



**SPEECH BY MR BENEDICT CHEONG, CEO, TEMASEK FOUNDATION AT THE MOU SIGNING CEREMONY OF TEMASEK FOUNDATION - SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC TVET (CDIO) PROGRAMME IN MONGOLIA
ULANBAATAR, MONGOLIA ON 20 OCTOBER 2015**

Your Excellency, Mr. Luvsannyam Gantumur, Minister for Education, Culture and Science, Mongolia,

Ms. Baavgai Nasanbayar, Director, Department of Strategic Policy and Planning, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, Mongolia,

Mr Baatar Orchibat, President, Mongolian University of Science and Technology,

Dr. Bat-Erdene, President, The National University of Mongolia,

Mr. Lim Peng Hun, Deputy Principal, Singapore Polytechnic,

Honourable guests from the Mongolian University of Science and Technology, the National University of Mongolia, and the Mongolian University of Life Sciences,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

Just three months ago, in July 2015, I was in Ulaanbaatar to commemorate the successful completion of a Technical and Vocational Education and Training programme in partnership with the Ministry of Labour. Today, I am honoured to be back in Ulaanbaatar to witness a new partnership between the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science in Mongolia, Singapore Polytechnic, and Temasek Foundation.

2 Temasek Foundation is very committed to supporting programmes that build capabilities in Technical and Vocational Education and Training, or TVET, in short. We commit 25% of our funding to TVET programmes. Besides TVET, we support capability-building programmes in health care, urban management and public administration, disaster-response capability. We also support programmes that promote exchange and networking among leaders and youth leaders. All these programmes contribute towards our aim of supporting the human and social capital development of communities in Asia.

3 All over Asia, including Mongolia, governments are enhancing their TVET systems and integrating TVET education into their national education frameworks. We partnered the Ministry of Labour of Mongolia on two training programmes to enhance skills development and better align training with industry needs.

4 Now, we have the honour of working with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia to develop a “Conceive – Design – Implement – Operate” educational framework to transform the teaching and learning methodology in engineering education. I am excited to know that the ministry has selected three leading universities in Mongolia to participate in this programme. I look forward to seeing how the participants from the universities apply their learning from this programme so as to enhance the learning experiences of students in Mongolia.

5 We are grateful for the Honourable Minister’s leadership and commitment towards this programme. We also want to thank the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science of Mongolia for contributing **US\$245,000** to the programme, to complement Temasek Foundation’s grant of around **US\$466,000 (S\$641,745)**. Your strong support of the programme and the hard work and dedication of the officials of the ministry and the leaders of the universities will ensure the success of the programme. .

6 I am also grateful to the team from Singapore Polytechnic who has worked hard alongside our Mongolian friends. The team is excited about starting the first workshop today. I am also sure that Singapore Polytechnic will learn from the Mongolian universities as much as the Mongolian universities will learn from Singapore Polytechnic. So I wish all participants and facilitators a meaningful joint learning journey.

7 Thank you.