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Singapore International Technical and Vocational Education and Training Conference (TVET 2015)

ADVANCING THE FUTURE SKILLS AGENDA

Themed *Advancing the Future Skills Agenda*, the Singapore International Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Conference 2015 will spotlight Singapore's TVET system and strengths. Organised by ITE and the five Polytechnics, and sponsored by Temasek Foundation, the 4-day Conference, from 3 to 6 November 2015 at Grand Copthorne Waterfront, Singapore, will share Singapore's expertise in vocational and technical education.

2 The **Opening Ceremony for TVET 2015** will be held on Tue 3 November 2015 at 8 am, and officiated by **Guest-of-Honour, Mr Ong Ye Kung, Acting Minister for Education (Higher Education and Skills) and Senior Minister of State for the Ministry of Defence**. More than 300 participants, comprising TVET leaders and policy makers, thought leaders, specialists, educationists and researchers in TVET from Asia and other parts of the world, will be attending this conference.

3 Besides the Keynote Speakers, the Conference will see speakers sharing their expertise through three tracks - Effective Leadership, Planning and Capabilities for Vocational Training and Education (VTE); Leading Practices in Curriculum Design and Delivery for Quality Outcomes; and Strategic Partnerships and

Collaborations. Speakers from Asia, Europe and USA will provide international perspectives on TVET. They include:

Keynote Speakers

- Mr Bernie Trilling, Founder & CEO of 21st Century Learning Advisors, and Co-author of *21st Century Skills: Learning for Life in Our Times*, USA
- Mr Ng Cher Pong, Chief Executive, Workforce Development Agency, Singapore

International Speakers

- Prof Dr Ursula Renold, Head of Division, Comparative Education System Research, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich and Chairman of the Board, University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Switzerland
- Dr Mick Starcevich, President, Kirkwood Community College, USA
- Dr Yang Jin, Director General, Central Institute for Vocational & Technical Education, Ministry of Education, People's Republic of China
- Prof Dr Karl-Otto Döbber, Director and CEO, Institute for Didactics and Teacher Training (Vocational Schools), Germany

Sharing Singapore's VTE Expertise

4 The development of a future based on skills mastery and lifelong learning is clearly on Singapore's national agenda. This year's Conference will further the message by The SkillsFuture Council, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam, and underline the importance of creating an integrated system for all to acquire or deepen skills and encourage lifelong learning.

5 TVET plays a significant role in shaping the economic and social development of Singapore, given that more than 60 per cent of our students are in post-secondary education in TVET. The second day of TVET Conference will be dedicated to a series of thematic sessions focusing on Singapore's expertise in VTE. Conducted by various local TVET institutions, speakers will share insights on topics ranging from

governance, planning, partnerships, and curriculum to pedagogy. Learning will be deepened through an Executive Immersion Programme (EIP), which allows participants to visit Lifelong Learning Institute, Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP), Ngee Ann Polytechnic (NP), Republic Polytechnic (RP), Singapore Polytechnic (SP) and Temasek Polytechnic (TP), to witness how a practice-oriented curriculum is carried out.

Shaping the Global Skills Landscape

6 TVET 2015 seeks to share Singapore's learning and provide an opportunity for participants to exchange challenges, ideas and perspectives in coping with the future economic and social needs.

7 Said Mr Bruce Poh, Director & CEO, ITE and Advisor, TVET 2015, "In the face of higher global competition and technological change, the challenges of upskilling the workforce through TVET is a real one. This Conference provides a timely platform for TVET policy makers and practitioners to learn from one another. By engaging in active dialogue, we hope TVET leaders and practitioners will be able to see TVET through different lenses. We also hope that countries, institutions and individuals will be inspired to find new and innovative ways to meet future challenges in TVET to enhance social mobility and sustainable outcomes for their beneficiaries and citizens."

8 Mr Goh Geok Khim, Chairman, Temasek Foundation, the Sponsor Organisation for TVET 2015, said, "Supporting our belief in building human and social development, Temasek Foundation has funded some 61 TVET programmes all across Asia. Through this conference, we hope to bring together like-minded TVET leaders and professionals to share ideas, discuss challenges, and learn from each other to enhance best practices in TVET. With that in mind, I hope that the participants will bring home ideas that are applicable to the TVET systems in their home countries and improve the lives of their communities."

9 This is the second Singapore International Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Conference funded by Temasek Foundation. The first Conference took place in Singapore from 6 - 9 November 2012. Temasek Foundation has committed a grant of some S\$536,500 towards this conference, which covers sponsorship of conference fees for participants from Asia.

Invitation to Media

10 Members of the media are invited to the Opening Ceremony of TVET 2015 and report on the Conference. For confirmation on attendance and interview/photography arrangements, please contact the following:

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About Institute of Technical Education, Singapore

The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) is a post-secondary education institution established in **1992** under the Ministry of Education. As a principal provider of career and technical education, and a key developer of national occupational skills certification and standards, ITE's **Mission** is to create **opportunities** for students and adult learners to acquire skills, knowledge and values for employability and lifelong learning. ITE's **Vision** is to be A **Trailblazer** in Career and Technical Education. Our **Values** are **Integrity, Teamwork, Excellence** and **Care**. ITE comprises the ITE Headquarters and three ITE Colleges - College Central, College East and College West.

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 build people through health care and education, programmes that build bridges between people, programmes that build institutions of excellence through governance and ethics, and programmes that rebuild lives and livelihoods affected by natural disasters.

For more information, visit www.temasekfoundation.org.sg

Released on 28 October 2015

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Tuesday 3 Nov 2015	Conference Day 1 - Opening Ceremony
7:15 am	Registration (<i>Guests to be seated by 7.55 am</i>)
8:15 am	Welcome Remarks by Mr Bruce Poh Director & Chief Executive Officer Institute of Technical Education (ITE), Singapore
	Remarks by Mr Goh Geok Khim Chairman Temasek Foundation, Singapore
	Opening Address by Guest-of-Honour Mr Ong Ye Kung Acting Minister for Education and Senior Minister of State for the Ministry of Defence
	Performance by Students from Institute of Technical Education
8:50 am	Reception
9:45 am	Conference commences