

**Speech**  
**By Dr. Siripan Choomnoom**  
**OVEC Deputy Secretary-General**  
**At the Signing Ceremony at ITE HQ**  
**On 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2009**

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Your Excellency Nopadol Gunavibool, Ambassador of Thailand to Singapore  
Mr Bruce Poh, ITE Director and Chief Executive Officer  
Mr Goh Geok Khim, Chairman of Temasek Foundation  
Distinguished guests,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

A very good morning to you all.

Unfortunately the Secretary-General, Mr. Chaleyo Yooosimarak, has a prior engagement and therefore cannot be with us here today. I am however extremely happy to be here on his behalf. The Secretary-General has asked me to express his profound apologies to you all for his absence. He also wished me to extend his deepest gratitude to one and all, with a very special mention being given to the ITE Director, CEOs, and all staff.

Regarding this close and meaningful collaboration project between ITE, Singapore and OVEC, Thailand, OVEC is fully aware and feels strongly that the cooperation will be extremely beneficial for OVEC in terms of personnel development, especially for this particular group of college administrators at this initial stage.

Especially as we are now moving towards grouping small colleges to form bigger vocational education institutes, it will be very useful for them to learn from Singapore regarding their personal experiences in multi-campus institutes and indeed in leadership development.

As we were previously informed in Thailand, the budget to support the collaboration between the ITE and OVEC has been funded by Temasek Foundation. I really appreciate the enormous effort that ITE and Temasek Foundation have put into this project to make all activities possible.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express our great appreciation and sincere thanks to ITE and Temasek Foundation for their tremendous ongoing support with this collaboration over the next two years.

I would like to thank all those who have been, and will continue to be involved with this project and for making it all possible and so successful. I also would like to thank Your Excellency Nopadol Gunavibool, Ambassador of Thailand to Singapore for your time to attend the signing ceremony this morning.

My very sincerest thanks to you all.