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EMBARGOED TILL AFTER DELIVERY

**SPEECH BY MR LAM YI YOUNG, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, THE
MARITIME AND PORT AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE, AT THE
MARITIME YOUTH DAY 2011 DINNER WITH NCC,
INTERCONTINENTAL SINGAPORE, ON 30 NOVEMBER 2011,
AT 7.05PM**

Mr Roland Tan, Director, Singapore Maritime Academy,
Lieutenant Colonel Adrian Koh, Commandant, National Cadet
Corps,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Good evening.

It gives me great pleasure to join all of you here today as part of the Maritime Youth Day 2011. I am glad to see that many of you are still energetic despite spending the whole day out at Pulau Hantu today. I am sure that it has been an exciting and fulfilling day for you today.

2 This year is the second time that the Singapore Maritime Foundation, the Singapore Maritime Academy and the National Cadet Corps have come together to organise the Maritime Youth Day.

3 Through the Maritime Youth Day, we hope to give you a glimpse into the exciting maritime world that is a critical part of Singapore's economy and Singapore's prosperity. As a small island state, Singapore's survival and growth since Sir Stamford Raffles came here in 1819 have been intricately linked to the port, to shipping and to seaborne trade.

4 Today, the maritime sector accounts for 7% of Singapore's GDP and employs more than 170,000 people across more than 5,000 companies. We are one of the most important maritime nations in the world, with one of the world's busiest port. We are also a major player in building offshore rigs for oil and gas exploration, with some 70% of the world's market.

5 Although many of us may associate maritime with just the port and ships, Singapore's maritime sector is much more diverse than that. Besides careers in the port and onboard ships, the maritime sector also offers exciting careers in ship broking, business development, maritime law and arbitration, banking and finance, insurance, naval architecture, offshore and marine engineering, research and development, and many more areas.

6 What makes Singapore's maritime sector so successful is the people. As you would have experienced interacting with the lecturers and students from the Singapore Maritime Academy today, people in the maritime sector tend to be an exciting, fun loving and close knit bunch. We are always on the lookout for good people to join us and hope that you will also consider a maritime career.

7 We have various initiatives in place to help those who are interested in a maritime career. For example, we have the MaritimeONE scholarship programme.

8 Since 2007, a total of 88 scholarships, worth more than \$2.5 million dollars, have been awarded to outstanding students to

pursue maritime courses in polytechnics and universities, both locally and overseas.

9 For those who are interested in literally seeing the world we have the Tripartite Maritime Scholarship Scheme (TMSS) and the Seafaring Alternative...An Investment For Life (SAIL) scholarship scheme. Recipients of these scholarships will attend seafaring diploma programmes at the Singapore Maritime Academy at the Singapore Polytechnic. After graduation, they can work towards becoming Captains or Chief Engineers of merchant ships.

10 I hope that today's maritime immersion programme has helped you learn more about maritime and will inspire you to consider a future career in Singapore's vibrant and rewarding maritime sector. We hope to welcome you to join our maritime family in the near future.

Thank you.