

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

**NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING KICKS OFF
PUBLIC EDUCATION EFFORTS WITH NEW WEBSITE**
More Initiatives Lined Up To Address Problem Gambling

The National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) will initiate its public education efforts with the launch of a new website, www.ncpg.org.sg.

The website contains a wealth of information on problem or addictive gambling - from how to identify the warning signs, where to seek help and treatment, to the latest news and events. True stories of those whose lives have been affected by problem gambling will also be featured on the website.

Other public education efforts to be introduced include advertorials in the print media, radio talkshows and television info-ed programmes. The first of these is a 6-part advertorial in Lianhe Wanbao, which will start on 12 October 2005.

Mr Lim Hock San, Chairman of the National Council on Problem Gambling, said, "Although a recent survey done by MCYS has shown that only a small minority of 2.1% may be at risk of being addicted to gambling, the Council recognises that more can be done to address this problem.

"We hope that with these new initiatives, more people would be aware of the consequences of excessive gambling and would be in the know of what the warning signs are and where to seek help for themselves or someone they know," said Mr Lim.

The National Council on Problem Gambling has also unveiled its logo. The logo and logo rationale are attached in Annex A.

The National Council on Problem Gambling was appointed as part of the national framework to address problem gambling. The Council's two-year term began on 31 August 2005.

The Council will provide advice and feedback to the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports (MCYS) on public education programmes to promote public awareness on problem gambling.

The Council will decide on funding applications for preventive and rehabilitative programmes. It will also assess and advise the Government on the effectiveness of treatment, counselling and rehabilitative programmes. The Council will also be empowered to decide on the applications for exclusion of persons from casinos, when the Casino Control Act is put in place.

Issued by:

National Council on Problem Gambling

The National Council on Problem Gambling Logo



The logo is a typographic symbol of the Council's mission to address problem gambling. The alphabet N consists of 2 connected parts and depicts the close partnership and collaboration between the Council and community to address the issue at a national level. The C, which represents the Council, is shown to cover the P (problem) and this signifies the Council's efforts to curb problem gambling.

Red is selected because it is the warmest of colours and symbolises the passion and energy of the Council, while black symbolises the pain that problem gambling brings to individuals, families and society as a whole. The letter N therefore consists of both colours to signify the passion and energy of our national efforts to fight problem gambling.