



SMCCIINSIDER

SMCCI MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

Wishing you a prosperous year ahead.





LETTER FROM

PRESIDENT

السَّلامُ عَلَيْكُمْ

DEAR MEMBERS,

On behalf of SMCCI, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to our members, partners, and the business community for a prosperous and successful Lunar New Year. May this year bring you abundance, good health, and exciting opportunities for growth!

At SMCCI, we remain committed to empowering micro-businesses and SMEs by equipping them with the right tools, knowledge, and opportunities to scale and thrive. Through SMCCI Academy, we have curated a series of targeted programmes designed to enhance skills and capabilities, ensuring that our members stay competitive in an ever-evolving business landscape.

Beyond training, networking remains a key pillar of business growth, which is why we actively organise initiatives such as Chamber Circle — a dedicated platform designed to foster valuable connections, broaden business exposure, and unlock new opportunities. These sessions tap into various segments of the community, helping entrepreneurs expand their networks and forge meaningful collaborations.

Additionally, Trade Associations and Chambers (TACs) play a crucial role in supporting businesses of all sizes, particularly in driving digital transformation, policy advocacy, and creating opportunities for cross-border trade. The Singapore Business Federation (SBF) further strengthens these efforts by advocating for easier access to financing, promoting digital resilience, and offering resources for sustainability, workforce development, and market expansion. SMCCI will continue working towards strengthening these efforts, ensuring our members can leverage the right resources and support to grow their businesses both locally and internationally.

As we welcome the Year of the Snake, SMCCI remains steadfast in championing initiatives that uplift businesses, providing them with the support and resources needed to scale and sustain long-term success. Together, let's make 2025 a year of resilience, growth, and prosperity!

Gong Xi Fa Cai! 🍊🧧 Wishing you and your business great fortune and success ahead!



Mr Abu Bakar Bin Mohd Nor
President



Have you heard? SMCCI's 66th Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be pushed forward this year, marking an important occasion for our members. This year's AGM will also coincide with the election of new board members and leaders for the chamber, giving you a chance to have a direct impact on the direction of SMCCI.

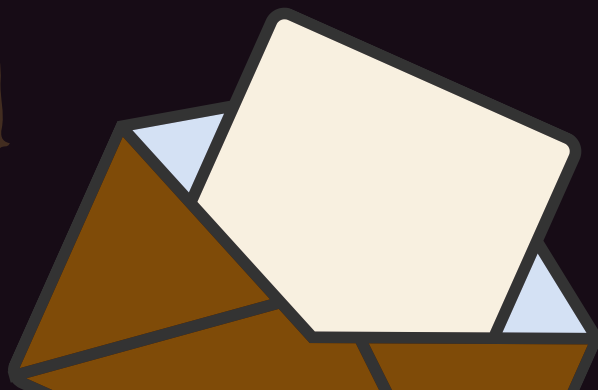
AGM provides an opportunity for all members to come together, show their support, and cast their votes. Your participation in this event is crucial as it will help shape the future of SMCCI and ensure that the chamber continues to serve the needs of the Malay/Muslim business community effectively.

Attending the AGM and voting in the election is a way for you to be part of SMCCI's ongoing journey of growth and collaboration. We encourage all members to take part in this important event, as your voice matters in deciding the leadership that will guide the chamber forward.

We look forward to seeing you there as we work together to build a stronger, more vibrant community.

66TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Stay tuned for more details and updates on the 66th AGM!



CHAMBER CIRCLE

CONNECTING IDEAS, BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES

Chamber Circle

SMCCI Membership proudly hosted its inaugural Chamber Circle at the sophisticated Red Velvet Ballroom, marking a significant milestone for the organisation.

The event showcased SMCCI's mission, initiatives, and exciting plans for the future, while also warmly welcoming new members to the vibrant SMCCI community. The program kicked off with opening remarks from SMCCI President, Mr. Abu Bakar, who shared insights into the chamber's vision, upcoming opportunities, and the potential advantages SEZ could offer to attendees.

SMCCI aims to conduct more of these sessions in the future, ensuring that diverse industries can benefit from these impactful networking opportunities.



CLICK TO
READ

LOONG DIM SUM



SMCCI attended a private food-tasting event hosted by Loong Dim Sum (ZR Dim Sum). The event featured a lively lion dance and a warm welcome from Mr. Zainal and Mdm. Fatimah Mohsin. Guests enjoyed handmade dim sum, flavourful beverages, and aromatic tea. The restaurant's authentic Chinese ambiance, with intricate woodwork and traditional designs, reflects its heritage. Spanning four levels, it also offers private event spaces.

We thank **Loong Dim Sum** for the invite and wish them continued success!.

Visit them at **10 North Canal Road, Singapore 048823!**



EMBRACING DIGITALISATION

electronic-Certificates of Origin (eCO)

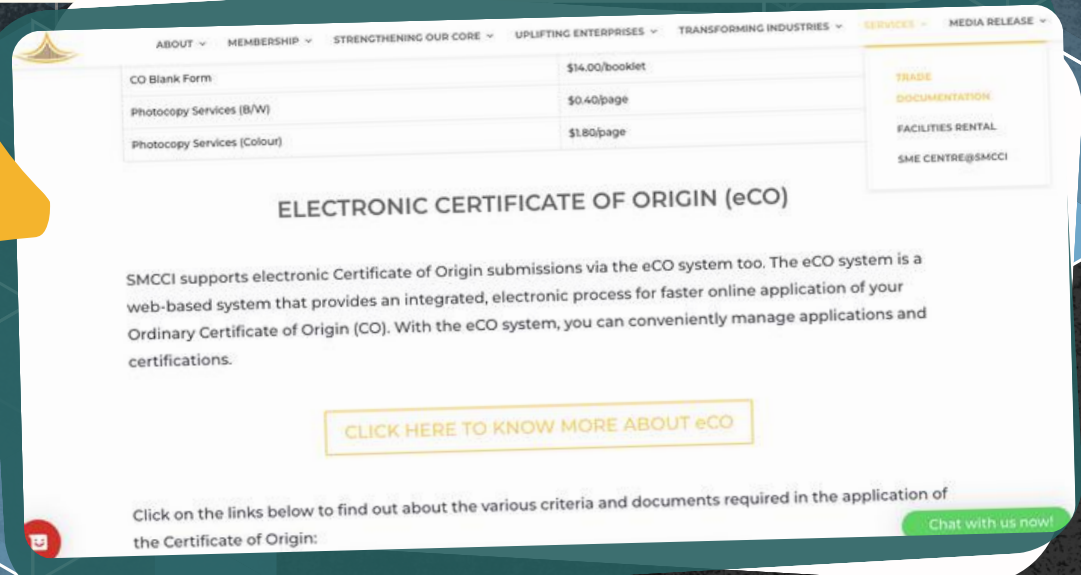
In line with SMCCI's commitment to advancing digitalisation within our operations, we are pleased to highlight our offering of Electronic Certificates of Origin (eCO), designed to streamline your international trade processes. While our Manual COO provides a traditional, paper-based solution with physical signatures and stamps, the Electronic eCO presents a faster, more efficient, and secure alternative, featuring digital signatures and expedited processing times.

The electronic version not only **reduces administrative costs** and **paper consumption** but also ensures quicker verification, enhanced security, and more convenient document storage and retrieval. Whether you prefer the traditional manual format or the modern digital option, we are fully equipped to meet your needs and support seamless cross-border transactions.

This step is part of SMCCI's ongoing efforts to support our members by providing practical solutions that enhance their business operations. We believe that embracing digital tools can help simplify administrative tasks and improve overall productivity.

We encourage to take advantage of the new eCO endorsement platform and PayNow payment option.

For more details on how to use these services, please visit our website or contact our team for assistance at tradedocs@smcci.org.sg.



T.A.C SUMMIT



The SBF TAC Summit, held on 22 January 2025, brought together over 200 industry leaders, trade associations, and chambers (TACs) for a day of insightful discussions and collaborative initiatives. Organised by the Singapore Business Federation (SBF), with support from Enterprise Singapore, the Singapore Tourism Board, and Workforce Singapore, the event was themed **"Bridging Ambitions, Building Success"**, and set the stage for Singapore to strengthen its role as a regional leader for TACs.

Senior Minister of State, Ms Low Yen Ling, opened the event with remarks emphasising the critical role TACs play in Singapore's business ecosystem, fostering deeper economic connections and trade networks. The highlight of the Summit was the launch of the TAC Sector Transformation Map (STM), a strategic initiative aimed at enhancing governance, digital capabilities, and workforce readiness over the next three years.

Key sessions included a fireside chat on leveraging the TAC Sector Transformation Map to enhance value propositions, a hybrid panel on technology trends and membership models, and a deep dive into workforce strategies for TACs. Breakout tracks focused on governance, AI in digital technology, and the future of work, providing attendees with valuable tools to navigate the evolving landscape.

In a celebratory touch, the TAC community gathered for a group *Lohei* to mark the Chinese New Year, symbolising a collective commitment to success in the year ahead.

The TAC Summit marked a pivotal moment in Singapore's efforts to build a vibrant, future-ready association ecosystem, offering a platform for high-level networking and collaboration.

SME CENTRE @ SMCCI TOWNHALL



The SME Centre @ SMCCI started the year on a high note with its inaugural Engagement & Networking event, held on 7 January 2025 at Holiday Inn Atrium. The event welcomed invited guests, including the Centre's clients and SMCCI members, providing them with valuable insights into the Centre's work. Attendees also learned about the various ways they can engage with the Centre and took the opportunity to network with other business owners and leaders.

Mr. Azhar Othman, Chairman of the SME Centre @ SMCCI, opened the event with a brief speech, sharing his vision for the local business community in the coming year.

Earlier that day, the management team also expressed their appreciation to the staff for their hard work in the past year, presenting a token of thanks and treating the team to a lunch.



CALLING OUT ALL MUSLIM-OWNED ENTERPRISES



Validity:

1 Year
SMCCI Membership + MOE

Pricing for Applicants:

New: \$749
Renewal: \$549
Additional Certificates: \$250
Bazaar (Individual): \$120

Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SMCCI) continues to play a vital role in empowering businesses within the Muslim community. One of its key initiatives is supporting the Muslim-Owned Enterprise (MOE) certification, which provides Muslim entrepreneurs with an official recognition of their business ownership.

The MOE certification is designed to highlight **ACRA registered** businesses that are minimally **51% owned and operated by a Muslim**, offering them a unique identity and recognition in the marketplace. This certification helps boost consumer confidence and provides businesses with opportunities for **greater visibility, networking, and access to government contracts and initiatives** that prioritise inclusivity.

SMCCI believes that empowering Muslim-owned businesses through the MOE certification can help unlock greater economic opportunities and encourage more diverse entrepreneurial ventures. The certification serves as a symbol of pride and credibility, fostering a stronger, more resilient business ecosystem.

By supporting and promoting the MOE certification, SMCCI ensures that Muslim entrepreneurs have the tools and resources they need to grow and succeed in Singapore's competitive business environment. This initiative not only strengthens the Muslim business community but also contributes to the broader economy, encouraging diversity and inclusion across industries.



Scan here to register!

Join SMCCI's MOE Info Session!

For new applicants:

- 📄 Document Verification
- 📺 2-Hour Online Training to guide you through the essentials.

Don't miss this opportunity to streamline your application process!

RIZQ SYMPOSIUM



On January 25th, 2025, the Rizq Symposium held at Suntec focused on advancing financial empowerment within the Muslim community. The event provided an important platform for discussions around financial management that aligns with Shariah principles.

Singapore Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SMCCI) was proud to participate, hosting a booth to engage with attendees and explore potential collaborations to support Muslim-owned businesses. The symposium encouraged open conversations around ethical wealth management, community growth, and ongoing education in Islamic finance.

A key highlight of the event was the Asatizah Panel, which featured experts like Ustaz Muhammad Tarmizi Abdul Wahid. The panelists emphasised the importance of integrating Shariah principles into financial decisions, stressing that true success is not just about financial gains, but also about spiritual well-being. This session encouraged attendees to adopt ethical practices for long-term success.

The event reinforced the value of **holistic wealth management**, showcasing the importance of **combining financial success with ethical and community values**.

SMCCI remains committed to helping members navigate Shariah-compliant financial strategies and looks forward to future initiatives that support Muslim-owned businesses.

As the community continues to grow and learn, SMCCI will continue to play a key role in fostering collaboration and sharing knowledge on Islamic finance principles.



MAYBANK MYIMPACT 2025

“Empowering Aspiring Entrepreneurs”



The second run of the Maybank myImpact Microbusiness Programme, a collaboration between SMCCI and Maybank, is underway! From **25th January to 22nd February** aspiring entrepreneurs from Singapore's Zakat beneficiary community are meeting every Saturday at the SMCCI office (15 Jalan Pinang) to build a strong foundation for their businesses.

Led by experienced trainer Huda Hamid, the programme covers key areas such as **branding, financial documentation, and marketing strategies**. To support participants with children, childminding services are provided in partnership with Soulehahs.

The programme has attracted entrepreneurs looking to refine or scale their businesses. At the end of the course, participants will present their business plans, with winners receiving \$5,000 in funding and three months of mentorship from SMCCI's seasoned entrepreneurs.

This initiative underscores SMCCI's commitment to **empowering microbusiness owners and fostering a vibrant entrepreneurial community**.

Stay tuned for updates on their journey to success!



AMP MICROBUSINESSES 25

“Empowering Microbusinesses Owners”

SMCCI Academy is proud to curate three sessions for the AMP Microbusiness Programme 2025, running from **January 18th to February 1st**. These sessions are designed to equip micro-business owners with practical skills to help grow their ventures. The modules cover key topics such as the **fundamentals of home-based businesses**, the **importance of budgeting and bookkeeping**, and **WhatsApp marketing**.

Through this collaboration, SMCCI Academy is delivering impactful training in business planning, financial management, and digital marketing.

This supports AMP's vision of empowering micro-business owners across Singapore.



MANPOWER HARMONISATION INITIATIVE (MHI)



The SMCCI Manpower Harmonisation Initiative is designed to bridge the gap between manpower supply and demand, ensuring that businesses can source qualified talent efficiently while job seekers gain access to rewarding career opportunities.

For Business Owners

Finding the right employees is crucial for business growth. Through this initiative, SMCCI members can submit job vacancies and available positions within their companies via the link provided. These listings will be shared with a pool of potential candidates, increasing the chances of securing the right talent quickly and effectively.

For Job Seekers

Whether you're an experienced professional or someone looking to enter a new industry, this initiative connects you with businesses seeking skilled and motivated individuals. By tapping into SMCCI's extensive business network, you gain access to employment opportunities that align with your expertise and aspirations.

Why This Matters

1. Streamlined Recruitment – A dedicated platform to match businesses with qualified candidates.
2. Stronger Workforce Ecosystem – Helping our community build a sustainable and resilient workforce.
3. Business Growth & Job Creation – Enabling businesses to scale with the right talent while supporting job seekers in their career journeys.

We encourage all SMCCI members to participate by submitting their job vacancies through the link below:

[**Submit Vacancies Available Here**](#)

RESOURCES



NEED HELP WITH YOUR BUSINESS?

We are pleased to announce that SMCCI members who wish to discuss their business concerns with our esteemed Board Members can now book a session every Friday from 3pm to 5pm. This dedicated time slot provides a valuable opportunity for meaningful engagement, allowing you to seek guidance, share insights, and receive expert advice.

Don't miss out on this exclusive chance to connect with our Board Members and propel your business forward. Book your session today and make the most of this valuable resource!

[Secure your spot now!](https://tinyurl.com/MTMS-SMCCI)

WANT TO REACH TO NEW CUSTOMERS?

Are you looking to enhance your brand visibility and reach a wider audience without breaking the bank?

Look no further! SMCCI is thrilled to offer exclusive marketing and advertising packages at affordable rates, specially tailored to meet the needs of businesses like yours.

Our team at SMCCI Communications is ready to assist you every step of the way. For more information and to discuss how we can elevate your business presence, **get in touch with Nabilah Herman** at nabilahherman@smcci.org.sg or **Aisyah** at sitiaisyah@smcci.org.sg.

We look forward to supporting your growth and helping your business thrive!

[Click to view our Marketing Package!](#)

