



EMBARGOED UNTIL SATURDAY, 7 APRIL 2018, 11.00 A.M.

FACTSHEET

7 April 2018

MUIS WORK PLAN SEMINAR 2018

“Striving with Confidence, Serving with Compassion”

“Semarak Langkah, Berjiwa Rahmah”

1 The Muis Work Plan Seminar is an annual platform to share with the Singapore Muslim community on the work that was accomplished in the preceding year, and engage with key stakeholders on Muis’ current and future initiatives.

2 This year’s Seminar coincides with Muis’ 50th anniversary. The theme for this work plan seminar follows from that of the 50th anniversary celebrations - **“Striving with Confidence, Serving with Compassion”** or *“Semarak Langkah, Berjiwa Rahmah”*, which pays tribute to how central the community has been in Muis’ effort to serve them in their socio-religious life. It symbolises Muis’ continuous endeavour to progress with the community in an increasingly complex socio-religious landscape.

REPORT ON PROGRESS IN 2017

3 The following are Muis’ key achievements in 2017 (2nd year of the 5th Muis 3-Year Plan) in its efforts to **enhance a progressive religious life** in Singapore:

- i. **Leading progressive Fatwa development:** Muis produced the Singapore Fatwa Compilation series to enable better understanding of the thinking behind fatwa formulation amongst the asatizah and practitioners. The first volume on “Science, Medicine and Wellness” was launched at the inaugural Conference on Fatwa in Contemporary Societies on 11 Feb 2017.
- ii. **Fatwa promoting life preservation:** A key fatwa on the permissibility for premature Muslim babies from benefitting from the milk bank was given in August. The milk bank is expected to benefit 900 premature babies over the next three years. To enhance the community’s understanding, Muis gave a briefing on the fatwa to 300 asatizah. Muis also produced a supplementary FAQ available on Muis’ website and Muis’ Facebook page, reaching out to more than 100,000 readers.

iii. **Socialising progressive religious thinking**

Muis hosted eminent Islamic scholars, Syeikh Abdallah Bin Bayyah and Syeikh Hamza Yusuf at the fifth Distinguished Visitors Programme (DVP) from 13 to 18 March 2017. Syeikh Bin Bayyah engaged asatizah and community leaders, and delivered the Muis Lecture on “Faith, Compassion and Human Dignity” on 17 March. 650 participants attended this lecture, and its live-stream received 22,000 views with viewers from as far as USA, Australia and Saudi Arabia. Syeikh Hamza Yusuf delivered a public lecture on “Re-imagining the Role of Islam for the Future” on 16 March. 380 participants attended this lecture. In total, more than 1,600 key leaders and groups attended the DVP events.

iv. **Enhancing the credibility and integrity of the asatizah institution**

- a. The mandatory Asatizah Recognition Scheme (ARS) was launched on 1 Jan 2017. As of now, more than 3,600 asatizah have been ARS-recognised.
- b. Through Continuous Professional Education (CPE), ARS-recognised asatizah participated in 68 courses offered by Muis Academy and PERGAS.
- c. 240 Islamic Education Centres and Providers (IECPs) have also registered under ARS. To better govern the standard of Islamic curriculum being taught here, IECPs are also required to seek Muis’ approval for any new Islamic religious textbooks.

v. **Greater capacity to counter radical narratives**

- a. Muis formed the “Asatizah Youth Network (AYN)” in July 2017¹. The network consists of asatizah with an online presence doing outreach work to youth.
- b. Muis is working with agencies as well as the industry to build capacity among the members of the network to facilitate the effectiveness of their outreach. As part of this capacity building:
 - i. Ten asatizah from the AYN attended an internet content production workshop in October 2017 by Google Singapore.
 - ii. Nine asatizah underwent training on counselling and addressing hate speech in November 2017.
 - iii. 20 asatizah from mosques, Muslim organisations and six Muslim youth workers attended a workshop co-organised with the National Security Co-ordination Secretariat (NSCS) on “Challenging Radical Narratives”.

¹ This network consists of 11 asatizah from various sectors (mosque, madrasah, and private Islamic centres). It aims to be a support network for youth to crowd source counter-narrative and counter-extremism content.

- vi. **Greater guidance for religious undergraduates**
 - a. Muis also deployed a new student liaison officer to provide support for students studying in Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Southeast Asia².
 - b. Muis also introduced its first run of the Certificate of Islam in Context (ICON). Its aim was to better prepare returning graduates on contextualising what they have learned from their overseas Islamic learning³. 31 graduates attended ICON in November 2017. The programme ran for four weeks and covered modules such as “*Uniquely Singapore: Principles, Values and Institutions*”, “*Religion in Context*”, and “*Future Role of Asatizah*”.
 - c. Muis continued its student engagements with overseas visits⁴ and coaching programmes⁵.
- vii. **Studying models for the Singapore Islamic College (SIC):** Muis went for study trips to Egypt, Jordan, UK, US and Canada in November and December 2017. These trips aimed to study potential models for the SIC, its programme offerings for the graduates, as well as strengthen ties with international scholars and institutions for potential future partnerships with SIC.

4 Muis also showed progress in **strengthening the community’s religious resilience via quality Islamic education (IE)**. Key highlights were:

- i. **Increasing IE participation**
 - a. aLIVE enrolment as of January 2018 is 25,087, a 20% increase from the start of 2017.
 - b. The Kids aLIVE Home Edition achieved a 24% increase from 583 subscriptions in 2016 to 722 subscriptions in 2017.
 - c. Adult Islamic Learning (ADIL) enrolment increased by 25% from 2016 to 4,164 participants.
- ii. **Continued outreach via various IE platforms**
 - a. Muis organised the Youth aLIVE Discourse on goal setting and productivity tools in February attended by 1,300 participants.
 - b. 300 participants attended the ADIL Knowledge Retreat in October on “*Overcoming Grief*”.

² As of end December 2017, there are 558 students in MENA and 430 students in Southeast Asia.

³ ICON’s concept was presented at the MMM in July 2017.

⁴ The visits include to tertiary institutions in Malaysia, Brunei, Egypt and Jordan.

⁵ The Student Career Welfare Office of Muis organised individual coaching sessions to 27 students in Singapore between July and September 2017. A total of 60 coaching hours was registered. Students were facilitated on the career planning process of self-discovery, exploring options, goal-setting and action steps.

- c. 100 parents benefited from attending the aLIVE Parenting Seminar on the *"Impact of Social Media on Parenting Styles"*.

iii. **Infusing a contemporary feel to IE**

- a. Muis continued its review of the aLIVE curriculum for the various age groups. This is to ensure that aLIVE engages its learners via social media and has content on current socio-religious topics such as inter-faith and intra-faith diversities.

5 Muis continues to work towards **enhancing the value proposition of the Madrasah**. Its key initiatives were:

- i. **Preparing for International Baccalaureate Authorisation:** Madrasah Aljunied will be introducing the IB programme in 2019. Muis had completed several processes which included curriculum drafting, training for selected teachers and study trips to IB schools in Shanghai, Mumbai and Dubai.

ii. **Continued support for students and teachers**

- a. Muis introduced the inaugural Madrasah Student Awards, disbursing \$181,500 to 49 good-performing students.
- b. \$432,613 of Edusave funds were utilised, 50% higher than in 2016⁶.
- c. Muis disbursed \$1.49m to secular and religious teachers in all the six madrasahs as part of government and Muis support.
- d. 13 teachers graduated with the Specialist Diploma in Applied Teaching and Learning.

iii. **Securing infrastructure and ensuring sustainability**

- a. Madrasah Aljunied's upgrading works⁷ were completed in July.
- b. Muis has set aside \$10m for the development of Madrasah Al-Arabiah's new building, to be ready by 2020.
- c. In relation to Madrasah Wak Tanjong (MWT), Muis and MWT are working on the implementation details of a Comprehensive Assistance Package. This includes an extension of its lease at its current premises, and additional funding to strengthen its curriculum and professional development

⁶ Edusave funds were spent on various curriculum-related programmes and educational learning journeys. One example is "Rustic Ramble @ Ubin" where students are taught the significance of the ecosystems at Pulau Ubin and the pressures of urbanisation. Another is a "Science Day Camp" where students learn about the physical and chemical reactions in food

⁷ These upgrading works include a new science lab, a multi-purpose hall, auditorium, offices and teachers' room.

6 Muis continued to **harness mosques for community development** exemplified by these initiatives:

i. **Galvanising the community to enliven socio-religious values**

- a. Values such as healthy living and being environmentally-conscious continued to be socialised within the community through the annual Ramadan campaign⁸.
- b. The campaign also featured the launch of Tabung Rahmah where more than 7,000 children (aged 5 to 16 years old) raised \$150,000 for the Straits Times Pocket Money Fund.

ii. **More spaces for worship and spiritual development**

- a. Masjid Yusof Ishak was completed in April 2017 with 4,500 prayer spaces.
- b. Six mosques' upgrading works had also been completed⁹.
- c. Muis collaborated with MOM, JTC and SPF to set up a prayer space for foreign workers at Tuas South Recreation Centre which can accommodate 4,300 congregants for Friday and Eid prayers¹⁰.

iii. **Strengthened sector governance**

To uplift the standards of mosque kindergartens and meet ECDA's new governance standards, Muis had worked with ECDA to assess the sector's readiness and established a mosque kindergarten headquarters in Masjid Mujahidin.

7 Muis enhanced its assistance to zakat beneficiaries as follows:

i. **Increased assistance for zakat beneficiaries**

- a. Muis disbursed a total of \$1.9m to more than 13,000 beneficiaries in Ramadan, a 12% increase from 2016.
- b. For its Year-end Grant and Back-to-School disbursement, Muis provided \$2.3m to 3,765 beneficiaries, a 14% increase from the previous year.

ii. **Enhanced the capacity of Befrienders and Social Development Officers (SDOs)**

- a. The second Befrienders Learning Day was organised on 11 November 2017 to equip Befrienders with the appropriate knowledge on the challenges and needs of the special needs community. Attended by 200

⁸ These values were introduced in 2015, and were part of a larger theme of Celebrating Ramadan with the Family.

⁹ These mosques are Masjid Tasek Utara, Masjid Hussain Suleiman, Masjid Jamek Queenstown, Masjid Al-Muttaqin, Masjid Al-Khair and Masjid Haji Mohd Salleh (Palmer Road).

¹⁰ This inter-agency taskforce also worked to enable the foreign workers to perform their Eiduladha and Friday prayers at Masjid Maarof and the Centre to ease congregant congestion at the prayer spaces on a public holiday. Hence, this enabled all affected congregants to pray comfortably at their respective prayer spaces.

active Befrienders, it was also to support the Purple Parade, and socialise the idea of embracing people with special needs.

- b. To improve service delivery to FA clients, 14 out of 30 SDOs are currently pursuing certification in Social Service through the Social Service Training Institute and the Singapore University of Social Sciences.

8 Muis continued extending its reach and knowledge on religious governance to Muslims and non-Muslims, here and abroad. The achievements below are highlights:

- i. **Promoting the Singapore model of religious administration to Muslim minority communities**

Muis' recognition in the sphere of religious administration was strengthened with three key events involving the Regional Islamic Da'wah Council for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (RISEAP).

- a. Muis organised the second run of the Programme for RISEAP Members (PRISM) from 21 to 25 August 2017. This run focused on mosques and social development; innovations in zakat and wakaf administration and good governance.
- b. Muis organised RISEAP's 17th General Assembly in Singapore on 3 October 2017, sharing the need for freedom of one's religious practice.
- c. 70 RISEAP delegates visited Muis on 4 October 2017 to learn more about Muis' experience in building a Muslim community of excellence and promoting social harmony.

- ii. **Commitment towards Blessings for All**

- a. Together with mosques and the community, the Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation (RLAF) raised \$1.3m in 2017 to provide humanitarian relief around the world. The funds were channelled to various programmes such as education for Syrian children, winter aids for Syrian refugees and medical and food supplies to Aceh and South Asia.

- b. Recognising the need to embed the RLA ethos amongst our youth, Muis provided more than \$310,000 to 17 local and overseas development projects which involved about 500 youth volunteers.

- iii. **Active player in inter-faith engagement**

- a. Harmony Centre received close to 8,000 visitors.
- b. Harmony Centre also held its 7th Abdul Aleem Siddique Memorial Lecture on "Celebrating Difference, Maintaining Faith in Different Contexts", attended by 300 participants (75% were youths).
- c. Its revised Scriptural Reasoning on "Religion, Dignity of Life and Sanctity of Creation" with the Catholic Church had also concluded after six sessions in 2017 and a Seminar in March 2018.

9 **Muis' institutional sustainability was strengthened** by the following achievements:

i. **Increased community contributions**

- a. Muis received more than \$44m in zakat contributions from the community – a 15% increase from 2016.
- b. Contributions towards Wakaf Ilmu, reached more than \$12m – a 13% increase from 2016.
- c. More than \$32m was collected via the Mosque Building and Mendaki Fund – also an 11% increase from 2016.

ii. **Strengthened Wakaf, Halal and Haj governance**

- a. Through amendments to AMLA after extensive public consultation, Muis introduced the provision of wakaf sinking funds to ensure sufficient funding for the maintenance of wakaf properties.
- b. Muis' Halal Mark is now certified with ISO 17065 to facilitate continued recognition and assurance of its Halal certification mark in the Middle East.
- c. Singapore's annual haj quota was revised from 680 to 800 in 2017. For 2018, Singapore has been given an additional 100 places, on top of the official quota of 800.

10 **Muis' institutional capabilities were enhanced** by the following achievements:

i. **Attained Business Excellence recertification**

Muis was re-certified with the Singapore Quality Class STAR, Singapore Innovation Class (I-Class), Singapore Service Class and People Developer by SPRING Singapore, with improved scorings.

ii. **A revamped and customer-centric Muis website**

Muis launched its new website on 28 December 2017 with more user-friendly and improved security features. Its clean-looking interface facilitates easy navigation to the religious guidance and services provided by Muis such as zakat, Haj and Islamic Education.

KEY INITIATIVES FOR 2018

11 Muis will focus on the following key initiatives for 2018, which will be the 3rd year of the 5th Muis 3-Year Plan:

i. **Strengthening the Mosque Sector**

In order to further strengthen the mosque sector, Muis will reorganise the Enhanced Mosque Clusters (EMCs). The current six EMCs will be reorganised into four clusters – North, South, East, and West clusters. The revised cluster configuration would enable a more optimal resource allocation, as Muis has planned for the number of existing and future MBMF and non-MBMF mosques in each cluster to be almost equal. Resources will be more effectively distributed and cater to the needs of the congregants in each cluster. For example, mosques in the new North, East, and West clusters will run programmes that cater to congregants from the heartlands, whereas mosques in the South cluster, which are mostly within the city area, will cater to the working crowd. A better alignment of the mosque and Social Service Offices will assist in providing more effective support to zakat beneficiaries (Refer to Annex A for the allocation of mosques within the new mosque clusters).

ii. **Mosque Upgrading**

The upgrading work for Masjid Darul Ghufuran will be completed in Q4 2018 while the upgrading work for Masjid Angullia will commence in Q4 2018.

iii. **Supporting the development of our asatizah**

Muis has embarked on an Asatizah Manpower Planning Study (AMPS) to better understand the current landscape of the asatizah sector, the roles they play, and the aspirations of present madrasah students. The study will serve to assess the future manpower needs of the sector, future capabilities required by asatizah and support the development of career and progression pathways for asatizah.

iv. **Plan for the Singapore Islamic College (SIC)**

Planning on the SIC will continue, focusing on developing the appropriate governance models, programme offerings, suitable site and enrolment size for the SIC. Inputs from the AMPS will contribute to this plan.

v. **Intensifying Counter-Extremism and Exclusivism Initiatives**

Muis will continue intensifying its efforts in countering extremism and exclusivism by developing counter-narrative content, enhancing the capacity of its partners and increasing outreach via a stronger social media presence.

vi. **Strengthening the Madrasah sector**

These will include the implementation of the Comprehensive Assistance Package to Madrasah Wak Tanjong; the commencement of construction for Madrasah Al-Arabiah's new building and securing IB authorisation for Madrasah Aljunied.

vii. **Enhanced E-Halal Portal (Muis E-Halal System 3.0)**

Muis will launch its enhanced e-Halal portal in Q3 2018, which will be more user-friendly, and allow for Halal applications and payments to be fully submitted online. In developing the portal, Muis adopted principles of design thinking to refine the business processes of Halal certification and conducted extensive interviews with both internal and external stakeholders. The portal builds upon an earlier collaboration between Muis, the Ministry of Finance, and Info-communications Media Development Authority of Singapore as part of the Public Service Division's Digital Accelerator programme¹¹ (Refer to Annex B).

Key Initiatives to Celebrate Muis' 50th Anniversary

12 As part of its 50th anniversary celebrations, Muis has embarked or will embark on the following key initiatives and events:

i. **Co-creating the future with the community**

Muis organised the Muis50 Conversations – a series of engagements to seek the community's inputs on its desired future in three key areas: the community's religious life; Islamic education; and next-generation mosques. From October 2017 to March 2018, more than 600 participants were engaged in 21 sessions. The key points and suggestions arising from Muis50 Conversations will be documented into a report to be published in Q4 2018. Inputs from the report will also be used for Muis' next three-year plan to begin in 2019.

i. **Documenting key policy developments (Muis Policy Book)**

Muis continued to work on documenting a comprehensive and evaluative analysis of the evolution of its policies over the past 50 years. This would help in reflecting on the challenges surmounted to draw key lessons to support the further progress of the Muslim community as part of a multi-racial and religious society. The book will be launched in the later part of 2018.

ii. **Muis' Social Work Study Award**

In an effort towards creating greater community expertise in the social work, Muis will launch a "Social Work Study Award". The Study Award will be a one-time study grant offered to a maximum of five students annually. Muis will be providing a grant of up to \$150,000 to Lembaga Basiswa Kenangan Maulud (Prophet Muhammad's Birthday Memorial Scholarship Fund Board) to administer the award. Muis will offer the Study Award over a period of three years (2018 – 2020) and eligible recipients can either pursue a diploma, advanced diploma, degree or post-degree qualification (Refer to Annex C).

¹¹ The Digital Service Accelerator (DSA) is a trilateral project agreement between IMDA, MOF and PSD. The DSA is an end-to-end programme that helped Muis to conduct user research, build digital prototypes, and design new user-centric interfaces, raise tender specifications.

iii. **Supporting Persons with Special Needs in setting up trusts with the Special Needs Trust Company (SNTC)**

Muis will allocate \$1 million for a special initiative to encourage parents and guardians of people with special needs from low- and middle-income Muslim families to set up a trust with SNTC. The objective of these trusts is to safeguard the persons with special needs' welfare and financial security after their family members pass on. Muis will facilitate this by supporting 100 eligible families with the initial capital to set up the trust. SNTC's current requirement to start the trust is \$5,000. Refer to Annex D.

iv. **Celebration with the Community (Muis Community Fest)**

This event will take place at Our Tampines Hub from 7 to 9 September. Muis Community Fest will provide a platform for greater engagement and appreciation between Muis, the Muslim community and the larger Singaporean society. It will feature sharing of Muis' services, inter-connected thematic stations designed along socio-religious needs, and a documentation of Muis' historical journey and contributions made. The following events will also be held within Muis Community Fest:

- Educators' Forum: This will be a platform to share the latest research findings and insights in the field of education and Islamic learning, and share appropriate learning tools to engage students more effectively.
- Youth Seminar: This will be an interactive Youth aLIVE Discourse session for youth from tertiary institutions and young professionals. The topics to be selected include inspiring youth to achieve more, further contribute to society, and build resilience in times of hardship.
- Mosque Family Fiesta: This event will acknowledge the mosque fraternity and their family's contributions to the mosque sector. It also aims to further foster the "mosque family" identity among mosques' volunteers and across all mosques. The event's highlights will include performances from the mosque and madrasah sectors, a talk show and games for families.

iv. **Mosque Convention 2018**

The fourth Mosque Convention will be held together with Muis Community Fest. The Convention aims to chart the path forward for next generation mosques and leaders. As part of a visioning exercise, the Convention will call for mosques to remain active contributors in community building and reach out to diverse groups. This convention also aims to recognise mosque achievements and appreciate mosque leaders' contributions.

v. **International Conference for Religious Scholars**

The Conference, which is scheduled in November, will be a platform to highlight Muis' continued role in promoting progressive religious values which are rooted in tradition. Muis will be partnering the Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies to organise this conference on the theme of "Religious Values in Plural Societies". It will highlight how religious institutions and

scholars can continue playing an important role for the community to remain contributive and inclusive in plural societies.

MAJLIS UGAMA ISLAM SINGAPURA

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Restructuring of Enhanced Mosque Clusters

Background

- 1 The EMC System was implemented in February 2008 to assist mosques to empower & support zakat recipients more effectively and holistically, as well as to facilitate the implementation of the recommendations of the Mosque Conventions and Muis 3-year Plans (M3YP) at mosques. Currently, there are six EMCs.

Current Structure of EMC System

EMC Boundaries

- 2 The boundaries of the current six EMCs match the Community Development Council (CDC) boundaries. This was to facilitate collaboration between the EMCs and the CDCs in supporting zakat recipients within the cluster. At that time, the CDCs were the main agency tasked to administer the ComCare scheme.
- 3 Since 2012, the ComCare scheme is no longer administered by the CDCs, but by the Ministry of Social & Family (MSF) via its Social Service Offices (SSOs). Accordingly, EMC Offices are now working with the SSOs to help zakat recipients within each cluster. Retaining the current EMC boundaries would not be efficient as the areas served by the respective SSOs do not match the CDC boundaries.

Distribution of Mosques in EMCs

- 4 Over the years the demands on the roles of the EMC Offices have grown. Besides assisting mosques to empower and support zakat recipients through collaborations with national and community agencies, as well as providing them with Islamic learning programmes, the EMC Office also supports mosque leaders and staff to take greater ownership of community issues and enhance the capabilities of the mosques in areas of corporate governance, capacity-building, besides improving efficiency through pooling of resources, collaborations and joint events to deal with community issues.
- 5 One weakness is the inequitable distribution of mosques at the different EMCs, both in terms of the total number of mosques as well as the number of MBMF mosques in each EMCs. MBMF mosques, being typically bigger, with larger congregations, are able to provide the full suite of Islamic learning and social development programmes and services. A more equitable distribution of mosques will help EMCs perform their core roles in a more efficient and sustainable manner.

Revised EMC Boundaries

North, East & West EMCs

6 Almost all MBMF mosques would be in the North, East and West EMCs (24 out of 26 MBMF mosques). The three EMCs span the major residential areas and public housing estates in Singapore. The bulk of the Muslim population in Singapore resides within the three EMCs. The three EMCs also cater to a wider and varied segments of the population, including the young, the needy and low-income individuals and families, as well as the elderly.

7 While there are challenges in dealing with a very much segmented population, the EMCs can also leverage on the opportunities available. While the large youth base will require more significant outreach efforts to attract more to participate in Islamic Education programmes, it also means that there is a larger pool of youth for mosques to tap on for their youth programmes. The larger population also means greater pool of possible Befrienders that can be engaged to serve the correspondingly large FA clientele. The three EMCs can pool their resources together to achieve more for the mosque sector as a whole.

South EMC

8 The South EMC has a different profile from the other three EMCs. While there are 20 mosques in the South EMC, a large majority are wakaf mosques and only two MBMF mosques. While wakaf and heritage mosques are not as large as an MBMF mosque, the expectations are no less challenging. At the very least, there is a need to ensure that these mosques continue to be well-managed and maintained, at the same time, able to serve the needs of the congregants and the community around them.

9 The South EMC is made up of largely of non-residential areas, with only one major housing estate, Bukit Merah within its boundaries. Less than five percent of the total Singapore Muslim resident population stays within the South EMC. Correspondingly, the number of young Muslims as well SD cases in the South EMC is also low.

10 Mosques in the South EMC are mostly frequented by those working or having businesses within the area. This meant that they may be at the mosques mostly during the day, leaving the mosques relatively empty in the evenings. Thus, South EMC will look at more targeted, niche-based approaches when looking to prosper the mosques.

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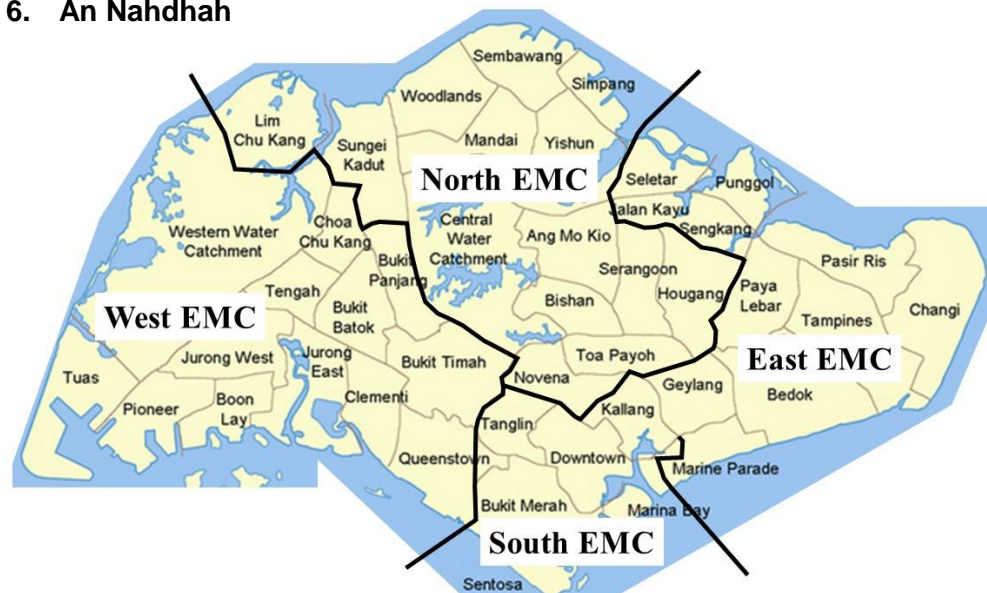
DISTRIBUTION OF MOSQUES AT 4 EMCs

NORTH EMC

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Abdul Hamid Kg Pasiran | 7. An-Nur | 12. Hajjah Rahimabi |
| 2. Ahmad Ibrahim | 8. Assyafaah | 13. Muhajirin |
| 3. Al-Istiqamah | 9. Darul Makmur | 14. Omar Salmah |
| 4. Alkaff Upper Serangoon | 10. En-Naeem | 15. Petempatan MS |
| 5. Al-Muttaqin | 11. Haji Yusoff | 16. Yusof Ishak |
| 6. An Nahdhah | | |

WEST EMC

1. Ahmad
2. Al-Firdaus
3. **Al-Iman**
4. Al-Huda
5. **Al-Khair**
6. **Al- Mukminin**
7. **Ar-Raudhah**
8. **Assyakirin**
9. **Darussalam**
10. Hang Jebat
11. Hasanah
12. Hussain Sulaiman
13. **Maarof**
14. Pulau Bukom
15. Pusara Aman
16. Tentera Diraja



EAST EMC

1. Abdul Aleem Siddique
2. Al-Abdul Razak
3. **Al-Ansar**
4. **Al-Islah**
5. **Al-Istighfar**
6. **Al-Mawaddah**
7. **Alkaff KM**
8. Al-Taqua
9. **Darul Aman**
10. **Darul Ghufuran**
11. Haji Mohd Salleh (G)
12. **Kampung Siglap**
13. Kassim
14. Khadijah
15. Khalid
16. Mydin
17. Sallim Mattar
18. Wak Tanjong

SOUTH EMC

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Abdul Gafoor | 8. Burhani | 15. Malabar |
| 2. Al-Abrar | 9. Haji Muhd Salleh (P) | 16. Moulana Mohd Ali |
| 3. Al-Amin | 10. Hajjah Fatimah | 17. Mujahidin |
| 4. Al-Falah | 11. Jamae Chulia | 18. Omar Kg Melaka |
| 5. Angullia | 12. Jamek Queenstown | 19. Sultan |
| 6. Ba'alwie | 13. Jamiyah Ar-Rabitah | 20. Tasek Utara |
| 7. Bencoolen | 14. Kampong Delta | |

Note: MBMF Mosques are indicated in **bold**.

Muis E-Halal System 3.0 (MeS3.0)

Background

1 Muis Halal certification services started since 1978¹². The entire Muis Halal certification process was operated manually till Muis eHalal System (MeS) was implemented in 2007. The current version (MeS 2.0) was developed in-house and it has gone through several regular upgrades. It is used by all applicants to submit new, change and renew applications for Halal certification. It is used by processing officers to process and approve applications, issue renewal notifications and also for data analysis.

Muis eHalal System 3.0 (MeS 3.0)

2 To address some limitations in the current system such as aging technology and incompatibility across different browsers, Muis tapped into the Digital Accelerator programme provided by PSD, IMDA and MOF to do a Business Process Re-engineering (BPR) of Halal application and processing functions. Upon completion of BPR, Muis started working with MTI to join LicenseOne, the one-stop licensing portal which helps businesses apply for all government licenses. This will make it more convenient for new and existing applicants to apply for Halal certification, along with all other relevant licenses needed when setting up their premises.

3 MeS 3.0 will greatly improve productivity by eliminating pain points such as manual or repetitive entry of information. For instance, it will auto-sync with SingPost and ACRA to auto-populate relevant information of the applicant. Applicants will be able to submit applications much more easily as the interface will be more user-friendly with guided features and also an option for auto-renewal of halal certificates. It will also utilise SingPass and CorpPass for better security and support online payments. Receipts will also be issued online and the application statuses are updated automatically.

4 In a nutshell, below are some of the features of MeS 3.0:

- No Repetitive entry of data
- Auto-Sync with SingPost & ACRA
- Auto Approval for Change Applications

¹² Halal Certification is voluntary in Singapore. Section 88A of the Administration of Muslim Law Act (AMLA) provides the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (Muis) with the exclusive legal powers to issue Halal certificates in relation to any product, service or activity, and to regulate the holders of such certificates to ensure that the requirements of the Muslim law are complied with. Muis also has the powers to impose, add and remove conditions it deems fit.

- Higher Security features with use of SingPass and CorpPass
- Several paper document submissions will be eliminated
- Provide real time and accurate information
- Better data/information management

5 The current version of Muis eHalal System (MeS 2.0) will be replaced by **MeS 3.0 and integrated with the LicenseOne Portal**. This is currently in its development phase and scheduled to be launched in Q3 2018.

6 Implementation of the MeS 3.0 will affect all new and existing Halal certificate holders. In trying to facilitate the industry with the usage of this new system, Muis has adopted the following approaches:

- i) Develop eHalal training manual
- ii) Provide a kiosk at Muis Halal Certification office for personalised guidance on how to use the MeS
- iii) Phone help will be provided by LicenseOne

7 Subsequently, before the system goes live, more detailed briefings will be done to the media and stakeholders to explain the benefits and features of the new system. Muis will also issue circulars and resources to explain the new MeS 3.0 to all Halal certificate holders. A hotline will also be started to address queries from the industry.

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Muis Social Work Study Award

Background

In conjunction with Muis' 50th anniversary celebrations and as part of efforts to enhance the community's participation and expertise in the provision of social services, Muis will offer Study Awards for eligible students pursuing social work and social service studies.

Award Objectives

2 The award is aimed at recognising and supporting the achievements and development of students pursuing studies in social work and social service studies, who upon graduation, would contribute to the development of the Muslim community by pursuing projects/research/careers related to the community. The award will acknowledge the efforts of students as well as encourage the students to embark on a meaningful journey in the social service sector and contribute to the Muslim community.

Award Details

3 The Study Award would be a one-time study grant offered to a maximum of 5 students annually. Recipients will not be required to serve a bond with Muis, but will be strongly encouraged to contribute back to the community. This award will be administered by Lembaga Biasiswa Kenangan Maulid (LBKM). Muis will be providing **a grant of \$150,000 to LBKM** over a period of three years (2018 – 2020)

Award Coverage:

| Course | Amount of Award |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Diploma and Advanced Diploma | \$5,000 |
| Degree | \$7,000 |
| Post-graduate Degree | \$10,000 |

Eligibility:

1. Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident who will take up Singapore citizenship before embarking on his/her studies
2. Have good O/A level results or relevant diploma results or equivalent qualifications.

3. Candidates with strong community work track-record and possess excellent communication skills will be strongly considered.

Applicants must:

1. Gain admission to both local and overseas social work programme recognised by the Singapore Association of Social Work (SASW) accreditation board.
2. Upon graduation, have a strong commitment in contributing to the Malay Muslim community through research, involvement in community projects or pursue a career in social service.

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SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS INDIVIDUALS TO SET UP TRUSTS WITH SNTC

1 Muis is allocating \$1 million for a special initiative to encourage parents and guardians of special needs individuals from low and middle income Muslim families to set up a trust with the Special Needs Trust Company (SNTC). The objective of these trusts is to safeguard their loved one's welfare and financial security, through a reliable permanent professional body which will care for the interests of persons with special needs.

2 In 2015, the Fatwa Committee studied the permissibility of Muslim families with special needs individuals who wished to set up a trust with SNTC. The discussion revolved around whether the trust which was to be executed upon the death of the testator is to be considered as part of a Muslim's estate¹³ and thus subject to Islamic inheritance law (*faraidh*).

3 The Fatwa Committee decided¹⁴ that any trust made by a Muslim which will benefit his/her disabled dependent is a permissible wealth disposition instrument in Islam and is not subject to *faraidh*.

4 Through this additional support, public education and publicity, Muis hopes to encourage families with special needs individuals to set up instruments to safeguard their loved one's welfare and financial security.¹⁵

5 Muis will facilitate this by supporting lower and middle income families with the initial capital to set up the trust. Interested families will be means-tested to ensure that only families that require assistance will be selected for the sponsorship. SNTC's current requirement to start the trust is \$5,000.

6 Muis will be financing this scheme through funds that was paid to Baitulmal from unclaimed estates¹⁶ (i.e. the estates of individuals who passed away with no

¹³ All the assets and possessions owned by a person.

¹⁴ in its 12th meeting of 23 June 2015 (Annex A)

¹⁵ Since the trust service was setup in 2009, only 2% of trust accounts were set up by Muslims.

¹⁶ AMLA, s58.

— (1) Where, after 1st July 1968, any Muslim person dies in such circumstances that, under the provisions of the Muslim law, his property would vest in, or become payable to, the Baitulmal, the property of that person, in pursuance of such provisions, shall vest in and become payable to the Majlis and form part of the Fund.

AMLA, s112.

— (1) In the case of any Muslim person domiciled in Singapore dying intestate, the estate and effects shall be distributed according to the Muslim law as modified, where applicable, by Malay custom.

beneficiaries coming forward). Muis hopes that by channelling these funds to a long term cause such as a trust for special needs individuals, the good deeds of the deceased who had left these monies will be prolonged throughout the duration of the trust.

7 Further details of this support will be made known in the next few months. Muis intends to conduct outreach efforts through the media, Muslim legal practitioners and its mosque networks to encourage families who are eligible for this scheme to step forward. Additionally, Muis hopes to encourage better estate and wealth planning among members of the Muslim community.

About SNTC

SNTC is a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) established in 2008 with the support of MSF (then MCYS) and NCSS. Their core services revolve around providing trust services to low and middle income families who wish to provide continuous financial support for their family members with special needs. Parents may inject cash directly, or pledge their assets to be liquidated and injected as trust monies after parents pass away, through their will. The trust monies are safeguarded by the Insolvency and Public Trustee's Office (IPTO). The trust monies, with the capital injection guaranteed by the Government, will earn interest at an interest rate declared by IPTO once every 6 months.

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(2) This section shall apply in cases where a person dies partly intestate as well as in cases where he dies wholly intestate.