

GOVERNMENTAL BODIES INVOLVED IN R&D PROMOTION ACTIVITIES

NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BOARD

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Replacing the Singapore Science Council, the NSTB was created to plan and promote all R&D programs and enhance the scientific and technological capabilities in Singapore. The NSTB may form companies and participate in technology licensing and joint R&D efforts.

The Grant Schemes of the NSTB fund R&D programs both in the public and private sector. Expert committees have been formed to help bridge the gap between basic and applied research to facilitate the commercialisation of high technology.

SECTION III

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Human Resource Development is also a priority area. "Attracting and retaining talent" is a major challenge in Singapore with its "limited pool of scientists and engineers".

The Science Habitat, or Phase II of the Science Park, will be cultivated as a centre integrating R&D, academic and business activities with living and social amenities. "The intention is to transform the Park into an environment conducive for innovation and discovery, business start-ups and recreational pursuits."

The ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST) promotes cooperation throughout the region on science and technology development projects. Through this Committee and several ASEAN-Australia Projects, Singapore is involved in 23 R&D projects in areas such as Food Habits, Food Technology, Energy Conservation Technology, Coastal Resources Management, Marine Science, Regional Ocean Dynamics, Materials Science & Technology, Microelectronics, Energy Conservation in Buildings, and Biotechnology.

Several organizations participated in the region and world-wide courses held for members of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The IAEA's objective is to transfer nuclear technology to its members by providing training, expert services and equipment. The SGH Department of Nuclear Medicine, the