

## Media Advisory

### Release of Ministries' Addenda to President's Address by MOE, MOM, MTI, PMO (MAS), PMO (NRF)

The following Ministries have released their Addenda to the President's address today: MOE, MOM, MTI, PMO (MAS) and PMO (NRF)

2. At the Opening of the 13th Parliament on 15 January 2016, President Tony Tan Keng Yam spoke about the Government's efforts to **renew our economy so as to provide Hope and Opportunities for All.**

3. Our economy is at a turning point. We expect to grow more slowly in the next half century as our economy enters a more mature phase. The improvements we will see in our lives will be less dramatic. We will face issues of an ageing population, limited labour and land, as well as increasing global competition. Restructuring is necessary but will entail dislocations. The Ministries have outlined the following to ensure that Singapore remains a nation where dreams are built and aspirations can be fulfilled.

- a) The Committee on the Future Economy will develop strategies to ensure that our economic progress continues to benefit all Singaporeans
- b) We will continue to invest in education at all levels, from pre-school to life-long, so that there are always pathways upwards
- c) We will continue to invest in SkillsFuture so that Singaporeans are ready and equipped for jobs of the future
- d) We will create more diverse and inclusive opportunities for our people with different strengths to progress and grow in their careers

4. Some of the key initiatives that the media may wish to note are as follows:

#### Ministry of Education

- a) Reduce excessive focus on academic results.
  - At the primary education level, strengthen programmes to develop interests in arts, music and sports
  - Stronger emphasis on outdoor education
- b) Develop more pathways. At tertiary level:
  - SIT and UniSIM will launch more applied degree programmes
  - IHLs to increase emphasis on holistic selection practices for admissions
- c) Provide more lifelong learning possibilities through SkillsFuture

#### Ministry of Manpower

- a) Strengthen the Singaporean core in the workforce
  - Fair consideration for jobs and opportunities for leadership development and growth
- b) Enable Singaporeans of all ages to build fulfilling careers

- Roll out Sectoral Manpower Plans
- Assist companies to create quality jobs by embracing productivity and innovation
- Support employers to re-design jobs, processes and workplaces to fully tap on the experience and contributions of all workers

#### Ministry of Trade and Industry

- a) Develop and sustain growth in clusters where Singapore has competitive advantages, and where there are global opportunities, to provide good jobs for Singaporeans
- b) Support companies in their transformation and growth
  - Nurture start-ups and help SMEs transform to tap into growth clusters, to create and add value to the economy
  - Support local companies in their internalisation efforts, to grow and soar overseas

#### Prime Minister's Office, Monetary Authority of Singapore

- a) Harness technology to build a Smart Financial Centre that is vibrant, innovative and efficient
- b) Develop digital and mobile payments that are swift, simple and secure
- c) Foster strong Singapore core in the financial sector

#### Prime Minister's Office, National Research Foundation

- a) Continue commitment to research, innovation and enterprise
  - \$19b will be set aside for the Research, Innovation and Enterprise (RIE) 2020 Plan to support research, build up the innovation capacity of our companies and address our national challenges.

5. In addition in line with our commitment to building a **Caring Community**, the following Ministry has also outlined the following in their addenda:

#### Ministry of Manpower

- a) Ensuring Singaporeans' peace of mind in retirement years
  - Enhance the flexibility and adequacy of the CPF system
  - Implement the Silver Support Scheme
- b) Achieving fair treatment and safer working environment for all
  - Expand the suite of dispute resolution services for workers and employers
  - Step up tripartite efforts to enhance workplace safety and health
  - Enhance protection of injured workers