

## Key points of Min Ong's opening address at KPMG Ignite Summit on 31 Aug 2018 at JW Marriott Hotel Singapore South Beach

Innovation and enterprise will be a major driver of Singapore's growth and dynamism for the future. The Committee of Future Economy has outlined a comprehensive plan to bring this about, of which leveraging Government procurement is an important thrust.

We are taking significant steps to promote innovation and enterprise through Government procurement. While ensuring value-for-money, and fair and transparent processes, the Government is making changes to the way it procures:

- Promote wide range of procurement methods
  - Enable a wider range of suppliers and individuals to provide ideas and solutions.
  - More outcome-based procurement, where tenderers propose the solutions to achieve the desired outcomes. Being open to fresh ideas and not always going for tried and tested solutions. Promote the use of crowdsourcing methods to tap on the broader public for ideas and solutions, and reach a wider range of suppliers.
  - Adopt price and quality evaluation by default so that government does not just buy from the lowest quote. Value-for-money goes beyond price, and includes economic, social and environmental considerations, as well as contributions to productivity and innovation.
- Lifting of rules for experimentation
  - Lifting of traditional procurement rules in selected areas for more capable government agencies to experiment with different procurement approaches. Such experiments can catalyse future changes and improvements in how the Government does its procurement. Improve how government agencies work with vendors.
  - Beyond experimentation, we will also provide a listing of good practices in procurement (e.g. revealing budgets for projects, offering longer contracts and early supplier engagement) and encourage agencies with the capability to use them.
- Raising capabilities
  - Mandatory skills-based training for all new public procurement officers.
  - The Defence Science and Technology Agency has partnered the Singapore University of Social Sciences to run regular procurement courses since early 2018.
  - Aim to extend this training to procurement professionals in the private sector.