



## **S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

A Graduate School of Nanyang Technological University

### **African Policymakers and Business Leaders in Singapore**

On 15-18 February 2009, the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at Nanyang Technological University was the host to a delegation of African policymakers and business leaders. Led by Dr. Greg Mills, Director of the Brenthurst Foundation of South Africa, the 12-member delegation included Mr. Victor Bernardo, Mozambique's Deputy Minister for Planning and Development, and Dr. Neva Makgetla, Lead Economist in the Development Bank of South Africa, Mr. Rudi Dicks, Director of the National Labour and Economic Development Institute of South Africa, and Mr. Ravindra Naidoo, Group Chief Executive of the Development Bank of South Africa.

This visit is the second of its kind. Like the first in July last year which then included Dr. Luisa Dias Diuogo, the Prime Minister of Mozambique, the objective of this visit is to learn at first hand how Singapore has transformed itself from a Third World country to a First World within a generation, especially the social and economic policies accounting for the transformation. As the host and co-organiser of the visit, RSIS has coordinated the visitors' programme and arranged their meetings with Singapore's policymakers and government-linked organisations. It was the success of the first visit in 2008 that prompted the Brenthurst Foundation and RSIS to organise this second visit to learn more about Singapore's economic success story.

The four-day programme included meetings and discussions with the Port of Singapore Authority, JTC Corporation, International Enterprise Singapore, Economic Development Board, Singapore Business Federation, Singapore Cooperation Enterprise, as well as the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies. A highlight of the visit was a roundtable discussion with Mr. Ngiam Tong Dow, a former top civil servant who contributed much to Singapore's economic transformation.

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*Please refer to the **Annexe** for more information regarding the African Leaders' Visit.*

**For media queries, please contact:**

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**Background Information**

**About the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies**

The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) was inaugurated on 1 January 2007 as an autonomous School within the Nanyang Technological University (NTU). It was formerly known as the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), which was established in 1996.

The School exists to develop a community of scholars and policy analysts at the forefront of Asia-Pacific security studies and international affairs. Its three core functions are research, graduate teaching and networking. It produces cutting-edge security related research in Asia-Pacific Security, Conflict and Non-Traditional Security, International Political Economy, and Country and Area Studies.

The School's activities are aimed at assisting policymakers to develop comprehensive approaches to strategic thinking on issues related to security and stability in the Asia-Pacific and their implications for Singapore.

For more information about RSIS, please visit [www.rsis.edu.sg](http://www.rsis.edu.sg).

Annexe

Members of the African Delegation of Policymakers and Business Leaders

Mr. Rudi Dicks	Director National Labour and Economic Development Institute South Africa
Mr. Ravindra Naidoo	Group Chief Executive Development Bank of South Africa South Africa
Ms. Josephilda Hlophe	Head Economic Sector, Policy Co-ordination and Advisory Services Presidency of South Africa
Ms. Tanya van Meelis	Head Strategic Issues Management Standard Bank of South Africa South Africa
Dr. Janine Thorne	Divisional Executive Development Bank of South Africa South Africa
Dr. Neva Makgetla	Lead Economist Research and Information Development Bank of South Africa  Sector Strategies Co-ordinator Presidency of South Africa South Africa
Mr. Victor Bernardo	Deputy Minister Planning and Development Mozambique
Ms. Sheila Santana Afonso	Legal Advisor Ministry of Planning and Development Mozambique
Dr. Greg Mills	Director Brenthurst Foundation South Africa