



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **SEC AND KEITI ESTABLISH COMMON ENVIRONMENTAL LABELLING CRITERIA TO SUPPORT TRUSTED GREEN TRADE**

**Agreement on multipurpose cleaners reduces duplicate verification for Korean-certified companies seeking Singapore Green Label certification**

**Seoul, 19 May 2026** – The Singapore Environment Council (SEC) and the Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute (KEITI) have signed a mutual recognition agreement on common environmental labelling criteria for multipurpose cleaners, strengthening bilateral cooperation in credible green certification and sustainable trade.

The agreement was signed at KEITI's office in Eunpyeong-gu, Seoul, by Mr Nam Kwang-woo, President of KEITI, and Ms Isabella Huang-Loh, Chairman of SEC. Following the signing ceremony, both organisations also held discussions on future areas of cooperation.

The development of the common criteria is a follow-up to the Korea-Singapore Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) on environmental labelling schemes signed in Singapore in June 2025. Under this latest agreement, both parties have formally agreed on criteria items for multipurpose cleaners that are assessed in the same manner under the Korea Ecolabelling Programme and the Singapore Green Label Scheme (SGLS).

With the common criteria in place, Korean companies certified under the Korea Ecolabelling Programme can have their existing certification results recognised for these agreed criteria items when applying for Singapore Green Label certification. This helps reduce duplicate verification requirements, making the certification process more efficient while maintaining environmental credibility and assurance.

For businesses seeking access to overseas markets, mutual recognition between credible ecolabelling schemes can play an important role in reducing administrative burden, supporting market confidence, and enabling more trusted movement of environmentally preferable products across borders.

*“Amid today’s VUCA world — marked by volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity — and against the backdrop of disruptions to global multilateral trade systems, international cooperation has become more critical than ever. Practical bilateral partnerships such as the Mutual Recognition Agreement between the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) and Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute (KEITI) help keep trade open, trusted and environmentally credible, while strengthening confidence in sustainable markets and global green trade,” said Ms Isabella Huang-Loh, Chairman, Singapore Environment Council.*

*“KEITI will continue to strengthen international cooperation on environmental labelling to help certified companies improve their access to overseas markets,” said Mr Nam Kwang-woo, President of KEITI.*

Since 2002, KEITI has expanded international cooperation on environmental labelling through mutual recognition agreements with 12 major environmental labelling schemes, including those in Taiwan, Japan, China, Australia, and the United States.

A Mutual Recognition Agreement allows environmental labelling schemes from different countries to recognise each other’s systems and, where applicable, conduct necessary verification procedures on behalf of one another for applicants seeking environmental label certification in the partner country.

Information on international cooperation under the Korea Ecolabelling Programme and related agreements is available on EcoSquare, the integrated online platform for environmental technology and information: [www.ecosq.or.kr](http://www.ecosq.or.kr)

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## **About KEITI**

Korea Environmental Industry & Technology Institute (KEITI) was established to advance environmental technologies, foster Korea's green industry, and encourage eco-friendly lifestyles. As a trusted expert institution, KEITI supports climate action, circular economy efforts, sustainable consumption and production, and environmental certification systems, including the Korea Eco-Label and Environmental Product Declaration programmes. Through its work with public and private sector partners, KEITI contributes to environmental well-being and sustainable development.

For details, please visit <https://www.keiti.re.kr>

## **About the Singapore Environment Council**

Established in 1995, the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) is a non-governmental organisation dedicated to nurturing environmental responsibility. In line with the national targets outlined in the Singapore Green Plan 2030, SEC focuses on raising public awareness on sustainability issues and fosters capability and capacity building through Public-Private-People partnerships. As a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation, SEC is approved under the Institution of Public Character (IPC), which extends tax exemption to donors.

For details, please visit <https://www.sec.org.sg>