

**Welcome Remarks by AiSP President Mr Johnny Kho at
The Cybersecurity Awards 2020,
26 February 2021, 6.05 PM**

1. Good Evening
 - a. Minister for Communications and Information and the Minister in Charge of Cybersecurity, Mr S Iswaran
 - b. Ms Yong Ying-I, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Information
 - c. Mr David Koh, Chief Executive, Cyber Security Agency of Singapore
 - d. Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

2. Welcome to the Cybersecurity Awards 2020.

3. Firstly, I would like to thank Minister Iswaran for taking time to grace this event.

4. Despite the extreme times, the Cybersecurity Awards serves as an important platform to recognise cybersecurity professionals, companies, and non-profit organisations for their contributions to the borderless cybersecurity ecosystem. This is especially so, with the acceleration of digitalization which makes a robust cybersecurity ecosystem even more important to ensure the resiliency of the nation, enterprises as well as individuals.

5. The 2020 Cybersecurity Awards was only made possible through the continual strong public-private-academic partnerships between AiSP, the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore, the supporting organisations, the sponsors as well as many students, professionals and enterprises that

have put themselves forward to be nominated for the awards despite the pandemic that Singapore is going through.

6. Thus, I would like to take this opportunity to firstly thank all our sponsors, especially our platinum sponsors, namely.

- a. BeyondTrust
- b. CISCO
- c. Ensign InfoSecurity
- d. ST Engineering

And our Gold sponsors, namely

- CyberProof
- TrendMicro

And our Silver sponsors, namely

- DBS Bank
- PCS Security
- RSA
- Singtel
- Thales Group
- Wizlynz Group
- WSG

for their strong support of this event.

7. I would also like to acknowledge the significant contributions by all the supporting associations in the organisation of The Cybersecurity Awards and in alphabetical order, please put your hands together for:
- a. Center for Strategic Cyberspace & International Studies
 - b. Cloud Security Alliance
 - c. High Technology Crime Investigation Association Singapore Chapter
 - d. ISACA Singapore Chapter
 - e. (ISC)² Singapore Chapter
 - f. Singapore Computer Society
 - g. SGTech
 - h. The Law Society of Singapore
 - i. And, most importantly the Cyber Security Agency of Singapore as well as the exco and volunteers from the Association of Information Security Professionals.
8. Across the last year, over 40 professionals from AiSP and these supporting associations have volunteered their personal time to contribute towards the organisation of this Awards. Many professionals from the various associations have taken time off from work in August to October to volunteer on the judging panels.
9. Professionals, comprising of key members of the various associations, have also spent one to two evenings every month after work, as part of the Singapore Cybersecurity Inter-association meetings to plan and organise the Awards. The members had to juggle between working from home, family, volunteering at their own associations and also helping to

organising this award despite the situation that Singapore was facing last year. Thus, I would like everyone to join me to thank all judges and multi-association members for their efforts.

10. Overall, across all categories, it is hearteningly that almost 40 excellent nominations were received for 2020. After rounds of evaluation by the various judging panels, 20 finalists were identified. My heartiest congratulations to all finalists and award winners. No matter what the outcome is, every one of us seated down here is a winner of our own.

11. Lastly, I would like to use this opportunity to reflect upon my own journey as this Awards was my first term as the President for AiSP.

12. Throughout the past 9 months, I am glad to see how the cybersecurity ecosystem have grown even through this pandemic as we bring our talks online to webinar and with the mindset of contributing back to the ecosystem and helping others. Our EXCO and volunteers together with the secretariat team had fostered a very cohesive cybersecurity community in Singapore. This is not common in most countries and is an important asset that we have, and we had to treasure and safeguard. One example was that the Multi Associations had come together to not only organise the Cybersecurity Awards but also organised the first Singapore Cyber Day last year November as they believe cybersecurity vocation is a calling and wants to bring this message closer to Singapore's future generations. They reached out to Singapore Primary, Secondary Schools and Pre-Universities to talk about cybersecurity profession and how everyone is part of Singapore's cybersecurity ecosystem and our cyber resilience. For its first Singapore Cyber Day, the

different associations volunteers are involved in a series of school talks for secondary school and pre-university students where it reached out to more than 1,000 students through the video series. We should all continue to work together and encourage more to volunteer.

13.As the President of AiSP, while it is tough to juggle time between work, family and community, it is fruitful and satisfying experience to see the difference made with AISP's initiatives spanning from our advancing the professionals' knowledge under our Cyber Security Body of Knowledge related activities to strengthening the ecosystem through our collaborative partnerships with local, regional and international organisations as well as Cyber Security Awareness and Advisory Programme for SME's in partnership with the Trade and Business Associations. Our outreach to engage, mentor as well as to recognize the younger generation is led by our Ladies-in-Cyber and Student Volunteer and Recognition Programs.

14.This is not possible without great teamwork and like to thank the exco team especially elected committee, namely, Alex, Andre, Cecil, Faith, Freddy, Samson, Sherin, Tam and Yee Ching. Our secretariat, Karen, Rudy and Vincent are also significant part of the team equation as well.

15.I believe that it is not only within AiSP, I am sure many of my peers from other associations have also spend significant amounts of their free time volunteering for the activities of the associations.

16.With much passion, I would encourage everyone to continue volunteering and contributing, as all our efforts matters, as collectively, we will achieve

a sustainable and cohesive cybersecurity ecosystem and a better future for our next generation.

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