

## Executive Summary

This Task Force report addresses the research question of “How can Singapore and Canada improve their bilateral relationship through cooperating on key Arctic issues?” Specifically, we focus on policy recommendations in the issue areas of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs), Biodiversity, Oil Pollution, Search and Rescue (SAR), and Education. These issue areas have been picked based on their pertinence in the Arctic environment, relating to the current climate crisis and problems caused by its impact.

Firstly, our Task Force conducted an in-depth contextual research on Arctic problems and communicated with the Canadian High Commission (CHC) to better understand Canada’s concerns as well as their past and current efforts in contributing to addressing these issues. A deeper analysis of current Canadian-Singapore relations reveals a lack of collaborative efforts in the Arctic despite both countries possessing common goals.

In the first problem area, SLCPs, the issue of this category of Greenhouse gases (GHG) is especially problematic in the Arctic due to the issue of Arctic amplification. We will suggest using an information-sharing cooperative mechanism and promoting education on SLCPs to enhance the management of them and promote collaboration between Singapore and Canada. Secondly, biodiversity is always under constant threat with climate change and the rapid melting of ice. This section proposes a dual 2-pronged strategy targeting a lack of “Contingency” with the biodiversity framework and an expansion of current ongoing biodiversity projects to facilitate bilateral cooperation between Singapore and Canada. Thirdly, given the grave effects of oil pollution in the Arctic environment, this task force proposes a prevention strategy where Singapore and Canada work together to promote a shift to the alternative ship fuel of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). Fourthly, SAR is an area of increasing challenge to Canada, and whereby there is no existing collaboration between the two countries. This section proposes two policy recommendations, port development and research collaboration, areas where Singapore can contribute significantly to alleviate SAR challenges in the Canadian Arctic. Lastly, education will serve as a long-term policy recommendation in order to raise awareness about Arctic issues to the international community and to provide greater educational opportunities and exchanges to students from the Arctic, Canada and Singapore.