

**REMARKS BY MR GOH PEI MING, SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE,
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF HOME
AFFAIRS AT THE COMMUNITY CHEST-MANDAI WILDLIFE GROUP
PARTNERSHIP MOU SIGNING ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2026**

Mr Bennett Neo, Group CEO, Mandai Wildlife Group,

Mr Jack Lim, Managing Director, Community Chest,

Families and friends from Fei Yue Community Services,

- 1 Good morning. I'm very happy to join you today to mark this meaningful partnership between Community Chest and Mandai Wildlife Group. It is a momentous partnership we are forging today. It goes beyond donations and is about giving more families the opportunity to enjoy wildlife experiences – experiences that support wellbeing, strengthen family bonds and inspire learning. I am happy to see young children and eager learners among us.
- 2 I come to the zoo quite often with my own family. My children have grown up with the park. This space has really transformed so much in recent years with rich new offerings for everyone in the family. It gives us the chance to slow down, put our screens away, and simply enjoy being together. Moments such as observing an animal, answering questions from curious children, or just chatting as we stroll amidst nature, help us connect and create memories. We want more families to experience what the Mandai Wildlife Reserve has to offer.
- 3 Hence I am heartened by the partnership which will move beyond one-off visits for our service users to come more regularly to the Mandai Wildlife Reserve.
- 4 Mandai Wildlife Group will be providing up to 50,000 complimentary admissions worth about \$3 million each year for service users of our various social service agencies to enjoy the wildlife parks and indoor attractions, and come spend family time and forge memories here at the Mandai Wildlife Reserve. Community Chest will aggregate and avail these opportunities across its network of over 400 social

service agencies. Community Chest will also rally corporate partners to enrich other aspects of the outings – for example, by donating meals or souvenirs to make the day even more memorable.

- 5 The partnership does not stop there. Community Chest and Mandai Wildlife Group are also working to enhance the inclusivity of public playgrounds at the Mandai Wildlife Reserve, so children of different abilities can play and explore at their own pace.
- 6 As the collaboration takes off, I encourage more organisations to think creatively about what more they can contribute. Supporting our communities does not always have to be through donations. Businesses can contribute their resources, expertise, networks, spaces, and time.
- 7 When people and organisations come together in this We First spirit, new ideas and possibilities emerge. This is the spirit that underpins MSF's campaign this year on "Better Starts with Us". I look forward to seeing more partnerships that uplift individuals and families, especially young children, in different but equally meaningful ways, building a more caring and inclusive Singapore.
- 8 I understand that for some of our families from Fei Yue, this may be your first time visiting the zoo. I hope you have lots of fun exploring, ask all the questions, and to everyone here, have a wonderful day ahead.