



Speech by Mr Benedict Cheong, Chief Executive Officer, Temasek Foundation at the ceremony to witness the Training of Good Construction Practices and Strengthening of Brick Walls to Increase Earthquake Resistance (Lasi Polyclinic) on 23 July 2008 in West Sumatra, INDONESIA

Good morning,

Drs. Aristo Munandar, Bupati Agam District,

Dr Febrin Ismail, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Andalas University,

Professor Pan Tso-Chien, Chairman, Lien Institute For the Environment and Dean, College of Engineering, Nanyang Technological University,

Associate Professor Li Bing, Director, Lien Institute For the Environment, and

All Guests who are present here today

Thank you for inviting me here to be part of today's ceremony.

2 Temasek Foundation was established about 15 months ago. The programme we are launching today is closely aligned with the foundation's mandate, which is to:

- Develop people through health care, education and research
- Build bridges among peoples
- Build institutions of excellence through good governance and ethics, and
- Rebuild lives and livelihoods affected by natural disasters

3 The foundation hopes to contribute to the peoples and communities of Asia in these four areas so as to facilitate economic development and growth. An Asia that develops and grows together will be a stable, connected and prosperous Asia.

4 Temasek Foundation is happy to support this meaningful programme with funding of about 1.3 billion Indonesian Rupiah (S\$189,000) which will help 20 master trainers and 45 masons to be trained. As this initial group of master trainers and masons begin to share their knowledge and skills, another 450 local masons will potentially be trained. The foundation hopes that Lasi Polyclinic is a starting model for better construction practices and more buildings here will have greater resilience to earthquakes. This knowledge will potentially spread to other earthquake prone areas in West Sumatra and other parts of Indonesia, and beyond.

5 The partnership between experts from Singapore's Lien Institute For the Environment and master trainers from Andalas University's Faculty of Engineering will help to ensure the success of the programme and bring benefits for the community here. The high level of commitment and dedication from the participants of the programme will help the programme achieve its objectives.

6 Thank you.