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US-Singapore FTA Negotiations, 2 February 2002

During the week of January 28-February 1, Singapore and the United States conducted the sixth round of negotiations on a free trade agreement (FTA).

Between the fifth round, which was held during the week of October 22-26, 2001, and the sixth round, the two teams conducted negotiations on specific areas by video-conference and email.

The sixth round was comprehensive, covering almost the entire range of areas to be included in the FTA.

During this sixth round, significant progress was made on rules of origin, trade in goods and general services, financial services, telecommunication services, e-commerce, government procurement, investment and intellectual property rights. Discussions continued on customs cooperation, particularly concerning textile and apparel trade.

The two sides will continue negotiations on these areas during the coming weeks, either by separate face-to-face meetings or by video-conferences.

The United States and Singapore agreed to convene the seventh round of negotiations during the week of March 11, 2002 in London.

**MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
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