



## MEDIA STATEMENT

23 February 2010

### THE MUFTI OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE ATTENDS CONFERENCE OF SUPREME COUNCIL FOR ISLAMIC AFFAIRS IN EGYPT

The Mufti of the Republic of Singapore, Sohibus Samahah Syed Isa Bin Mohd Semait is currently attending a 3-day Conference of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Affairs in Cairo, Egypt which started on 22nd February 2010. Mufti is accompanied by Deputy Mufti, Ustaz Mohamed Fatris Bin Bakaram.

2 Organised by the Egyptian Ministry of Awqaf led by Dr Mahmoud Hamdi Zakzouk, the annual conference was officially opened by His Excellency, President Hosni Mubarak. The theme of the conference for this year is "The Objective of Islamic Teachings and the Challenges of the Present."

3 Among the many eminent speakers at the Conference are Sheikhu Azhar Dr Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi and the Grand Mufti of Egypt, His Excellency, Sheikh Ali Gomaa. Participants of the Conference includes Ministers-in-charge of Religious Affairs, Muftis as well as various religious officials and experts in related fields from 75 Muslim and Muslim minority countries as well as eight International Islamic organisations.

4 60 papers are scheduled to be presented and discussed in 12 sessions throughout the Conference. Among the areas to be discussed includes concepts and objectives of the Islamic Law, preservation of human lives in Islam, issues of religious freedom within the Islamic faith and concept of reason in religion and philosophy.

5 The Conference provides an excellent opportunity for Mufti and Ustaz Mohamed Fatris to share the Singapore experience in the management of socio-religious affairs and issues. It also provides an excellent opportunity for Mufti and Ustaz Fatris to renew friendship and to network and strengthen relationship with their counterparts from all over the world.

6 During their stay in Cairo, Mufti and Ustaz Fatris will also be meeting with Singapore students studying in Egypt. They will be having a dialogue session to discuss a number of issues, among which are the roles of asatizah in contemporary Singapore Muslim Community and the development of Singapore Islamic Education.

7 For further clarification, you may contact Roshida Jamari, Executive, Corporate Communications Strategic Unit at DID: 6359-1436 or email: roshida@muis.gov.sg.

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