Leaders from China’s foundations/NGOs in Singapore to study development and governance of social sector

- **First Chinese study tour on Singapore’s philanthropic and non-profit sector**
- **MoU to be signed to enhance cooperation and R&D**

12 September 2012, Singapore – Leaders and representatives of China’s foundations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are in Singapore from 12 to 13 September for an inaugural study tour aimed at enhancing the development and governance of the Chinese social sector.

Organised by NUS Business School’s Asia Centre for Social Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy (ACSEP) with the support of World Future Foundation, the delegation comprises organisations such as the China Philanthropy Research Institute (CPRI), Chinese Red Cross Foundation, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, China Women’s Development Foundation, Children’s Hope Foundation, China Red Ribbon Foundation, and China Social Welfare Foundation.

The Chinese delegation will study how the Singapore government supports the creation and development of NGOs, governance of the sector here, as well as look into how NGOs can maintain a positive image in the community.

A total of 20 Chinese organisations are taking part, with Professor Wang Zhenyao, Dean of the China Philanthropy Research Institute at Beijing Normal University, leading the group. He was also the Director General of China’s Department of Social Welfare and Charity Promotion in the Ministry of Civil Affairs.

“This visit is significant for Singapore because it is the first Chinese study tour for the philanthropic and non-profit sector. It demonstrates that Singapore is being sought after, as a model not just for public policy and governance in the for-profit sector but also, the people and social sectors. We are pleased that the trip has facilitated knowledge sharing amongst NGOs, foundations and government agencies of Singapore and China,” said Associate Professor Lam Swee Sum, Director of ACSEP.

Various Singapore organisations are hosting the delegation, including Bizlink, which provides employment services for the disabled; Economic Development Board; the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports; the National Council of Social Service; the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre; North East Community Development Council; Singapore International Foundation; and Tsao Foundation.

MOU between ACSEP & CPRI was signed on 14 September to enhance further research and educational collaboration between the two institutes.