

MEDIA RELEASE



3 February 2010

New Platform to Empower and Connect Young Women Leaders

The Young Women's Leadership Connection (YWLC), a network catering to the needs of young women community leaders, will be officially launched **on Friday, 5 February 2010**, at **UBS AG Singapore** by **Mrs. Lim Hwee Hua, Minister (Prime Minister's Office) & Second Minister for Finance and for Transport** as Guest-of-Honour. The first Executive Committee of YWLC will also be installed at the event.

With the aim of building a pipeline of women community leaders for Singapore, Minister Lim, together with UBS Singapore, started the YWLC initiative to engage Singapore's next generation of women leaders. The initiative kicked off in July 2008 with a series of dialogue sessions for about 150 young women leaders from NUS, NTU and SMU. This culminated in a mentorship program for 30 of these young women, where they got the privilege to tap on the insights of some of Singapore's most accomplished women leaders. Some of these founding mentors will also be present at the event to lend their support.¹ A list of the mentors is attached.

On the impetus behind this initiative, Minister Lim said: "My personal experience and observations led me to conclude that women, unlike men, somehow network a lot less. As women go through the different stages in life, their personal and career goals change. Availability of mutual support and guidance from mentors would go a long way towards helping younger women realise their full potential and contribute to society as a whole."

With the past guidance and support of Minister Lim and UBS, the 30 young women leaders who participated in the Mentorship Programme have taken the initiative one step further, establishing the YWLC as a committee run by and for its members. The YWLC will join the People's Association network of community organisations to reach out and engage people of diverse backgrounds. It is also a platform for YWLC to give back to the society through community work. Under the leadership of its pioneer Executive Committee, YWLC will structure its programmes around four core themes: Leadership Development, Mentorship, Community Engagement and Networking.

Michelle Tan, incoming chairperson of YWLC's first executive committee, said: "We believe our programmes will provide a comprehensive range of opportunities to equip our members with the aptitude and attitude to lead and serve in Society. We hope to take YWLC to the next level and have a wider and greater impact on young women leaders."

Applauding the young ladies' efforts, Minister Lim commented: "This pioneer Exco is very well placed to move our vision forward; they are energetic, resourceful and most importantly, correctly motivated to serve the other ladies. I am confident of a successful outreach that will form a critical foundation for YWLC."

¹ Including the following:

Ms. Christine Ong, Chief Executive Officer, UBS Wealth Management Singapore
Ms. Teo Lay-sie, Chief Operating Officer, UBS Singapore & Asia Emerging Markets
Ms. Julie Yeo, Head, Corporate Communications, UBS Singapore & South-East Asia
Ms. Penny Low, President & Founder, Social Innovation Park, and MP for Pasir Ris-Punggol GRC
Ms. Nanz Chong-Komo, Founder, NanzInc.com
Ms. Janice Ang, Entrepreneur/Executive Coach

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Event Details

Young Women's Leadership Connection Official Launch and 1st Executive Committee Investiture

Date & Time

5 February 2010, 7.30PM to 9:00PM

Venue

Raffles Auditorium, UBS AG, Level 49, North Tower, One Raffles Quay, Singapore

Guest-of-Honour

Mrs. Lim Hwee Hua

Minister (Prime Minister's Office) & Second Minister for Finance and for Transport

Your journalist and photography / camera crew are invited to cover the Official Launch of YWLC. Interviews opportunities are available upon request.

We would appreciate it if you could RSVP your attendance to:

Ms. Monica Shoo

Director, Public Relations

Mobile: 9235 2207 / E-mail: publicrelations@ywlc.org.sg

OR

Ms. Grace Lim

Honorary General Secretary & Event I/C











Mobile: 9660 1413 / Email: grace@ywlc.org.sg

Any media enquiries may also be directed to Ms. Shoo or Ms. Lim

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List of Mentors

 Mrs. Lim Hwee Hua	Minister, Prime Minister's Office Second Minister for Finance and for Transport	 Ms. Grace Fu	Senior Minister of State Ministry of National Development & Education Member of Parliament for Jurong GRC
 Ms. Christine Ong	Chief Executive Officer, UBS Wealth Management Singapore	 Ms. Janice Ang	Entrepreneur / Executive Coach
 Ms. Ellen Lee	Consultant, Ramdas and Wong Singapore Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC	 Ms. Jessica Tan	Managing Director, Microsoft Singapore Member of Parliament for East Coast GRC
 Mrs. Fang Ai Lian	Chairman, Great Eastern	 Ms. Julie Yeo	Head of Corporate Communications, Singapore and South East Asia, UBS
 Dr. Fatimah Lateef	Consultant, Department of Emergency Medicine, Singapore General Hospital Member of Parliament for Marine Parade GRC	 Er. Lee Bee Wah	Principal Partner, LBW Consultants Member of Parliament for Ang Mo Kio GRC

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List of Mentors (Continued)

 <p>Madam Halimah Yacob</p>	<p>Assistant Secretary General, NTUC</p> <p>Member of Parliament for Jurong GRC</p>	 <p>Mrs. Laura Hwang</p>	<p>Managing Director, Memories of the East Pte Ltd &</p> <p>Vice-Chairman, Singapore Council of Women's Organisations</p>
 <p>Ms. Nanz Chong-Komo</p>	<p>Founder, NanzInc.com</p>	 <p>Ms. Olivia Lum</p>	<p>Group Chief Executive Officer & Chairman, Hyflux Ltd</p>
 <p>Ms. Penny Low</p>	<p>President & Founder, Social Innovation Park</p> <p>Member of Parliament for Punggol-Pasir Ris GRC</p>	 <p>Ms. Teo Lay-Sie</p>	<p>Chief Operating Officer, UBS Singapore and Asia Emerging Markets</p>