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THAI EDUCATION MINISTRY LOOKS TO ITE FOR TRAINING OF TVET LEADERS
Temasek Foundation to provide S\$663,000 in funding for customised training programme

Some 400 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) leaders from Thailand are expected to benefit from a customised training programme developed by the Institute of Technical Education (ITE), Singapore.

2 The nine-day Leadership Training Programme in Singapore is one of three areas covered under a new five-year Collaboration Framework between ITE and the Office of Vocational Education Commission (OVEC), Ministry of Education, Thailand. ITE and OVEC will formally ink the agreement in a **Signing Ceremony** on **25 May 2009** at the **ITE Headquarters**, graced by His Excellency Nopadol Gunavibool, Thailand's Ambassador to Singapore, and Dr Siripan Choomnoom, Deputy Secretary-General of OVEC. The collaboration will also cover consultancy services and student exchanges.

3 Commencing 25 May 2009, the Leadership Training Programme is scheduled to be conducted in four batches of 20 participants each, over a two-year timeframe. The four groups of participants will, in turn, formulate action plans that contribute to their national TVET transformation, and impart what they have learnt to another 320 TVET leaders through sharing workshops back in Thailand. With the insights gained from the training programme, these TVET leaders will play an important role in helping OVEC enhance its TVET system and consolidate its 415 smaller colleges into 19 larger institutes.

4 Strengthening the management and training system and enhancing the teaching and learning environment in TVET colleges in Thailand will help graduates from these colleges to better enhance their knowledge and skills. The holistic efforts to uplift Thailand's TVET system will also include aligning the training programmes conducted in these colleges with Thailand's national manpower needs and forging closer partnerships with industry partners. These efforts will hopefully boost

employment opportunities for TVET graduates, which is even more pertinent now with the current economic slowdown.

5 The training programme is made possible with a S\$663,000 funding from Temasek Foundation, a non-profit philanthropic organisation anchored in Singapore. This is the first TVET programme which the foundation is supporting in Thailand.

6 Mr Goh Geok Khim, Chairman, Temasek Foundation, said: “Temasek Foundation is pleased to support this executive development programme for technical and vocational education leaders in Thailand. The capability-building programme supports the plans to enhance the standards of technical and vocational education training in Thailand, and this will better equip their workforce to meet the emerging needs of new industries.”

7 Mr Bruce Poh, Director & CEO, ITE, said: “ITE is pleased to share our experience and transformation journey with our counterparts from Thailand. I look forward to a long-term partnership with OVEC that will not only further strengthen our relationship, but also open avenues for more areas of cooperation that will mutually benefit ITE and OVEC. I would also like to thank Temasek Foundation for its support of the training programme, which will be delivered by ITE’s subsidiary, ITE Education Services Pte Ltd.”

Invitation to Media Members

8 Media members are cordially invited to cover the **ITE-OVEC Collaboration Framework Signing Ceremony** and the **launch of the Temasek Foundation-ITE Technical and Vocational Education and Training Programme in Thailand** on **Monday, 25 May 2009** at **0930 hours**. The Ceremony will be held at ITE Headquarters, 10 Dover Drive, Singapore 138683. The programme for the ceremony is at **Annex A** and the location map of ITE HQ is at **Annex B**.

9 To confirm your attendance or for further information / arrangements for interviews, please contact:

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About 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.

About Temasek Foundation

Temasek Foundation is a non-profit philanthropic organisation anchored in Singapore that seeks to contribute to sustainable growth and a bright future of hope and opportunities for people in Asia. The foundation works with partners to support programmes that develop people through health care, education and research, programmes that build bridges between peoples, programmes that build institutions of excellence through good governance and ethics, and programmes that rebuild lives and livelihoods affected by natural disasters.

About the Office of the Vocational Education Commission, Thailand

The Office of Vocational Education Commission (OVEC), formerly the Department of Vocational Education of the Ministry of Education, Thailand is a leading organisation that is responsible for developing Vocational and Technical Education (VTE) policy and standards, allocating resources and coordinating projects to promote VTE. Also, OVEC produces the required VTE manpower for labour market, self-employment, provides social services and facilitates poverty alleviation.

**COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK SIGNING CEREMONY BETWEEN
INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION, SINGAPORE AND
OFFICE OF THE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMISSION,
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, THAILAND**

AND

**LAUNCH OF TEMASEK FOUNDATION – INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION, SINGAPORE
TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMME IN THAILAND**

**MONDAY 25 MAY 2009, 0930 HOURS
FUNCTION ROOM, LEVEL 1, TOWER BLOCK
ITE HEADQUARTERS, 10 DOVER DRIVE**

Programme

- 0920 hrs Guests to be seated
- 0930 hrs Arrival of Special Guest, **HE Nopadol Gunavibool**
Ambassador of Thailand to Singapore
- 0935 hrs Welcome Address by Mr Bruce Poh,
Director & Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Technical Education
- Speech by Mr Goh Geok Khim,
Chairman, Temasek Foundation
- Speech by Dr Siripan Choomnoom
Deputy Secretary-General, Office of the Vocational Education Commission,
Ministry of Education, Thailand
- Signing of Letter of Grant between
Temasek Foundation and ITE Education Services Pte Ltd
- Signing of Collaboration Framework between
ITE and OVEC
- Photo-taking Session
- 1015 hrs Tea Reception

Map of ITE Headquarters

