J Y Pillay reappointed as Chairman of Presidential Council of Advisers

The appointment and swearing in ceremony was conducted at the Istana on Friday (Jan 2). It was attended by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and members of the Presidential Council of Advisers, the President’s Office said.

Mr Pillay was also reappointed as a member of the CPA. Both appointments are for a further period of four years, with effect from Jan 2, 2015, the President’s Office said.

In addition, Mr Pillay was sworn in and reappointed as the Person Exercising the Functions of the Office of the President for a further period of four years, with effect from Jan 2, 2015.

The appointment and swearing in ceremony was conducted at the Istana. It was attended by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and members of the CPA, according to the release.

The CPA, formed in 1962, advises the President in various areas, including safeguarding the past reserves of the Government, and key appointments in the public service. The President is obliged to consult the CPA before he vetoes the budget of the Government and key Government-linked bodies, as well as the appointments of key personnel in public service and key Government-linked bodies.

The CPA comprises six members and two alternate members. Two members are appointed by the President, two are nominated by the Prime Minister, one is nominated by the Chief Justice, and one is nominated by the Chairman of the Public Service Commission.

One alternate member is appointed by the President. The other is appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister, in consultation with the Chief Justice and Chairman of the Public Service Commission. Members are appointed on a six-year term or their first appointment. They are eligible for reappointment for further terms of four years each. Alternate members are also eligible for reappointment for further terms of four years each, according to the President’s Office.

Mr Pillay was first appointed to the CPA on Jan 2, 2001. He has served as Chairman of the CPA since Sep 2, 2005. As Chairman of the CPA, Mr Pillay will exercise the functions of the President’s office in the President’s absence. If he is unavailable, this duty falls on the Speaker of Parliament.

The other CPA members are Mr S Dhammalingam, Mr P’adhi Shakti Shanker Bunker Mohideen, Mr Goh Chok Toh, Mr Ong Tze Chien, and Mr Lee Seng Choon. The two alternate members are Mr Lim Chwee Choh and Mr Stephen Lee Ching Yen.

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