

# Preface



The Economic Review Committee (ERC), set up in December 2001, has completed its work. This Report outlines its key recommendations to remake Singapore into:

- a. a *globalised* economy where Singapore is the key node in the global network, linked to all the major economies;
- b. a *creative and entrepreneurial* nation willing to take risks to create fresh businesses and blaze new paths to success; and
- c. a *diversified* economy powered by the twin engines of manufacturing and services, where vibrant Singapore companies complement MNCs, and new startups co-exist with traditional businesses exploiting new and innovative ideas.

The Report is divided into two parts. Part I summarises the ERC's recommendations, both longer-term strategies and more immediate proposals, against the backdrop of our external environment and domestic circumstances. Part II provides more details of the proposals for changes in policies on taxation, wages and CPF, land, creating a more entrepreneurial Singapore, growing manufacturing and services, developing our human capital and helping Singaporeans adapt to all these changes.

The Committee has endeavoured to distill all the contributions it received in the course of its work into a coherent overall plan of action. This main Report could not include all the numerous ideas thrown up during the deliberations. These have been set out in more detail in the reports of the seven Sub-Committees. The Committee recommends that the relevant government agencies study those remaining proposals further, and implement those found to be feasible and worthwhile.