

**`Welcome Remarks by AiSP Immediate President Mr Johnny Kho at
AiSP 15th Anniversary Dinner,
18 April 2024, 7.15 PM**

1. Good Evening

- a. AiSP Patron and Senior Minister of State for Communications and Information and National Development, Mr Tan Kiat How**
- b. Member of Parliament for Pasir Ris-Punggol GRC and Director for NTUC U SME & Women Unit, Sister Yeo Wan Ling**
- c. British High Commissioner to Singapore, Ms Kara Owen**
- d. AiSP Advisory Chair, Commissioner of Cybersecurity and Chief Executive of the Cyber Security Agency (CSA) of Singapore, Mr David Koh**
- e. Chief Executive of the Government Technology Agency of Singapore (GovTech), Mr Goh Wei Boon**
- f. Chief Executive of the Centre for Strategic Infocomm Technologies (CSIT), Mr Darren Teo**
- g. Chief Executive Officer of JTC Corporation, Mr Tan Boon Khai**
- h. Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen**

2. Welcome to the AiSP 15th Anniversary Dinner.

3. Firstly, I would like to thank SMS Tan for taking time to grace this event.

4. I am pleased to welcome all of you here this evening to the AiSP 15th Anniversary Dinner! This evening theme is Empowering Our Ecosystem: 15 Years of Cybersecurity Synergy through People, Business, and Community Partnership for safer cyberspace which link to our AiSP vision of creating A

safe cyberspace supported by a strong and vibrant cybersecurity ecosystem.

5. **This evening's dinner is also a gathering for our Past AiSP EXCO members from Year 2008 to Year 2024 to gather for a reunion.** It is also a night of appreciation for our Cyber Security Professionals from our Academic Partners, Corporate Partners and to our Supporting Partners who have supported AiSP for the past 15 years. Without your support, AiSP will not be able to come this far.

6. As the 4th President of AiSP, I have big shoes to fill in when I took over from Prof Steven Wong in maintaining the high standards that he has set and sustaining the activities and engaging the ecosystem. When I took office as President, it was during the COVID pandemic and I need to juggle between work, family and COVID situation to engage our AiSP members through online webinars and activities. The journey was not easy but a fulfilling one thanks to our AiSP EXCO members who supported and believed in me to lead the association to greater heights and covering me when I am not available.

7. During my term as President, AiSP has make impact beyond the profession to be able to outreach locally to more than **28,000 people** on the importance of Cyber-wellness and Online Cyber Safe Practices. This was done through Roadshows at shopping malls, Community Centres and schools through various initiatives such as Digital for Life. AiSP was awarded the People Association Community Spirit Merit Award in July 2023 and MOE Partners Award in October 2023 for the strong advocacy of work through

continuous efforts and contributions in promoting good cyber hygiene habits and digital wellness to the masses.

8. One of the missions of AISP is developing our Youths and as such, AiSP have crafted out many activities such as AiSP Youth Symposium, Overseas Learning to our Southeast Asia Cyber Security Consortium partners countries such as Brunei, Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam. We also organised Bug Bounty Workshop, Career talks and learning journeys to our Corporate Partner companies for our Youths to have a better understanding of the workforce. We have outreached to more than **13,000 Youths** for the past 5 years and many of them are now working in the industry and joining us back as members or even serving in the AiSP EXCO to contribute back to the ecosystem. **One good example is Pengfei who is here with us this evening. Pengfei was a SVRP Award Winner in 2019 and the winner for the student category for The Cybersecurity Awards 2021 and now is our AiSP EXCO who co-lead the AiSP Student Volunteer Recognition Programme to create activities for our Youths members.**

9. For the regional initiative, AiSP formed the South-East Asia Cyber Security Consortium in 2022 and till date, we have done many webinars and learning journeys together and more lining up in the year ahead such as the translation of our Body of Knowledge into Vietnamese. Singapore had hosted the SEA CC forum in 2022 and 2023 and this year 2024, the forum will be held in Brunei and 2025 forum will be in Philippines. AiSP was also invited to be part of the ASEAN Japan Cybersecurity Community Alliance (AJCCA) which was formed in 2023 as we gather to share ideas and beliefs together. AiSP also participated in many different exhibitions, tradeshow and events across the region in Brunei, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia,

Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam where AiSP and our members get to showcase their services in the region.

10. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Singapore Cyber Security Inter Association (SCSIA) which consists of Centre for Strategic Cyberspace + International Studies (CSCIS), Cloud Security Alliance Singapore Chapter, HTCIA Singapore Chapter, ISACA Singapore Chapter, (ISC)² Singapore Chapter, The Law Society of Singapore, Singapore Computer Society, SGTech and OT-ISAC for their support for the past 4 years. Not forgetting the other AiSP MOU partners and supporting partners like ASME, ASPRI, British High Commission Singapore, Crest International, Czech Trade Singapore, Image Engine, NTUC U Associate, NTUC TTAB, NTUC U SME, People Association, Singapore German Chamber, Singapore Business Federation, Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Singapore FinTech Association, Singapore National Employers Federation, US Commercial Service and many others for their support for the past few years. Thank you all who are present this evening to join us in celebrating our Anniversary together.

11. I would also like to take this chance to thank Cyber Security Agency of Singapore, CSIT, DSTA, Enterprise Singapore, GovTech, IMDA, JTC, MINDEF, Ministry of Communications & Information, Ministry of Education, National Youth Council, Singapore Police Force, Skills Future and Workforce Singapore for your support in our activities. Without your support, our activities will not be possible. Thank you all who are present today to mark this milestone of AiSP.

12. Like what I mentioned last year during The Cybersecurity Awards 2023, I am glad to see how the cybersecurity ecosystem have grown more robust and resilient. Together, we have fostered a very cohesive cybersecurity community in Singapore and taken these beyond with regional and global groups.

13. AiSP has grown in terms of initiatives, that are carried out mainly by volunteers and supported by the secretariat. I believe that it is not only within AiSP, I am sure many of my peers from other associations have also spend significant amount of their free time volunteering for the activities of their associations and not in one association but many different associations.

14. Just some thoughts as we know that Cybersecurity is vibrant but hectic sector, the ability for one to sustain and grow requires great resilience. I personally have felt at times exhausted and in need of a break. People are a key element that it is been both the solution and the problem in cybersecurity in all aspects. For me, I took a break from volunteer work prior to joining AISP in 2017, kudos to Freddy who inspire me to rejoin the community. At this point, I do want to both thank and reach out to our Exco Alumina for their contributions and welcome them back to AISP and cybersecurity community.

15. I would like to encourage everyone to continue volunteering and contributing, as our collective effort matters, to build a better cybersecurity ecosystem and also a better future for our next generation.

16. Lastly, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the following individuals:

- AiSP Patron, Senior Minister of State Mr Tan Kiat How for lending your support in all the events and your advice and guidance for AiSP.
- AiSP Advisory Chair - Mr David Koh, AiSP Advisory Co-Chair – Ms Tammie Tham & Prof Chee Yeow Meng for your advice and guidance for AiSP through the advisory meetings.
- My AiSP Immediate Past President, Prof Steven Wong
- All the AiSP EXCO Members & Management Committee for your support and walking with me for the past 4 years to bring AiSP to the next level.
- Most importantly, the AiSP Secretariat who spent countless of evenings and weekends for the events.
- This is not a goodbye, but a renewal of leadership as I take over Prof Steven Wong as the Immediate Past President and I hope that everyone can give Tony the new President of AiSP the support, love and guidance you have given to me too and continue the journey with him to bring AiSP to greater heights. There are many other exciting activities for every one of us and I looked forward to meeting all of you in other events in my new role in AiSP.

17. With that, thank you and have a very enjoyable dinner.