



ADDRESS BY CAPTAIN SAY ENG SIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SINGAPORE MARITIME TRAINING FUND (SMTF) FUND RAISING GOLF COMMITTEE, AT THE 4th SMTF FUND RAISING GOLF 2006, HELD AT WARREN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB, ON 31 AUGUST 2006.

Our Guest-of-Honour Mr Lim Boon Heng – NTUC Secretary General, Minister, Prime Minister’s Office, NTUC Central Committee Members, SMOU President, Capt Robin Foo, General Secretary, Mr Thomas Tay, SMOU Executive Committee, shipping associates, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, a very good evening.

I’m sure that most of you have had a good game today and some of us have raised our own personal funds on the golf course. Most importantly, we’re here as part of fund raising efforts to advocate skills upgrading and to promote the sea career through the Singapore Maritime Training Fund (SMTF).

The SMTF, a collaboration between the shipping industry and the SMOU, presents an excellent opportunity for SMOU and the industry to develop joint training programs to upgrade the skill sets of our seafaring officers, improving our competitiveness and contributing towards Singapore as an International Maritime Centre (IMC).

Before this afternoon’s tee-off, the SMTF stood at S\$2.4 million. Our target for the 4th SMTF Fund Raising Golf this afternoon was \$100,000. I am pleased to announce that we have exceeded the target and the amount raised is **\$118,000**. Thanks to the strong support by the shipping companies, NTUC affiliated unions and co-operatives, other associates, and all our sponsors. **The SMTF now stands at S\$2.5 million**.

Since its recent launch, the SMOU has benefited 6 SMOU members who have received training grants of more than S\$40,000. 3 of whom from Qingdao in China are pursuing their training at the Singapore Maritime Academy (SMA). Another 3 members are

pursuing their Bachelor programme in Maritime Operations offered by the Netherlands Maritime Institute Willem Barentsz (MIWB) in collaboration with the SMA.

SMOU is a progressive union with a vision to ensure that its members deserve the best, in terms of union protection, welfare and training. It is also a union that takes care of its foreign and local seafaring members.

Today's event would not be possible without the kind sponsorship and generosity of our main sponsor, OCBC Bank, our hole-in-one sponsor Cycle & Carriage, other kind sponsors and sponsors of golf flights from the many organisations who have made this event a great success.

On behalf of the SMTF Fund Raising Committee, we would like to thank our guest-of-honour, Mr Lim Boon Heng, for taking time off his busy schedule to officiate at this event and for actively supporting the SMTF.

On this note, we hope that you'll enjoy the evening's dinner and entertainment. You've worked hard on your game, the night is still young, enjoy yourself.

Thank you very much.

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