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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Singapore's Temasek Foundation International and Republic Polytechnic partner National Tourism Institutions in Indonesia to enhance capability in the hospitality and tourism sector**

*Key training components include advocating a learner-centred approach that leverages Republic Polytechnic's Problem-based Learning pedagogy, sharing of best practices, social media & branding, and productivity management.*

**Singapore and Bali, 14 October 2016 – Singapore's Republic Polytechnic and four National Tourism Institutions under the purview of Ministry of Tourism, Indonesia** today marked the official launch of a 36-month Hospitality and Tourism Capability Development Programme in Indonesia. The programme was launched during a full-day sharing on Singapore's best practices on tripartite collaboration between the government, academia and industry for tourism development, with 24 leaders and 124 specialists from the four Indonesian National Tourism Institutions and hospitality industry in attendance.

The new training programme, supported by Temasek Foundation International, a Singapore non-profit philanthropic organisation, aims to enhance teaching and learning approaches as well as the sharing of best practices and strategies on tripartite collaborations among government, institutions and industry partners in Indonesia's hospitality and tourism sector. Republic Polytechnic's Problem-based Learning pedagogy will be shared with the participants as a learner-centred approach that emphasises the importance of authentic learning to support curriculum delivery of hospitality and tourism courses. Other training components include social media and branding, quality and productivity management.

Temasek Foundation International has supported 36 capability-building programmes in Indonesia to-date, mainly in the areas of education, health care, urban management, and public administration. The foundation has committed a grant of S\$494,500 towards this programme to enhance the overall quality of academic delivery for the hospitality and tourism sector. The programme will also be co-funded by the Ministry of Tourism, Indonesia.

All four National Tourism Institutions will work together with Republic Polytechnic in addressing location-specific issues in Bandung, Makassar, Medan and Bali. Republic Polytechnic will also share insights on enhancing the creative and entrepreneurial workforce in the hospitality and tourism sector.

**“Improving the student learning experience and maximising the potential of our student trainees are challenges that continue to confront us as we strive to develop skilled talents who will contribute to our nation's economy. We believe that today's talents are the building blocks of our future success.**



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**We hope that this will be a milestone in developing networks between the Ministry of Tourism, Indonesia, all four of Indonesia’s tourism institutions and Singapore’s Temasek Foundation International,” said Prof. Dr. H.M. Ahman Sya, Deputy Minister for Tourism Institutional Development, Ministry of Tourism, Republic of Indonesia.**

**Republic Polytechnic’s Principal/CEO, Mr Yeo Li Pheow said, “RP prides itself in providing our students with a holistic learning experience and skilled and experienced faculties to facilitate their development into industry-ready professionals. We look forward to sharing our Problem-based Learning pedagogy and best practices with the National Tourism Institutions through this partnership with The Ministry of Tourism, Indonesia and Temasek Foundation International.”**

**“Building human and social capital is core to Temasek Foundation International’s work in Asia. By providing opportunities for the exchange of ideas and sharing of knowledge among leaders and specialists, we hope that this will be a positive start to developing networks of cooperation between Singapore’s and Indonesia’s tourism industry experts,” said Mr Benedict Cheong, Chief Executive, Temasek Foundation International.**

### **About Republic Polytechnic**

The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage the Problem-based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has seven schools and one academic centre offering forty-one diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Enterprise and Communication, Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health & Leisure, and Technology for the Arts.

Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving skills and lifelong learning opportunities. Its holistic and broad-based curriculum prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society as problem solvers, respected professionals and passionate citizens.

Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various international and national accreditations, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 22301, Singapore Quality Class, People Developer, Innovation Class, and Service Class.

For more information, visit <http://www.rp.edu.sg>

### **About Temasek Foundation International**

Temasek Foundation International is a Singapore-based non-profit philanthropic organisation that funds and supports programmes, which aim to build capabilities with programme partners in Asia and beyond. These programmes enable human and social capital development, contributing towards a more vibrant and connected global community, with positive networks of cooperation. The programmes also aim to enhance capabilities in the areas of health care, education, public administration, urban management and disaster-response.



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Temasek Foundation International, formerly known as Temasek Foundation, was set up in 2007 by Singapore investment company, Temasek. It was renamed Temasek Foundation International in 2016.

Temasek Foundation International also manages the Singapore Technologies Endowment Programme (STEP), which was established in 1997. This programme focuses on social and cultural activities, leadership skills, environmental knowledge and innovation.

Temasek Foundation International is a member of the Temasek Philanthropic Platform, which was established by Temasek to better serve the evolving needs of the wider community, reinforcing its approach to sustainable giving. Since its inception in 1974, Temasek has established 17 endowments, which focus on building people, building communities, building capabilities and rebuilding lives.

For more information on the Temasek Philanthropic Platform, please visit [www.temasekfoundation.org.sg](http://www.temasekfoundation.org.sg).

For more information on Temasek Foundation International, please visit [www.temasekfoundation-international.org.sg](http://www.temasekfoundation-international.org.sg).

### **About Ministry of Tourism, Indonesia**

Comprising over 17,000 islands, Indonesia is the world's largest archipelago and home to at least 235 million people. The vast Indonesian archipelago spans 5,120 km across the equator, positioned between the Asian and Australian continents. Four-fifths of the area is sea with the major islands of Sumatera, Java, Kalimantan, Sulawesi and Papua.

Tourism in Indonesia has experienced continuous expansion and diversification, and is a key economic pillar. Despite various bouts of the global economic crisis, the number of international tourist trips has continued to show positive growth. Indonesia has climbed to fourth position among ASEAN countries based on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and number of tourist arrivals, with a total GDP of USD 82.4 billion and 10,406,759 tourist arrivals. The numbers indicate that Indonesia's tourism sector GDP contribution is the highest among ASEAN countries.

Currently, Indonesia's key contributors to tourism receipts include cultural tourism (60%; heritage & pilgrime tourism, culinary & shopping tourism and city & village tourism), nature tourism (35%; marine, eco tourism and adventure tourism), and manmade tourism (5%; MICE & event tourism, sport tourism and integrated area tourism).

We adopt "BAS", which is branding (national, regional and local branding), advertising (by customer, by product and by event) and selling (travel marts, direct sales, festivals).

The Tourism & Travel Competitiveness Index by the World Economic Forum (WEF), 2015 reported that the human resources quality of the Indonesian tourism industry is ranked 5th in ASEAN, below Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Thailand and the Philippines' rank rose sharply because the two countries have consistently been implementing certification by using the ASEAN MRA scheme. To meet the MEA for tourism sector in 2016, 10 countries have agreed on ASEAN free flow of labour to six divisions of 32 job functions in



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the hospitality and tourism industry. By the end of 2016, the Ministry of Tourism projects to have 200,000 certified tourism professionals.

Under the leadership of Minister Arief Yahya, Indonesia's Tourism industry is expected to be boosted.

For more information, visit [www.kemenpar.go.id](http://www.kemenpar.go.id)