

## MEDIA INFORMATION

Singapore, 8 July 2019

### **VFS Global launches France Visa Application Centre in Singapore**

- The centrally located application centre will have six counters to serve the applicants
- Extended operating hours to offer greater ease to applicants

VFS Global, the world's largest outsourcing and technology services specialist for governments and diplomatic missions worldwide, today expanded its presence in Singapore with the launch of a state-of-the-art France visa application centre (VAC).

The new centre, located in the city's central business district (Anson Road), will offer a greater convenience to applicants. Besides the convenience of location, the centre also brings additional flexibility to applicants due to a longer window of operations. The centre will operate from 8am to 5pm on weekdays. Applicants can make submissions from 8am until 3pm while passports can be collected back from 1pm to 4pm. Applicants can also opt for a courier service for passports in case they do not wish to collect it personally from the centre.

The centre has six dedicated counters to serve the visa applicants. The France visa application centre team has members who can converse in Chinese and English besides French to facilitate the applicants. The centre houses an internet kiosk and also offers document printing and photocopying services. Applicants can receive real-time update on the status of their application through a special SMS and email alerts. A dedicated bilingual- French and English- web site is also in place to facilitate information regarding the visa application.

The France VAC will cater to thousands of expats and residents in the city. It will also receive applications from Fiji and Papua New Guinea. The Singapore market alone receives approximately 9,000 visa applications for France a year. Commenting on the launch, Jiten Vyas, Regional Group COO- Africa, CIS and Eastern Europe, Europe, Americas and Australasia, VFS Global, said, "We are delighted to launch this modern visa application centre to serve the France visa applicants. We are thankful to the French Embassy for partnering with us in Singapore".

VFS Global has been a trusted partner for the government of France since 2004. It today serves France in 21 countries with a network of 70 application centres. His Excellency Marc ABENSOUR, The Ambassador of France to Singapore said the Embassy is pleased to join hands with VFS Global to outsource the visa application process. "The French government has had a long-standing association with VFS Global and we are extending this partnership today. I am certain that VFS Global will offer an excellent service to the applicants and help in further expanding the number of visitors," he added.



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**Key features of the centre include:**

- Passport courier back service
- SMS and email alerts for real-time status tracking
- Internet kiosk, document printing and photocopying services
- Staffs versed in Chinese, French and English

**About VFS Global**

VFS Global is the world's largest outsourcing and technology services specialist for governments and diplomatic missions worldwide. VFS Global has Swiss parentage and is a portfolio company of EQT, a leading global private equity firm headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden. With 3,093 Application Centres, operations in 147 countries across five continents and over 200 million applications processed as on 30 May 2019, VFS Global is the trusted partner of 63 client governments.

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