



EMBARGOED TILL 27 JULY 2011, 7PM

MEDIA RELEASE

MORE THAN 12,000 FOREIGNERS APPLIED FOR CASINO SELF-EXCLUSION

More than 12,000 foreigners have taken up casino Self-Exclusion since the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) announced last November that foreigners living and working in Singapore can apply for exclusions to protect themselves from falling prey to problem gambling.

As at 30 June 2011, there are 18,049 Self-Exclusions: of which 30% (5,389) are Singaporeans and PRs and 70% (12,660) are foreigners.

For the same period, there are 613 Family Exclusion Orders. Third-Party Exclusions as at end of June 2011 is 28,516. Third-Party Exclusions cover undischarged bankrupts and recipients of public assistance.

Commenting on the latest exclusion statistics, Mr Lim Hock San, Chairman of the NCPG said: "NCPG is heartened by the response to Self-Exclusion. Casino exclusions are an important safeguard not only for problem gamblers, but for the financially vulnerable as well. Employers can facilitate their foreign workers to apply, and may go to the NCPG website."

NCPG had sent letters earlier this year to employers of foreign workers and foreign domestic workers to inform them that voluntary Self-Exclusion is available. Foreign workers can also apply for casino Self-Exclusion at Migrant Workers Centre at 62, Rangoon Road, Singapore 218352. Alternatively, applicants can also download the Self-Exclusion application form from the NCPG website, fill in their particulars and send the completed form by hand or by registered post to the NCPG office.

The Family Exclusion application has also been streamlined last year to cut down the processing time from 6 weeks to 2 weeks. Applicants can call the NCPG helpline at 1800-6-668-668 or visit Tanjong Pagar Family Service Centre at 298 Tiong Bahru Road, Central Plaza, #03-06 Singapore 168730. Tanjong Pagar Family Service Centre is NCPG's appointed agency to handle Family Exclusion applications.

About the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG)

The NCPG was appointed in August 2005 as part of Singapore's national framework to address problem gambling. Under the Casino Control Act, NCPG has the statutory authority to decide Self, Family and Third-Party casino exclusions. NCPG also provides advice and feedback to the Government on problem gambling, and conducts public education and research to address problem gambling.

Stop Problem Gambling. Know The Line. Call 1800-6-668-668. For more information, please see www.ncpg.org.sg.

Media Contact:

Mr. Chung Sang Pok
National Council on Problem Gambling
510, Thomson Road, #12-05/06
SLF Building
Singapore 298135
Tel: 6354-7073
HP: 9672-4112
Email: chung_sang_pok@mcys.gov.sg