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EDMAS NEO APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT ACTION COMMUNITY FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Singapore, 03 August 2017 - The Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE), a national private-led organisation with the mission to help drive innovation and entrepreneurship in Singapore, has appointed Edmas Neo as Executive Director (ED), with effect from 15 August 2017. Edmas will lead ACE's mission in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, and strengthen support in driving entrepreneurship initiatives in Singapore. He takes over the reins from Phan Ching Chong, who served as ACE's ED since 2016.

Prior to joining ACE, Edmas, 46, was Regional Director, Partnership and Collaborative Innovation at Singapore Innovate, a prominent venture capital firm and startup ecosystem builder wholly owned by the Singapore Government.

As the founder of the Technopreneur Action Group (Singapore and Taiwan), which has over 500 members across Asia, Edmas designed and spearheaded the TAGPASS acceleration and corporate innovation programmes that saw the successful acceleration of over 70 startups and several key corporate innovation initiatives. He played a pioneering and pivotal role in the push for corporate-startup co-innovation in Singapore, enabling programmes such as the KPMG Digital Village, The Open Vault at OCBC, NTUC INCOME Future Starter, Watson TAGPASS, and Cisco Smart Innovation.

Edmas brings with him more than 18 years of experience in managing technology programmes, business process innovation consulting, change management and startup ecosystem development. He has established a vast network of key contacts across the region in both public and private sectors.



Dr Mark Hon, Chairman of ACE, said, “Edmas’ deep understanding of the local and regional startup ecosystems, built on many years of experience in various areas of business development, will be an important thrust to further ACE’s commitment in nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship in Singapore.”

“I am honoured to join ACE and be part of a team of passionate people, under the guidance of a dedicated board in supporting the spirit of entrepreneurship. I look forward to continue my contributions to the startup ecosystem, to the building of Singapore as the startup launchpad into the region, and anchoring Singapore as an interconnected regional innovation hub,” said Edmas.

Edmas holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electrical & Electronic Engineering from the Nanyang Technological University and a Global Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Alliance Manchester Business School, with a focus on Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management, and Venture Capital and Private Equity.

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About Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE)

The Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE) was launched in 2003 by the Ministry of Trade & Industry as a national effort to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in Singapore. It was re-structured in 2014 as a private-led initiative supported by the government to continue its national mandate to drive entrepreneurship initiatives in Singapore. The Minister of State for Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Trade & Industry, Dr Koh Poh Koon is Patron. Working closely with SPRING Singapore, ACE is guided by a board of directors that comprises of experienced entrepreneurs and professionals who are immersed in the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

ACE takes on three main thrusts to focus on strengthening the entrepreneurial scene by, (i) working with the community to engage and support promising entrepreneurs through resources, networks and mentorship, (ii) being the voice to speak for entrepreneurs and lobby for relevant policy changes and (iii) reaching out to schools and youths to support their entrepreneurial efforts.

For more information on ACE, please visit www.ace.org.sg.

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