

Singapore joins Canal neutrality protocol; cargo deal with Tocumen

When	No date given
Where	Panama / Singapore
Source	casasolution
Published	2026-10-09 12:15-05:00
Discovered	2026-10-09 13:00-05:00
Link	https://casasolution.com/singapore-joins-the-panama-canal-neutrality-treaty-and-signs-an-air-cargo-deal-with-tocumen/

Summary

During President Mulino's 3-5 October state visit to Singapore, Singapore agreed to adhere to the Panama Canal neutrality protocol and SATS signed an air-cargo memorandum with Tocumen airport.

Details (summary of the article)

Panama's president José Raúl Mulino made a state visit to Singapore from 3 to 5 October 2026, and on the final day Prime Minister Lawrence Wong said Singapore will join the protocol to the 1977 treaty guaranteeing the permanent neutrality of the Panama Canal, which keeps it open to ships of all nations. That brings the list of adhering countries past the 40 reached in May, when Austria, Belgium, Portugal and Switzerland signed. Singapore framed the move as support for maritime security and freedom of navigation under the UN Law of the Sea convention. The two leaders also witnessed a memorandum of understanding between Singapore aviation-services firm SATS and Tocumen International Airport to explore stronger air-cargo links, though it is only a memorandum with no investment figures. Separately, Foreign Minister Javier Martínez-Acha pitched Singaporean investors the government's 2025-2029 plan, including a multimillion-dollar road reactivation programme said to create over 7,000 jobs, a fourth bridge over the Canal, expansion of Tocumen's platform and of regional airports, ports, hospitals and the power interconnection with Colombia. No commitments were announced, but companies were invited to the Latin America and Caribbean Economic Forum Panama hosts in January 2027. Mulino also toured the automated Tuas mega-port as a model for Panama's logistics plans. Reported by Casa Solution, citing La Prensa, Telemetro, La Estrella de Panamá and Eco TV.