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## **2021 SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT SECURITIES (SGS) ISSUANCE CALENDAR AND ENHANCEMENTS TO MINI-AUCTIONS**

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### **2021 SGS Issuance Calendar**

The 2021 SGS issuance calendar has been published on the MAS website (<https://www.mas.gov.sg/bonds-and-bills/auctions-and-issuance-calendar>).

2 In the past five years, outstanding SGS bonds have grown steadily at an average rate of around 7% per annum. The increase in outstanding SGS bonds helped to meet demand for high quality assets and improve secondary market liquidity.

3 Market conditions in 2020 have been supportive of SGS demand. In particular, the uncertain global economic backdrop amid the COVID-19 pandemic and accommodative monetary policies have led to an increased demand for high quality assets from financial institutions. A similar pace of growth for SGS bonds is expected in 2021, subject to prevailing market conditions. MAS will calibrate issuance sizes to facilitate an efficient and liquid secondary market.

### **Enhancements to Mini-auctions**

4 In 2015, mini-auctions of SGS bonds were introduced to allow MAS to address instances of unexpected strong demand for bonds outside the regular auction schedule. Mini-auctions are re-openings of SGS bonds, and the maximum size of mini-auctions was set at S\$1 billion.

5 Since its introduction, the average issuance sizes at SGS auctions have grown. In response to feedback from market participants, we will increase the maximum issuance size at mini-auctions from S\$1 billion to S\$1.5 billion in 2021. This would allow greater flexibility to address unexpected strong demand in tandem with the growth of the SGS market. Other features<sup>1</sup> of mini-auctions remain the same.

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<sup>1</sup> The dates of potential mini-auctions are published in the annual issuance calendar. If MAS decides not to conduct a mini-auction, it will make the announcement one month before what would otherwise have been the issuance date. Should MAS decide to conduct a mini-auction, it will announce the bond to be re-opened one month before its issuance date. Like other regular auctions, the issuance size will be announced five business days before the mini-auction date.



## **Update on the Singapore Savings Bond (SSB) Programme**

6 The SSB programme was launched in 2015 to offer individuals a safe, long-term and flexible product to meet their savings needs. At its launch, we announced that the programme would be in place for at least five years.

7 Since its inception, the SSB programme has been well-received and has grown steadily. About 120,000 individuals hold more than S\$5.6 billion of SSB as at 1 October 2020. Given the positive reception over the past five years, we will maintain the SSB programme to meet the savings needs of individual investors.