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Media Release

World Engineers Summit (WES) on Climate Change 2015 Set to Generate Action to Tackle Climate Change with Engineering Innovations

Heavyweights in climate change to present pressing issues and explore sustainable ideas and solutions

The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) announced that it will host the second World Engineers Summit (WES) after a successful inaugural run in 2013. Focusing on ‘Sustainable Urban Development for Global Climate Resilience’, the WES on Climate Change 2015 will be held from 21 to 24 July at the Suntec Singapore Convention and Exhibition Centre. The conference will place the spotlight on critical issues that the world faces today, emphasising the role of engineering innovations in shaping the mitigation of climate change with a special focus on urban resilience.

The summit will see three days of high profile action featuring keynotes by globally-renowned and influential experts in the climate change arena, with thought-provoking presentations along four main tracks and interactive sessions to engage the participants. WES 2015 on Climate Change will also feature the WES Expo 2015 to showcase technologies that can be applied to directly confront real-world challenges in climate change.

Leading the stellar line-up of speakers are Dr Bindu N Lohani, Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank, Philippines; Mr Philippe Joubert, Senior Advisor and Special Envoy for Energy and Climate, World Business Council on Sustainable Development and Executive Chairman of the Global Electricity Initiative at World Energy Council; and Mr Tan Gee Paw, Chairman, PUB, Singapore. Singapore’s Deputy Prime

Minister and IES Honorary Fellow, Mr Teo Chee Hean will grace the Opening Ceremony of the Summit and Singapore's Minister for Education, Mr Heng Swee Keat, will address the audience at the Prize Presentation for the Energy Innovation Challenge and Closing Ceremony for the National Engineers Day (NED) 2015, a WES co-located event. The WES Gala Dinner and Awards Night will be opened by Mr Chan Chun Sing, Secretary-General, National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) and Minister for the Prime Minister's Office.

Designed to provide high-level strategic discussions on the biggest challenges confronting us in climate change, the Summit will present four tracks namely: Clean Environment & Water Resources, Sustainable Development & Infrastructure, Sustainable Energy, and Resilience & Adaptation against Climate Change.

Sharing their insights and forethoughts on these topics, notable speakers from Singapore, such as Mr Lee Yi Shyan, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of National Development will kick off the track on Sustainable Development & Infrastructure. Mrs Lim Hwee Hua, Executive Director, Tembusu Partners Pte Ltd, will open the track on Clean Environment & Water Resources; Mr Teo Ser Luck, Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry will lead the session on Sustainable Energy, while Dr Bindu N Lohani will start the discussion on Resilience & Adaptation against Climate Change. Joining the discussions, international leading speakers in the sustainability and climate change arena, including Dr Steven Wade, Principal Consultant and Head of Scientific Consultancy, MET Office, United Kingdom; Mr Stephen E Selkowitz, Department Head, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, United States and Dr Arab Hoballah, Chief of Sustainable Consumption and Production Branch, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, United Nations Environment Programme, Kenya will be sharing the latest ideas, research findings and best practices on the adaptation and mitigation of climate change.

"Looked upon as problem-solvers equipped with creativity, tenacity, financial, analytical as well as technical skills, engineers are well-placed to lead the fight against global issues such as climate change. With nations around the world taking steps towards reducing carbon footprint, it is ideal for green warriors to congregate and collaborate in the war against climate change," said Er. Tan Seng Chuan, Chairman, Steering Committee, WES 2015. "After generating significant momentum through the inaugural summit in 2013, we are certain that WES 2015 will once again play a big role in gathering engineers and other professionals to raise the prospects for a future equipped to cope with increasing global demands."

Engineers and Sustainable Development Forum 2015 – a WES on Climate Change 2015 Lead-up Event

At the summit's lead-up event on 4 June 2015, the Secretary-General of the NTUC, Mr Chan Chun Sing, as well as business leaders and policy makers from Shell Singapore, DNV GL-Energy, and the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources will focus on the role of engineers in innovating solutions for the mitigation of the impact of climate change and resolving the energy trilemma.

WES Photography Competition

The WES Photography Competition 2015 invites photography enthusiasts around the world, between now and 15th June 2015, to submit photographs that capture the effects of any natural, cultural or man-made activities that result in climate change. This competition is jointly organised by the WES Organising Committee and the Singapore Engineers Photography Club.

WES Climate Change 2015 Expo and National Engineers Day (NED) 2015

To synergise efforts in raising awareness on and catalysing action against climate change, IES will also be holding the WES Expo 2015 - a showcase of the latest urban and industrial sustainable technology, products and solutions developed by corporate and industrial climate change champions and engineering leaders as well as showcasing the best entries from the WES Photography Competition.

Displayed alongside exhibits of the WES Expo will be the shortlisted entries from the inaugural Energy Innovation Challenge, a main feature of the sixth National Engineers Day, whereby 76 school teams will have competed over a four-month period to explore alternative energy sources under the mentorship of practicing engineers.

Registration for WES 2015 is now open, with options for the full programme, daily passes, student passes and technical site visit passes. Interested sponsors and exhibitors may also contact the WES 2015 Secretariat at +65 6461 1240 or WES2015@IESnet.org.sg. More details are available at www.wes-ies.org.

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About World Engineers Summit

The biennial World Engineers Summit (WES) launched in 2013 is a premier platform that focuses on addressing global challenges arising from the impact of climate change by gathering influential thought leaders, policy makers, specialists, business leaders, multi-disciplinary engineers and leading academics from across the globe, to exchange expert opinion and present sound engineering solutions for the future. The WES is organised by The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES), the heart and voice of engineers in Singapore.

Hosted in Singapore from 21-24 July 2015 at the Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, WES on Climate Change 2015 includes a three-day conference with topical technical tracks and site visits. Held in conjunction with the Summit, the WES Expo showcases innovative sustainable engineering technology. The WES on Climate Change 2015 photography competition is open to the industry, the public and students worldwide and highlights the growing impact of climate change across the globe.

For more information, visit www.wes-ies.org.

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