

PRESIDENT REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

24 September 2008

His Excellency Hu Jintao President People's Republic of China

your Excellency

On behalf of the people of Singapore and on my own behalf, I would like to extend my warmest congratulations and best wishes to you and the people of China on this joyous occasion of the 59th National Day of the People's Republic of China.

Under your wise stewardship, China has made remarkable economic growth, progress and stability. Your leadership was instrumental in helping China tide through the natural disasters that had hit the country this year, in particular the Sichuan earthquake. Last month, China's successful hosting of the Beijing Olympics was not only a showcase of China's achievements made during the past three decades since its opening-up and reform, but also demonstrated to others the unity and resolve of the Chinese people. I would like to take this opportunity to once again congratulate China for a most spectacular and successful Olympics, and record my appreciation for the way China has contributed to the stability and prosperity of the region.

We had a good discussion when we met last month. I am particularly heartened to see that our bilateral relations have flourished in many areas including economics, politics, defence and social ties. The Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city project and the conclusion of the China-Singapore Free Trade Agreement will be yet another indication of our dynamic and maturing ties. I have every confidence that the relationship between our two countries will continue to thrive with your support in the years to come.

I wish you good health and every success in your endeavours.

S R NATHAN

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