

## Speech by Mr Tan Kiat How, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information, and Patron, AiSP, at the SEACC Forum on 16 October

AiSP President Johnny Kho

Director, Projects – Office of the Provost, Singapore Institute of Technology

Professor Steven Wong

Association Partners

Distinguished Guests

### **Introduction**

Thank you for joining us today at the South East Asia Cybersecurity Consortium (SEACC) Forum, this is the second time the forum was held since its initiation last year, which provides for a pivotal gathering where the associations from South East Asia gather to address the pressing issues surrounding the safety of our digital ecosystem in the region. This forum serves as a catalyst for comprehensive dialogue, fostering cooperation, and forging a path towards a safer cyberspace for our region.

In this digital age, our lives have become intrinsically linked to the vast and intricate world of cyberspace. The internet has revolutionised the way we

communicate, conduct business, and access information. It has transcended borders, connecting people and nations like never before.

However, with this extraordinary connectivity comes an array of complex challenges. Our digital ecosystem faces an ever-evolving landscape of cyber threats which transcend borders, making it crucial for nations to come together in unity to confront them.

The SEACC Forum provides a common platform to allow collaboration and information sharing to fortify our digital defences. Safeguarding our digital future requires a joint effort, not just internally but externally.

During this forum, we can have the opportunity to pool our collective knowledge, share best practices, and discuss innovative solutions. We can foster partnerships and build the alliances necessary to respond effectively to the evolving cyber landscape. Our discussions here will help us navigate the complexities of cyberspace and, in doing so, protect the security and well-being of our nations.

## Witnessing of MoUs

Today, I am happy to witness the signing of two Memorandums of Understanding between AiSP and their partners. Such collaborative efforts are essential for the advancement of cybersecurity training and education purposes. Cybersecurity is a team sport which transcends international boundaries and languages. I would like to express my appreciation to AiSP for their dedication to this mission.

## Conclusion

I commend the organisers for their foresight in convening this forum, and would like to express my gratitude to all the participants for their commitment to this shared endeavour. Together, we can shape a digital future that is not only innovative and interconnected but also resilient and secure.

Let us use this opportunity to engage in fruitful discussions, build bridges, and lay the foundation for a safer digital landscape in South East Asia. I have no doubt that the insights and collaborations that emerge from this forum will propel us towards a brighter and more secure future.

Thank you, and I wish you all a productive and successful forum.