



Department for
Business, Innovation,
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The Rt Hon Liam Byrne MP
Chair, Business, Innovation, Science and Trade Committee
House of Commons
London
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21 September 2026

Dear Liam,

I am writing to inform the Business, Innovation, Science and Trade Committee of the launch of UK-Singapore Pharmaceutical Good Manufacturing Practice Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) negotiations.

This follows our commitment to new MRAs in the Trade Strategy, building on existing UK MRAs with partners such as the USA, Australia, and Switzerland.

A conformity assessment MRA is a treaty which reduces non-tariff barriers in specific goods sectors such as life sciences. A Pharmaceutical Good Manufacturing Practice MRA with Singapore would promote bilateral pharmaceuticals trade by removing duplicative inspections, thus saving businesses time and money while retaining high UK standards. It would also enhance regulatory collaboration between the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency and Singapore's Health Sciences Authority.

I have also written to the Chair of the International Agreements Committee, and the Prime Minister's Trade Envoy to Singapore. I shall write again to advise of further relevant updates, including in the event the UK and Singapore reach a provisional conclusion.

Yours sincerely,

LORD SARWAR
Minister of State for Trade
Department for Business, Innovation, Science & Trade