



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **MEDIA STATEMENT**

17 February 2017

## **INCREASE IN SINGAPORE'S OFFICIAL HAJ QUOTA TO 800 PLACES**

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The Ministry of Haj and Umrah of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has increased Singapore's official Haj quota to 800 places. This is an increase of 120 from the 680 places allocated previously<sup>^</sup>.

2 The announcement was made today by Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim at Masjid Al-Khair. Dr Yaacob was at the mosque to view the progress of upgrading works which is due for completion mid this year.

3 Since 2012, the Saudi authorities had imposed a reduction in quota for domestic and foreign pilgrims due to the major development and upgrading projects taking place in the vicinity of the Holy Mosque in Makkah, in particular the expansion of the Mataf (circumambulation) area. However, Singapore was not affected by the quota reduction.

4 The Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (Muis) will contact eligible Haj registrants regarding the additional vacancies available.

<sup>^</sup> Based on the formula decided by the Organisation of Islamic Conference in 1987 that the Haj quota is 0.1% of the Muslim population.

## **MAJLIS UGAMA ISLAM SINGAPURA**