawrence Wong will both be promoted to full ministers from May 1.

Wong will also be promoted to Second Minister for Communications and Information.

He is currently Senior Minister of State at the Ministry of Communications and Information.

Tan will be promoted to full minister in the Ministry of Manpower.

Meanwhile, Senior Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry for Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY), Sam Tan Chin Siong will be promoted to Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the MCCY.

He will relinquish his current appointment in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He will also step down as Mayor of Central Singapore CDC on this May 27, at the end of his mayor's term.

Dr Lam Pin Min will be appointed as Minister of State in the Ministry of Health with effect from Aug 1.

Denise Phua will replace Sam Tan as the Mayor of Central Singapore CDC with effect from May 27.

Dr Amy Khor will relinquish her appointment as Mayor of South West CDC on May 27, at the end of her mayor's term.

She will continue as Senior Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Manpower.

Low Yen Ling will replace Dr Amy Khor as Mayor of South West CDC with effect from May 27.

Low will also be appointed as Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, concurrent with her present appointment in the Ministry of Social and Family Development.

PM Lee said these changes were part of his government's continuing leadership renewal efforts and further reshuffles were expected from time to time, to ensure that it would always have the best team for Singapore.

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