



**SPEECH BY MR GOH GEOK KHIM, CHAIRMAN, TEMASEK FOUNDATION AT THE OPENING OF THE
“TEMASEK FOUNDATION HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVES IN ASIA LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME” (TF
HEAL)
5 OCTOBER 2015 IN SINGAPORE**

Professor Ivy Ng, Group Chief Executive Officer, SingHealth,

Professor Philip Choo, Group Chief Executive Office, National Healthcare Group,

Associate Professor Chua Yeow Leng and Doctor Eugene Soh,
Co-Chairpersons of the Temasek Foundation Healthcare Executives in Asia Leadership
Programme,

Distinguished public health care leaders from Asia,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon to all of you.

I am pleased to join all of you today to commemorate the opening of the inaugural **“Temasek Foundation Healthcare Executives in Asia Leadership Programme”**. Through our partnership with SingHealth and the National Healthcare Group, we have been able to bring together distinguished health care leaders from the region to chart the journey ahead for health care in Asia.

2 Asia, the world’s largest continent, is home to some 4.5 billion people¹. As the population in Asia continues to grow, this will place immense pressure on basic services in our communities such as health care. Globally, health care institutions also have to keep pace with shifts in disease patterns, and at the same time keep health care

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia#Geography_and_climate

treatment adequate and affordable. I am sure all of you already know that these are just some of the many challenges that health care leaders face today.

3 The Temasek Foundation HEAL Programme was created with the purpose of bringing like-minded health care leaders together on a common platform to discuss, share and exchange knowledge and experiences. We believe that this programme will be a positive start to building networks of exchange, learning and cooperation among health care institutions in the region.

4 Today, we warmly welcome 50 health care leaders and public officials to Singapore to participate in the first workshop of the Temasek Foundation HEAL Programme. These 50 leaders are among 100 officials who are expected to participate in the programme over the next three years. You will focus on health care governance, leadership, and management. I am confident that there will be many meaningful discussions among so many distinguished speakers and leaders, and this will bring long-term benefits to the communities in Asia. This spirit of cross-learning and sharing is what Temasek Foundation hopes to inspire through our programmes.

5 In May 2007, Temasek, a Singapore investment company, set up Temasek Foundation to support the human and social development of communities in Asia. Since then, the foundation has committed about S\$160 million towards 288 programmes across Asia. The grants support programmes in health care, education, urban management, public administration, disaster-response capability. Our grants also support programmes that promote positive networks of exchange and cooperation. All these programmes embody the idea of sharing and learning together as neighbours and friends in Asia. We believe that an Asia that grows together will be a more connected and prosperous Asia.

6 Temasek Foundation is pleased to provide a grant of S\$589,000 to establish this Temasek Foundation HEAL Programme. But this programme would not have been possible without the hard work of our partners, SingHealth and National Healthcare Group. We know that there are many individuals who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to shape and develop the programme. Many more will work just as tirelessly to run and deliver the programme over the next three years. Thank you for your commitment and passion, and more importantly, thank you for believing in the success of this programme.

7 I am sure you will have a meaningful learning experience over the next few days. Take the opportunity to network and make friends. I hope that there will also be opportunities in the future to work together on other initiatives beyond the programme. I commend all of you for the good work you do and wish you every success in continuing to provide the best possible health care for our communities.

8 Thank you.