

Speech by Er. Edwin Khew, President, The Institution of Engineers, Singapore, at the Opening Ceremony of the World Engineers Summit - Applied Energy Symposium & Forum: Low Carbon Cities & Urban Energy Joint Conference (WES-CUE) 2017 on Wednesday, 19 July 2017, 9.00am at Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre

Our Guest-of-Honour, Mr. Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security;
Keynote speakers,
Excellencies, distinguished guests,
Fellow engineers,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Good Morning.

1. It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the official opening of the World Engineers Summit – Applied Energy Symposium & Forum: Low Carbon Cities & Urban Energy Joint Conference 2017, or WES-CUE 2017. On behalf of The Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES), I would like to thank Deputy Prime Minister Teo Chee Hean for gracing today's event as the guest-of-honour and your strong support for this event.

WES-CUE 2017: Global Engineering Summit

2. Since 2013, IES has held WES every two years, to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, ideas and best practices amongst the world's engineering communities, with a focus on climate change and sustainable urban development. Our aim is to generate innovative engineering solutions to mitigate and adapt to the impact of climate change, in view of

the increasingly prominent risks that it poses to global economies and human lives. The past two summits have been successful in enabling engineering-led discussions that led to vital contributions in driving global climate action.

3. This year, IES is pleased to present WES in collaboration with the International Conference on Applied Energy (ICAE) and The Applied Energy Innovation Institute (AEII). While still fixing our attention on climate change, this year's summit will delve more specifically into low carbon cities and urban energy, as energy use and conservation are key to the fulfilment of global sustainability goals.
4. Over the next three days, we will have international sustainable development experts sharing their precious insights; as well as more than 150 technical paper presentations by engineers and scientists from countries around the world.
5. IES believes that the beauty of engineering lies not in solitary individual efforts but in dynamic cooperation. We hope that the conference will provide international engineers and scientists with the platform to synergise their efforts and work with each other to create greater possibilities for the benefit of mankind.

Role of IES as Singapore's National Society of Engineers

6. Beyond WES, IES has continuously endeavoured to strengthen the capacity of engineers to respond to global challenges such as climate change. Besides advancing regional cooperation between engineers through our linkages with professional engineering organisations, IES has also been actively strengthening the technical competencies and knowledge of IES members and engineers in Singapore, and raising their professional standing.

7. Looking long term, IES has been intensively promoting engineering as a career of choice amongst our younger generation. In this regard, we have been organising the National Engineers Day since 2010 and the Energy Innovation Challenge since 2015. Our aims are to intrigue our younger generation with the wonders of engineering and excite them about the rewarding opportunities of an engineering career.
8. This year, to help students comprehend the reality of climate change as a global threat, IES has located NED 2017 right across the hallway. I would like to invite all delegates to visit the display of shortlisted EIC projects as you could just find a plausible solution to our energy issues amongst them.

Conclusion

9. In closing, I would like to once again thank DPM Teo for gracing today's official opening. My appreciation also goes out to all our sponsoring and supporting partners, plenary speakers, distinguished guests, conference delegates, sponsors, organising committees and the IES Secretariat for your valuable support. I would also like to thank Prof S.K. Chou and Prof J. Yan for your outstanding work as conference co-chairs; as well as Er Ng Say Cheong, Chairman of WES Organising Committee, the IES Secretariat, the IES PCO team and everyone who has contributed to making this conference and exhibition a success.
10. I wish everyone a fruitful and rewarding conference.