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10 March 2009

MEDIA RELEASE

GOOD NEWS FOR ITE STUDENTS AMIDST THE GLOOM *NYC offers ITE bulk funding to assist in youth development and international volunteerism (IV) to support ITE's Global Education Programme*

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) can now look forward to a new partnership with the National Youth Council (NYC) with the signing of a strategic agreement that aims to support the development of its students in their Global Education Programme. Under the newly launched Youth Expedition Project-Programme Funding (YEP-PF), ITE would be empowered to evaluate and make grants to student-initiated overseas service learning project with a block funding from NYC.

2 To mark the start of this new partnership, there will be a **Letter of Agreement** signing ceremony between the ITE and NYC on Thursday, 12 March 2009 at the ITE Headquarters.

3 Mr Teo Ser Luck, Chairman of the National Youth Council and Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Community development, Youth and Sports and Transport, believes that this initiative will prove beneficial for the ITE students.

4 “It will allow ITE to plan for meaningful and longer term engagements with selected YEP host destinations. It will also increase the number of participants and enhance the quality of experience for our youth participants and overseas hosts. ITE can now capitalize on their youth's academic knowledge, training and skills to play a more active role in the

international volunteerism community at large with the certainty of the funding from NYC.”

5 Adding a new dimension to the existing Global Education Programme (GEP), that seeks to create opportunities for its students to have a global exposure, develop self-confidence and independence, the new YEP-PF shifts the empowerment of the grant process to enable the ITE to tailor its programme design to reap optimal benefits for its students.

6 The launch of the YEP-PF comes after similar efforts aimed at developing the youth and international volunteerism sector. ITE has been actively involved in YEP, with 42 implemented projects, the YEP has benefited some 1,000 youth in ITE since 2006. To meet the demands, the Request for Funding Proposal (RFP) was offered to ITE in 2008. The RFP funded 16 local and overseas projects of high service-learning quality. These projects displayed the quintessence of ITE’s internationally-recognized branding of “Hands-on, Minds-on, Hearts-on” College Education, as well as YEP’s objectives of nurturing confident and socially responsible youths who contribute to the local and overseas communities.

7 Your journalist and / or photographer / camera crew are cordially invited for the launch. The details are as follows:

Date : Thursday, 12 March 2009

Time : 10.00 am

Venue : ITE Headquarters
10 Dover Drive
Singapore 138683

8 We would appreciate it if you could contact Ms Norhana Hamdan, Executive Officer (Corporate Communications) at Tel: 6839 9122, or Email: Norhana_HAMDAN@pa.gov.sg by **Wednesday, 11 March 2009**, 6.00 pm to confirm your attendance.

About the National Youth Council

The National Youth Council (NYC) is the national coordinating body of youth affairs in Singapore. The NYC aims to develop a vibrant, highly-connected and self-sustaining youth sector so as to nurture World-Ready Youth. The NYC is part of the People's Association Network.

This media release is transmitted via telebox by the Corporate Communications Section of the National Youth Council.

About the Institute of Technical Education

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE), Singapore, was established as a post-secondary education institution in 1992 under the Ministry of Education. ITE is a principal provider of career and technical education and key developer of national occupational skills certification and standards to enhance Singapore's workforce competitiveness. Under its "One ITE System, Three Colleges" Model of Education and Governance, ITE has three Colleges, comprising ITE College Central, ITE College East and ITE College West. For more information, please visit www.ite.edu.sg.

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**SIGNING OF LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN
INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION
AND
NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL**

Thursday, 12 March 2009

**Function Room, Level 1
ITE Headquarters
Dover Drive**

PROGRAMME

- 9.30 am – 9.55 am Arrival of guests
- 9.55 am Guests to be seated
- 10.00 am Welcome Address by
Mr Bruce Poh
Director & CEO, ITE
- Speech by Mr Teo Ser Luck
Senior Parliamentary Secretary
Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports &
Ministry of Transport & Chairman, National Youth Council
- Signing of Letter of Agreement
- 10.30 am Tour of Overseas Community Service Project Exhibition
- 1045 am Reception
- 11.15 am End of programme
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