Welcome Remarks by AiSP Vice-President & Founder for AiSP Ladies in Cyber Charter - Ms Sherin Y Lee at AiSP Ladies in Cyber Symposium,

18 March 2023, 2.05 PM

1. Good Afternoon
   a. Mrs Josephine Teo, Minister for Ministry of Communications and Information and Minister In-Charge for Smart Nation and Cybersecurity.
   b. Ms Tammie Tham, Co-Chair of AISP Advisory Council & Group CEO of Ensign InfoSecurity
   c. Professor Annie Koh, Professor Emeritus of Finance (Practice), Senior Advisor, Business Families Institute of Singapore Management University
   d. Colleagues and Friends from AiSP, Cybersecurity Agency of Singapore, GovTech and IMDA
   e. Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen who are with us physically

Welcome to the AiSP's Ladies in Cyber Symposium, our second annual event celebrating gender diversity in cybersecurity with a special focus on our event theme "Pioneering AI and Cybersecurity: Women Charting the Course." We are honoured to have Minister Josephine Teo with us today, showing her support for this initiative.

Today, we celebrate the achievements of AiSP Ladies in Cyber Charter, marking 5 years of commitment to advancing gender diversity in the cybersecurity sector. As we stand here, we acknowledge the incredible

efforts taken to empower and inspire more women to join this exciting field of cybersecurity.

In early 2022, the Ladies in Cyber Charter set an ambitious goal to empower and mentor 3000 aspiring women cyber talents by end 2023. Today, I am happy to announce that we have surpassed it, with more than 4000 talented women now part of this initiative. Among them, many are pioneering the course of Cyber AI, and in cybersecurity, charting the course for future generations. However, we will continue to strive towards our goal of encouraging more women to join this field.

Just last week, we kicked off our celebrations at the Singapore Institute of Technology as part of International Women's Day celebrations. And now, we are gathered to launch our AiSP Ladies in Cyber bear mascot, THENA. THENA is taken from the name Athena which means the Goddess of Wisdom, and it symbolises the leadership and diverse capabilities of women in cybersecurity.

THENA celebrates the spirit of collaboration and empowerment among women in the field, and moving forward, THENA represents the Charters' programme which focuses on two key areas: mentorship and community service. Our dedicated programme volunteers, THENAs, will guide and support others in realising their full potential while making a positive impact in their communities.

Indeed, we find ourselves in a period of remarkable change and challenge. Our rapidly evolving, hybrid world is defined by the constant transformation of the virtual realm. As citizens of this virtual world, we bear the responsibility of safeguarding its future. A future that is secure, and where AI in cybersecurity plays a pivotal role.

Today's symposium also celebrates the power of femininity and the unique perspectives, creativity, and determination that women bring to the cybersecurity field. Now is the time for women to take leading roles in shaping the future of cybersecurity. Together with the rest of the community, we are committed to addressing the challenges and safeguarding our families, the nation, and the world.

For those considering a career in cybersecurity, I assure you that it will be a challenging, rewarding, and meaningful journey. You will be at the forefront of one of Singapore's fastest-growing industries, contributing significantly to our nation's cyber defence, ensuring that cyber adversaries will not derail our digital aspirations.

Lastly, I encourage you to interact and learn from the amazing women leaders, professionals and mentors who are here today. Their experience and insights can help you succeed as you embark on a journey in this industry.

2. Partners

Before closing, I just want to add that the success of this event is largely due to the unwavering support from our partners and sponsors. We extend our gratitude to each of them, listed here in no particular order:

1. Acronis
2. Cybersecurity Agency of Singapore
3. DBS
4. Ensign InfoSecurity
5. GovTech
6. IMDA
7. NCS
8. NTUC U Associate
9. People's Association

10.   Singtel

11.   SG Her Empowerment

12.   Tenable

3. I would also like to encourage more female students to step up and contribute by volunteering their time and skills. Together, we can build a sustainable and cohesive cybersecurity ecosystem, paving the way for a brighter future for the next generation. I look forward to seeing you in AiSP's Ladies in cyber THENA programmes, upcoming learning journeys, and many more. Thank you.