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Dr Tony Tan visits France

12 Jun 1999

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, Dr Tony Tan, leaves this morning (13 Jun 99) for France for the Paris Air Show at the invitation of French Defence Minister Alain Richard. Dr Tan is accompanied by Mrs Tan and senior officials from the Ministry of Defence and the Singapore Armed Forces.

In conjunction with the visit, Dr Tan and Mr Richard will sign the government-to-government General Security Agreement. The agreement covers the exchange of classified information between Singapore and France. There is much potential for more mutually beneficial military interactions and defence technology co-operation between the two countries, and the agreement serves to facilitate this.

Dr Tan and Mr Richard will also attend a reception hosted by the Singapore Ambassador to France, Mr Jasudasen, at the ambassador's residence to welcome the Head of MINDEF's new Defence Technology Office (Europe) [DTO (Europe)] which was recently set up in Paris. DTO (Europe) co-ordinates MINDEF's defence technology co-operation with European countries such as France, Sweden and the United Kingdom.