

**Media Release**

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**TEMASEK FOUNDATION GRANTS S\$1.5 M TO AID HAINAN  
NURSING TRAINING RUN BY NANYANG POLYTECHNIC**

***MOU between Nanyang Polytechnic International and Hainan Public  
Health Bureau aims to raise nursing standards and healthcare  
capabilities***

Singapore: Standards of healthcare in Hainan, China are set to improve as Temasek Foundation (TF) announced its grant of over S\$1.5m to train senior Hainan health officials, nurse educators and clinical nurses over two years. Training will be provided by Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) and administered by NYP International (NYPi), NYP's international arm.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed today aims to raise healthcare and nursing standards in Hainan, and build a reservoir of nursing trainers for skills transfer. The MOU was signed between Mr Lin Cheng Ton, Chief Executive Officer of NYPi and Ms Sui Zhi Ye, Deputy Director of Public Health Bureau of Hainan Province.

The programme will train 156 Hainan healthcare staff in Singapore at NYP's School of Health Sciences. Training has already commenced with a team of eight senior Hainan officials in NYP for a one-week study visit in early March.

The programme will help the Hainan Public Health Bureau (HPHB) to acquire new nursing management practices and nursing training pedagogy, and to develop more nursing specialists in critical care, emergency and perioperative nursing.

The programme, designed to help Hainan's nursing professionals to develop and build their own self-sustaining capabilities, marks Temasek Foundation's first funding for a healthcare-related programme.

Apart from this MOU, a separate ceremony will be held in Hainan on 19 March to mark the launch of this project.

### **A Comprehensive Training Programme**

The programme, jointly developed by TF and NYPi, aims to build up a reservoir of nursing trainers who will in turn develop and localise the training curriculum. They will also be transferring their skills and knowledge in identified specialist areas to at least 10% of Hainan's 11,000 strong nursing population two years after the programme.

To ensure maximum impact, the programme will kick-off with a series of training targeted at Hainan's healthcare leadership. Since early March, a team of eight senior healthcare officials has been in Singapore for a one-week study visit to gain a better understanding of the Singapore model of nursing education and its healthcare system. There will also be Executive Training programmes for management staff in 2008 and 2009, with each programme lasting two-weeks.

The second part of the programme focuses on a series of Train-the-Trainers courses for nurse educators and clinicians. All training will be conducted in Mandarin. Four training tracks are being offered:

- a) nursing pedagogy
- b) critical care
- c) emergency
- d) perioperative nursing.

Equipped with new skills and knowledge, these trainers and educators can, in turn, train more of such specialist nurses in China. This approach will help achieve a multiplier effect. The nursing pedagogy track lasts three weeks, while the remaining three tracks are extensive ten-week-courses.

Besides classroom instruction, the training also involves clinical attachments in relevant clinical and hospital settings.

### **School of Health Sciences: A Leader in Healthcare Training**

The training for this programme will be conducted by staff from NYP's School of Health Sciences (SHS), a pioneer and leader of tertiary health sciences education and training in Singapore since 1992. The School provides a rigorous and responsive curriculum, designed to groom healthcare professionals skilled in understanding advanced technologies and adaptable in the changing healthcare environment.

Hainan participants will be exposed to the School of Health Science's e-learning database, anatomy resource centre, and its many well-equipped laboratories. They will experience the latest technologies brought into the classroom such as the adoption of high-fidelity human stimulators and the integration of an authentic clinical environment into the teaching process. They will also have the chance to explore the School's internally developed innovative web-based virtual ward courseware and computer-based training packages.

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### **About Nanyang Polytechnic and NYP International**

Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP) was established in May 1992. It has a long tradition of working in partnership with industry and educational institutions. Today, NYP has over 1,200 staff and 15,000 students. It runs seven Schools, offering a wide range of courses in engineering, information technology, design, interactive and digital media, business management, health sciences and chemical and life sciences.

The School of Health Sciences (SHS) in NYP runs diploma courses in nursing, dental hygiene and therapy, occupation therapy, physiotherapy, diagnostic radiography and radiation therapy. SHS has extensive experience conducting train-the-trainers programmes for Registered Nurses from ASEAN. Since 1992, SHS has produced almost 7,000 professional nurses and over 1,000 allied health professionals. It has further trained over 2,500 practitioners in 22 other advanced and specialist diplomas.

Nanyang Polytechnic International is a wholly-owned subsidiary of NYP. Its focus is on enhancing the NYP brand name in technical education and training beyond Singapore. It will help strengthen NYP's existing international partnerships and collaborations and create more opportunities for students and staff to be engaged in international exchange and attachment programmes.

### **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 healthcare, 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 Hainan Public Health Bureau**

Hainan Public Health Bureau (HPHB) is responsible, inter alia, for implementing the national healthcare policies; planning Hainan's overall healthcare strategy and guiding its implementation, coordinating the healthcare resources and infrastructure development; planning the healthcare manpower and professional development strategies, and developing the community healthcare service and standards in Hainan.