



**SPEECH BY MR BENEDICT CHEONG, CEO, TEMASEK FOUNDATION AT THE LAUNCH OF THE TEMASEK FOUNDATION – ITE EDUCATION SERVICES TVET SPECIALISTS PROGRAMME IN THAILAND  
ON 4 MARCH 2016 IN PHUKET, THAILAND**

Dr Chaipreuk Sereerak, Secretary General, Office of the Vocational Education Commission, Kingdom of Thailand,

Mrs Jerdruedee Chinvaroj, Director, Bureau of Vocational Education Standards & Qualification, Office of the Vocational Education Commission, Kingdom of Thailand,

Dr Suthep Yongyuth, Director, Phang Nga Technical College, Kingdom of Thailand

Mr Tan Seng Hua, Chief Executive Officer, ITE (Education Services), Singapore,

Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen,

*Sawasdee Krab*, Good Morning!

In 2009, Temasek Foundation, ITE (Education Services) of Singapore and the Office of the Vocational Education Commission (OVEC) of Thailand collaborated in our first partnership. This was a knowledge and expertise exchange in technical and vocational education and training or (TVET). After the success of the first programme, we extended our partnership to a second programme in 2013. I am pleased to know that the training for these two programmes have been successful.

2 From the first two programmes, a total of 180 TVET leaders and master trainers successfully completed the training. These 180 participants went on to share their knowledge and experiences with more than 1000 of their fellow colleagues. Beyond that, they have implemented changes in their respective institutions. This included changes to curriculum, pedagogy and assessment methods.

3 Today, we celebrate another milestone in our joint partnership. In light of the positive impact achieved by the first two programmes, I am pleased to announce Temasek Foundation's support of a third programme with Office of the Vocational Education Commission and ITE (Education Services). The foundation will commit a grant of about US\$395,000 (S\$555,555) towards a training programme for 90 TVET

specialists to develop their capability in pedagogy development for skills-based training. This will be closely aligned the national-level qualification framework for Thailand and to the ASEAN TVET standards.

4 Some of you may be wondering why do we support such programmes? Temasek Foundation was set up in 2007 by Temasek Holdings, a Singapore investment company, with the objective of supporting the development of human and social capital of communities in Asia. Our programmes focus on building capability in health care, education, urban management, public administration, and disaster-preparedness. We also support programmes that promote positive networks of cooperation. We believe this will contribute to a more prosperous, a more connected Asia.

5 Asia continues to develop at a growing pace. This places enormous pressure on infrastructure, and more importantly on human resources. We need to continuously develop skilled manpower in order to better meet the emerging demands.

6 To date, Temasek Foundation has supported more than 300 programmes in Asia, among which, capability building programmes in TVET stand at 24% of the total foundation funding, or 62 programmes. The TVET programmes cover a wide spectrum of topics ranging from policies and systems, leadership and management, to pedagogy and curriculum. We hope that by learning and sharing with each other in such programmes, we can build a shared future in Asia together.

7 On behalf of Temasek Foundation, I thank everyone who has made the effort to plan and implement this programme, especially our partners – **OVEC** and **ITEES**, for your continued leadership and support for the programme. To all the participants, I wish you a meaningful learning experience. I hope that Thailand and Singapore TVET institutions will continue to network and learn from each other.

8 *Khobkhun Krab*, Thank you.