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各位部長、各位嘉賓、各位朋友：

大家午安。我很高興今天有份出席下午的會議。對於香港政府的熱情款待和悉心安排，我謹代表新加坡代表團致以衷心謝意。

我們對青年人的寄望

在新加坡，為方便處事，我們把15至35歲的人界定為青年人，而他們幾乎佔我國居住人口的27%，比例相當大。青年人是我們的未來，也是我們透過藝術、文化、體育和義務工作等範疇，增加社會資本以建造一個積極共融社會的重要生力軍。我們相信，我國推出的各項政策和計劃，均有助培育出積極主動、充滿愛心，而且心繫社區的年輕一代，並造就一批青年領袖。他們即使離開校園，仍有志於推動社會改革，樹楷立模。

我們認為，藝術和文化對栽培青年人成為善於主動思考、懂得發掘新機遇和實踐抱負的一羣，尤為有效。我們相信，藝術能讓人的情感變得更為豐富，創意也更多，並有助我們建立自覺自省和自我表達的能力，同時有信心作出新嘗試。藝術還能推動青年人發揮團隊合作精神，學懂欣賞其他地方的文化。

在新加坡，我們已制訂一套全面的框架以培育年輕一代。在學校內，學生可從小透過各式各樣的活動去體驗文化藝術；而在校外，他們亦可通過多種渠道，發揮所長，成為年輕新進的藝術家。我國的專上院校也設有藝術教育課程，以供有志於投身藝術事業或創意產業的年輕人修讀。

Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

A very good afternoon. It gives me great pleasure to be here this afternoon. I would like to thank the Hong Kong Government for your warm hospitality and excellent arrangements. Thank you very much on behalf of my delegation.

Our Vision for Youth

In Singapore, we have adopted the working definition of Youth as those between ages 15 and 35, and they comprise almost 27% of Singapore's resident population. They are a significant segment of our population. Our youth are also our future and an integral part of how we can build social capital for an engaged and inclusive society through the arts, heritage, sports, and volunteerism. We believe that our policies and programmes can nurture a generation of active, caring, and connected youth, and youth leaders who will serve as change agents and role models for our society even after they leave school.

We see the arts and heritage, in particular, as an effective way for the youth to become more adept, active thinkers, with the ability to uncover new possibilities and to pursue their aspirations. We believe that the arts can foster empathy and creativity, and nurture values like self-awareness, self-expression, and the confidence to experiment. They also encourage young people to work in teams and have an appreciation of other cultures.

In Singapore, we have put in place a comprehensive framework to nurture our youths, from broad-based engagement in the schools for them to experience the arts and heritage at an early age, to multiple pathways beyond schools in developing their talents and nurturing young aspiring artists. Arts education is also available in our tertiary institutions for those who are keen to pursue careers in the arts or creative industries.

藝術教育 札穩根基

由九十年代起，新加坡已把藝術和文化編入學校的課程內，以使每個孩子在漫長的人生路上，提早接觸文化藝術。本國除了在各大小學校開辦藝術課程外，我們的國家藝術理事會亦於一九九三年推出「藝術教育計劃」，為全國學生提供高額資助，讓他們有機會觀賞和參與優質的藝術活動、表演和工作坊。

新加坡藝術學院於二零零九年成立，所提供的課程糅合藝術與學術科目，別具特色。該學院成立的目的，是要為醉心於藝術的學生提供各種機會，盡展所長。新加坡藝術學院的學生畢業後不一定從事藝術相關的行業，他們可以成為銀行家、律師或工程師。我們認為在藝術方面提供的訓練，不但有助他們提升溝通技巧和加強理性思考的能力，還可讓他們在成長的階段中，能安心地不斷嘗試和創作。這一切均叫他們終身受用。

此外，我們現正制訂一套計劃，希望能有系統地鼓勵更多學生參觀國家的文化藝術設施。這類參觀活動相信可讓學生有共同話題分享經驗，並在年輕時對文化藝術產生濃厚的興趣，以及懂得欣賞箇中價值。我們曾試行推出兩項類似的計劃。去年，我們為一羣十歲的學童舉辦了多項博物館體驗學習活動，安排他們參觀國家美術館，認識新加坡藝術先驅（如蔡明智先生）的事蹟。透過這類體驗活動，學生不僅可學習如何欣賞藝術，還可認識到我國藝術家的作品如何記述我們共有的歷史與價值觀。

今年，我們又試行推出一項演藝計劃，安排13至15歲的學生參加一些於音樂會前後舉行的課堂和觀賞特備的音樂節目，以補充他們所修讀音樂課程的內容。舉例來說，我國的演藝中心—濱海藝術中心，便曾舉辦一個唱盤管弦樂團活動，把電子音樂與節慶管弦樂團兩者合而為一。我們舉辦這個活動，是因為我們相信，如能把年輕人所鍾愛的電子音樂與管弦樂結合起來，將有助我們接觸更多年輕觀眾，並能讓青年人明白到音樂的表達方式與風格是可以千變萬化的。

Laying the Foundation – Arts Education

Since the 1990s, the arts and heritage have been integrated into Singapore schools to enable every child an early head start in their lifelong journey of the engagement with the arts and heritage. In addition to the arts curriculum, which is offered in our schools, the National Arts Council's Arts Education Programme was initiated in 1993 to provide all students with access to quality arts programmes, shows, and workshops at highly subsidised rates.

The Singapore's School of the Arts (SOTA) was established in 2009, and it offers a unique curriculum where the arts and academic subjects are integrated. It was set up to offer artistically inclined students every opportunity to excel. Graduates of the SOTA may move on to professions which may not necessarily involve the arts. They can be bankers, lawyers or engineers. We believe that the training in arts equips them with good communication skills and the ability to think critically, besides providing them in their growing up years with a safe space for experimentation and creativity, which stays with them for life.

We are also working on a structured programme to encourage more students to visit our arts and heritage institutions. We believe such visits will allow our students to share common experiences, and have greater interest and appreciation for the arts and heritage at an early age. We have piloted two such programmes. Last year, we developed museum-based learning experiences for students who were aged 10 years old to visit the National Gallery Singapore to learn about pioneer Singapore artists such as CHUA Mia Tee. Through this kind of experiences, students learn not only how to appreciate arts but also how the work of our artists chronicles our shared history and values.

This year we have also piloted a programme, which is performing arts-based, and aims to bring students who are aged 13 to 15 to attend pre- and post-concert lessons and specially designed concert programmes to complement their music syllabus. For instance, our national performing arts centre, the Esplanade, organised a turntable-orchestra programme which brought together electronic music with a festival orchestra. We did this because we believe that it would help us to reach out to the younger audience if we brought what they love, which is electronic music, together with orchestra music and introduce to them how music can lend itself to such a diverse range of expressions and styles.

跳出校園 積極參與

我們推動年輕人參與文化藝術活動的工作並不僅如此。除了在校園推廣，我們還推出和支持各種各樣的計劃，以鼓勵更多青年人參與，同時點燃他們對文化藝術的熱誠。「鬧吧新加坡」是本國最大型的青年藝術平台，全年為青年人提供各種機會，讓他們學習文化藝術、展示創作，以及結識志同道合的人。

國家藝術理事會一直與文化藝術界的中介人和企業伙伴緊密合作，提供專設的平台和計劃，目的是要凸顯作品的原創特色和背後的創作理念，以及展示這些年輕人實踐抱負和追求理想的心路歷程。我們亦支持開設更多平台，讓青年藝團得以向公眾展示各種形式的藝術作品，而這些作品往往是傳統形式與現代手法共治一爐。舉例來說，國家藝術理事會曾委託青年藝團把作品帶到社區，例子之一是藝團P7:1SMA創作的體驗式舞蹈表演節目《District 27》，這個節目的創作靈感源自義順和三巴旺城區中消失的地標。

激發青年潛能

我們致力培育文化藝術方面的年輕人才，提供各種機會讓他們發揮所長，以便日後成為藝術家、終身學習者，以及代表新加坡到海外擔任文化大使。例如我們會資助新進藝術人才參與新加坡國家青年樂團、新加坡國家青年華樂團和新加坡交響兒童合唱團的演出。這些樂團及合唱團由本國的國家藝術機構、新加坡交響樂團和新加坡華樂團管理，並曾造就出不少音樂家加入本國的國家藝團和其他社區樂團成為生力軍，進而提升國內管弦樂團音樂家的能力與水平，可謂貢獻良多。

在剛過去的六月，新加坡國家青年華樂團首次到北京和上海演出，成績驕人。特別予人深刻印象的是，在北京舉行的演奏會上，有兩位視障二胡演奏家同台演出，他們分別是新加坡的區嘉敏和中國的張靖祺，二人的精彩演出，叫人動容。

Active Participation Beyond Schools

The engagement does not stop there. Beyond schools, we initiate and support a wide variety of programmes to encourage greater youth involvement and to ignite their passions in the arts and heritage. Noise Singapore is our largest youth arts platform. Throughout the year, this platform offers opportunities for young people to learn, showcase their creations, and meet like-minded people.

The National Arts Council works very closely with industry intermediaries and corporate partners to present customised platforms and programmes that not only highlight the original works and the creative minds behind them, but also the journeys that these young people have embarked on as they pursue their aspirations and dreams. We also support the growth of platforms for youth arts groups to showcase their artistic expressions, which are often a mix of traditions and modern interpretations, to the community. The National Arts Council, for instance, commissions works by youth arts groups to showcase their works in the neighbourhood. An example is District 27 by P7:1SMA – an experiential dance performance which drew inspiration from the lost landmarks of Yishun and Sembawang towns.

Igniting Talents of Our Youths

We nurture young talents in the arts and heritage, providing them with opportunities to excel as artists, as lifelong learners, and also as cultural ambassadors overseas, representing Singapore. Emerging artistic talents are supported, for example, through the Singapore National Youth Orchestra, the Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra, and the Singapore Symphony Children's Choir. They are managed by our national arts organisations, the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and the Singapore Chinese Orchestra. They have produced a strong alumnus of musicians and contributed significantly to seeding our national arts companies and other community orchestras in Singapore, thereby raising the capabilities and quality of orchestra musicians in the Singapore scene.

The Singapore National Youth Chinese Orchestra did us proud in the inaugural performance in Beijing and Shanghai recently in June. In particular, the Beijing concert showcased an impressive collaboration between two visually impaired erhu players - Stephanie OW from Singapore and ZHANG Jing Qi from China. This was really wonderful and heart-warming to see.

二零一五年，新加坡交響兒童合唱團在巴黎舉行首個外地演唱會，並聯同法國廣播電台於巴黎愛樂音樂廳演出，以慶祝新加坡與法國建交50年。此外，我們還為各種藝術形式和範疇推行國家人才培育計劃。去年，我們推出「全國少年詩人大使」計劃，目的是栽培新進詩人，以及加強公眾對我國詩歌和詩人的認識。

我國藝術界發展蓬勃，人才輩出，這從本國多名年輕藝術家蜚聲國際、揚威海外的事例中可見一斑，例如黃佳俊：他在奪得德國馬勒指揮大賽冠軍殊榮之前，曾分別獲得國家藝術理事會、楊秀桃音樂學院和公共服務委員會頒授獎學金，以攻讀音樂課程和發展音樂事業。他在參與新加坡華樂團和新加坡交響樂團演出期間，也曾獲得不少磨練技巧的機會，並因而建立信心，到海外大顯身手。

在新加坡國內，我們會向年輕有為的藝術家和藝術工作者，頒授為青年人而設的最高榮譽藝術獎項——「青年藝術家獎」。該獎項於一九九二年設立，至今已有超過160人獲獎，他們分別屬於不同的藝術範疇，從事不同形式的藝術創作。我們設立「青年藝術家獎」，是要鼓勵青年藝術家在藝術的專業道路上繼續求進，進而貢獻力量，使我國藝壇發展更為蓬勃。

新加坡的青年人多才多藝，他們力求上進，並非只為追求個人福祉，還要為同胞樹立良好榜樣，這點至為重要。為此，我們推出「藝術悅心計劃」和「文化遺產社區關懷計劃」等多個項目，鼓勵青年人多參與公益事務和各項計劃，共建更美好的社會。我們希望社會各界能聆聽年輕人的心聲，也希望年輕人就關乎我國發展的政策和大小事項提出意見。因此，我們在為新加坡制訂「文化遺產計劃」時，年輕人是諮詢對象中重要的一羣。「文化遺產計劃」為我國提供文化遺產

In 2015, the Singapore Symphony Children's Choir performed their first concert overseas in Paris, and sang alongside Radio France at the Philharmonie de Paris to commemorate 50 years of bilateral ties between Singapore and France. We have also initiated national-level talent development platform across art forms and genres. Last year, we launched the National Youth Poet Ambassador programme, and this was done to develop new poetry talent and also to raise the public awareness of Singapore poetry and poets.

The growth of our vibrant arts ecosystem has seen our young artists develop a good international reputation overseas. One example is WONG Kah Chung. Prior to winning the prestigious Gustav Mahler Conducting Competition in Germany, Kah Chung had received scholarship support from the National Arts Council, the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory and the Public Service Commission to pursue his music education and career. His stint at the Singapore Chinese Orchestra and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra also gave him the opportunities and the confidence to hone his craft and take it overseas.

At the national level in Singapore, promising young artists and arts practitioners are conferred the highest arts award for young people, which is the Young Artist Award (YAA). Since its inception in 1992, the YAA has been conferred to over 160 young artists across disciplines and art forms, to encourage them to continue pursuing excellence in the arts for their professional development, and in turn to contribute to a robust and vibrant national art scene.

It is important that our youth are all-round individuals who pursue excellence not only for personal benefits, but also making a positive impact on fellow Singaporeans. Therefore, we have platforms such as ArtReach and HeritageCares to encourage the youth to contribute to causes and projects to build a better society. We want the youth to have their voices heard, and to contribute to policies or issues that matter to Singapore. Therefore, the young people are a key audience segment that we consulted for the Heritage Plan of Singapore – a national blueprint for Singapore's heritage sector that covers our journey and

發展藍圖，內容載述由現在至二零三零年的發展路向和各項規劃。傅海燕部長在今早舉行的部長座談會上，也曾談及此事。

我們在制訂全面的青年培育工作與計劃方面，如今已取得一定的成果，但未來仍有漫漫長路。我們會竭盡全力培育年輕人，又會為他們提供各種各樣接觸藝術的機會。年輕人是我們的未來。如要為新加坡世代的人建造美好家園，年輕人的參與更是不可或缺。非常多謝大會的邀請，讓我有機會出席這次論壇，期盼在未來幾天能多與大家暢談交流。謝謝各位。

our plans from now to 2030. This was mentioned by Minister Grace FU at this morning's Ministerial Panel Discussion.

We have come a long way in developing this comprehensive frame of efforts and programmes to nurture our youths, but there is a long way more to go. We are doing what we can to nurture our youths and provide them with every opportunity for access to the arts. They are our future and will always be an integral part of our efforts to make Singapore a good home for all generations. Thank you very much for this opportunity to be here, and I look forward to many rich discussions with a lot of you over the next couple of days. Thank you.