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**SPEECH BY MR RICHARD MAGNUS, CHAIRMAN, TEMASEK CARES  
AT THE LAUNCH OF THE STAY PREPARED – TRAUMA NETWORK  
FOR CHILDREN ON 5 JULY 2016, AT 10AM,  
INTERNATIONAL INVOLVEMENT HUB**

Guest-of-Honour, Minister of State for the Ministry of Communications and Information and Ministry of Education, Dr Janil Puthucheary

Mr Lim Boon Heng, Chairman, Temasek Holdings

Prof Kenneth Kwek, CEO, KK Women's and Children's Hospital,  
Associate Professor Ng Kee Chong, Chairman of KKH's Division of Medicine and Head of the Department of Emergency Medicine and Psychosocial Trauma Support Service

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning.

1 I would like to thank all of you for taking the time to be here today for the launch of the Stay Prepared – Trauma Network for Children in Singapore. This is a first-of-its-kind network, and a keystone programme under the Temasek Emergency Preparedness Fund, set up by Temasek Holdings and managed by Temasek Cares, to build community resilience to emergencies.

2 In a crisis, children are often the most vulnerable. The Stay Prepared – Trauma Network for Children aims to provide a community safety net to detect traumatised children early and provide needed therapy. It will equip hospitals, Family Service

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Centres, schools and VWOs who serve children with trauma-specific skills and link them together in a national learning network.

3 Our efforts to protect our children started two years ago. Through discussions with the KK Women's and Children's Hospital (KKH), we identified an urgent need for trauma therapy for children in the community setting. So we partnered with KKH in a pilot programme, known as the Temasek Cares – Kids In Tough Situations (KITS) to develop a pedagogy for trauma therapy for children which is suitable for Singapore.

4 Today, I am pleased to note that the KITS pilot programme has been a resounding success. We have successfully adapted TF-CBT, or trauma-focused – cognitive based therapy, an internationally-recognised training programme, to the needs of Singaporeans. More significantly, we have trained and certified 31 community-based therapists in this therapy programme and another 36 are undergoing training.

5 I am delighted to see our first batch of therapists graduate today. On behalf of Temasek Cares, I wish to congratulate you for completing the rigorous training. Many of you also gave of your time to support the victims of the Sabah earthquake last year – thank you for being there to help our children. Let's give them a round of applause!

6 The Sabah tragedy was a timely reminder of the need to build greater community capability to support national resilience initiatives, such as the SGSecure movement. The Stay Prepared – Trauma Network for Children aims to achieve this. More than 680 community leaders and teachers will be trained in trauma first aid, and 100 more counsellors and therapists in TF-CBT.

7 We are especially heartened to have the Ministry of Education join in this new initiative. All 500 school counsellors will be trained to provide trauma support for all the school children in MOE schools. Our friends at the Madrasahs will also be sending counsellors for training.

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8 I would like to thank KKH for the partnership in the journey from the seed programme, KITS, to a national initiative, the Stay Prepared – Trauma Network for Children. They have been instrumental in pedagogy development, training and evaluation. They will also lead the new learning network for community practitioners to share knowledge and experience on trauma.

9 In closing, I would like to once again congratulate the graduates for completing the TF-CBT training. I would also like to thank Minister of State Dr Janil for gracing today's event as the Guest-of-Honour.

10 Thank you.