

Media release

19 March 2008

Singapore's Temasek Foundation grants RMB13.7 Million to support Hainan Province's master English teachers and nurses training in its first programme in China

On March 19, 2008, the Temasek Foundation (TF), Singapore, officially launched two capacity building and development projects in partnership with Hainan Ministry of Education and Hainan Public Health Bureau sponsored by Temasek Foundation, Singapore. The first project is a Two-Year Capacity Building Project for Hainan Master Teachers of English, jointly organized by the Regional Language Centre of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO RELC), Hainan Ministry of Education (HMOE) and Hainan Normal University (HNU), China. The second project is the Hainan Nurses Training Project, jointly organized by Nanyang Polytechnic International (NYPi) of Singapore and Hainan Public Health Bureau (HPHB), China.

Distinguished guests present for the signing ceremony include representatives from both Singapore and China. They are: Mr. Goh Geok Khim, Chairman of Temasek Foundation; Mr. Benedict Cheong, Chief Executive Officer of Temasek Foundation; Mr. Shi Yi Yun, Vice President of Hainan Provincial Political Consultative Conference & Deputy Director of Hainan Ministry of Education; Mr. Feng Ming, Deputy Secretary-General of Hainan Provincial People's Government; Ms. He Yun Xia, Chairman of Hainan Provincial Overseas Chinese Association; Ms. Shi Xiu Hui, Deputy Director of Hainan Ministry of Education; Mr. Wu Shen Quan, Assistant Inspector of Hainan Ministry of Education; Mr. Xu Ya Chuan, Assistant Inspector of Hainan Public Health Bureau; Mrs. Tay Sor Har, Director of SEAMEO RELC; Mr. Foong Tze Foon, Senior Director of Nanyang Polytechnic International; Mr. Tan Yoke Han, President of Singapore Hainan Society; Mr. Lin Bei Ping, CPC Secretary of Hainan Normal University; Mr. Chen Feng Chun, Deputy CPC Secretary of Hainan Normal University; Prof. Zhang Cheng Yi, Deputy President of Hainan Normal University; and Dr. Du Ming E, Deputy President of Hainan Normal University.

In addition, we are glad to be joined for this signing ceremony by representatives from the Office of Foreign Affairs Office of Hainan Ministry of Education, International Communication and Cooperation of Hainan Provincial Foreign Affairs and Overseas Chinese Affairs Office, Foreign Affairs and

Overseas Chinese Affairs Office and Department of Foreign Languages of Hainan Normal University, teaching faculty of the two capacity building projects, and personnel of Hainan Public Health and Hainan Normal University who attended a study visit to Singapore recently. From the media, we have representatives from: China News Service, Xinhua News Agency, Wen Wei Po and Ta Kung Pao of Hong Kong SAR, China Education Daily, Guangming Daily, Hainan Daily, Hainan Evening, Haikou TV Station, Hainan Overseas Chinese News, etc.

In January 2008, Temasek Foundation awarded a grant of RMB 6,000,000 for the 2-year building project for 120 Hainan master teachers of English. The proposed project is a two-tiered capacity-building programme comprising a half-year intensive English language bridging course conducted in Hainan Normal University and a second half-year Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics course conducted in SEAMEO RELC, Singapore. The first batch of this Master Teacher training project has started with the opening ceremony at Hainan Normal University on 25 February 2008.

Earlier this month, the Hainan Nurses Training Project has also been initiated. The Temasek Foundation announced a grant of RMB 7,700,000 to train 156 senior Hainan health officials, nurse educators and clinical nurses. School of Health Sciences (SHS), Nanyang Polytechnic will provide training in nursing management, nursing pedagogy and specialized clinical nursing. The idea is that these newly trained master teachers and nursing specialists will transfer their knowledge and skills to other teachers and nurses in Hainan Province upon their return to Hainan. These professionals will commit themselves to building up a reservoir of skilled and professional English teachers and Nursing trainers and specialists in Hainan. Temasek Foundation and the Ministries of Education and Public Health in Hainan believe that this will eventually benefit people and society in Hainan Province.

Temasek Foundation is a non-profit philanthropic organization established by Temasek Holdings, Singapore, to develop people through education, healthcare, and research, and to build bridges among communities in Asia from different races, language backgrounds, religions, and cultures. Both projects in Hainan Province are the first capacity-building projects supported by Temasek Foundation in China. The Hainan Nurses Training Project is also Temasek Foundation's first project in healthcare since its inception.

Background Information

ABOUT SEAMEO RELC

The SEAMEO Regional Language Centre (RELC) is a leading language teacher education centre under the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO). One of the fifteen specialist centres set up by SEAMEO in the region, SEAMEO RELC is located in Singapore and has played a prominent role in providing specialized courses for language educators since 1968. SEAMEO RELC is the Singapore Government's contribution toward education in the region.

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.