



**SPEECH BY MR BENEDICT CHEONG, CEO, TEMASEK FOUNDATION AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF TEMASEK FOUNDATION - ENERGY MARKET AUTHORITY (EMA) PROGRAMME ON TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR ELECTRICAL WIRING SAFETY IN BUILDINGS AND HOUSEHOLDS IN CAMBODIA PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA ON 15 JULY 2015**

Your Excellency, Mr. Suy Sem, Minister for Mines and Energy, Cambodia,

Senior leaders from the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Cambodia:

- Mr. Ith Praing, Secretary of State,
- Mr. Tun Lean, Under Secretary of State,
- Mr. Victor Jona, Director-General,

Mr Kevin Cheok, Singapore Ambassador to Cambodia,

Mr Bernard Nee, Assistant Chief Executive, Energy Market Authority,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

I am pleased to join the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Cambodia and the Energy Market Authority of Singapore to witness the successful completion of our joint training programme for the electrical industry in Cambodia.

2 We are honoured to have had the opportunity to partner the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Cambodia on this programme to develop electrical safety standards on electrical wiring and safety for buildings in Cambodia. Temasek Foundation is pleased that our grant of about US\$226,500 (S\$306,000) has gone a long way in providing support for the exchange of technical knowledge and ideas between senior leaders and energy officials from Singapore and Cambodia. The exhibition panels and videos of activities put up on display today show the hard work and dedication of all involved.

3 Just 6 months ago, in January this year, I was in Phnom Penh to witness the opening of a Green Building training centre set up by the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction. The Centre promotes knowledge in “green” building design and construction practices among building specialists in Cambodia. This Green Building training centre was a follow up to a first programme that Temasek Foundation worked on with the same Ministry focused on land regulations, urban development and building regulations and codes.

4 All three programmes have something in common – they enhance the urban management and development capabilities of Phnom Penh. Because cities in Asia have been growing so quickly, governments are under great pressure to solve problems of rapid urbanisation. These problems include housing, transportation, water, waste management.

5 Building capabilities in urban management and public administration has been an increasing priority for Temasek Foundation, and our funding for these programmes has increased tremendously. To-date, we have supported 67 such programmes across Asia, and we will continue to commit more funds and support more programmes in this area.

6 Besides urban management and public administration, Temasek Foundation also supports programmes that build capabilities in education, health care, disaster-response, and build networks of friendship and cooperation among people in Asia. Since our inception in May 2007, we now support **281** programmes across Asia, of which 11 programmes are in Cambodia.

7 This programme would not have succeeded without the dedication of many people. I thank Your Excellency Minister Suy Sem for your leadership and support for the programme, and to your team and participants from the Ministry of Mines and Energy for their hard work. Thank you also, to our partner, the Energy Market Authority of Singapore for your commitment in delivering the programme. This is just the beginning of a journey, and I hope it will continue to make a meaningful impact for the Cambodian people.

8 Thank you.