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Media Release

SINGAPORE HOSTS INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON HEALTHY LONGEVITY

Commission will put forward actionable recommendations to spur innovation in healthy longevity and guide policymakers, the private sector and stakeholders globally

Singapore, 3 February 2020 – The human race is at the cusp of a demographic transition, experiencing rapidly ageing populations coupled with declining birth rates all around the world. To successfully mitigate this and build a critical support framework, the United States of America's National Academy of Medicine (NAM) is spearheading an international, independent and multidisciplinary initiative to develop a Global Roadmap for Healthy Longevity that will identify – through evidence-based recommendations – the necessary priorities and directions for improving health, productivity and quality of life worldwide.

Singapore is privileged to be chosen as the site for the two-day Health Care Systems & Public Health: A Workshop for the Global Roadmap for Healthy Longevity Initiative, organised by NAM from 3 to 4 February 2020, in partnership with the MOH Office for Healthcare Transformation (MOHT), the National University Health System (NUHS), the National University of Singapore (NUS) and the National Research Foundation Singapore (NRF).

More than 200 delegates comprising an International Commission appointed by NAM, leading global thought leaders, as well as decision makers from academia, healthcare organisations, industry players, government, media and civic societies that have active roles in shaping approaches towards global ageing and healthy longevity will convene in Singapore for the workshop.

From the workshop discussions, the International Commission will put forward actionable recommendations to spur innovation, and guide other policymakers, governmental and non-governmental organisations, the private sector, and stakeholders globally. Proceedings of the presentations and discussions at the workshop are expected to be published in late 2020.

International Commission on Healthy Longevity

As part of the Global Roadmap for Healthy Longevity, NAM has convened an International Commission to assess the challenges presented by global ageing, and demonstrate how these challenges can be translated into opportunities for global societies to prolong healthy living and quality of life. The Commission will assess the evidence across three domains:

- Social, Behavioural, and Environmental Enablers
- Health Care Systems and Public Health
- Science and Technology

Singapore's workshop on Health Care Systems and Public Health will discuss the challenges and opportunities, as well as potential solutions that would enhance the design of health and long-term care systems, including clinical services, health promotion, disease prevention services, and social care to foster the capacity and ability of ageing societies around the world.

In collaboration with NAM, Singapore is also one of the global collaborators of the Healthy Longevity Catalyst Awards launched here in January 2020. This is a global initiative aimed at catalysing transformative ideas and innovation to improve and advance healthy ageing and longevity around the world. Supported by NRF and the Ministry of Health (MOH), Singapore will be sponsoring 45 Catalyst Awards across three years from 2020 to 2022. The Catalyst Awards aim to reach out to local innovators and researchers from all disciplines, as well as private enterprises, thereby catalysing research and innovation in the broader ecosystem. The collaboration also provides greater exposure to the international ageing research landscape, allowing Singapore to plug into global networks in ageing research and translation.

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About the National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

The National Academy of Medicine, established in 1970 as the Institute of Medicine, is an independent organisation of eminent professionals from diverse fields including health and medicine; the natural, social, and behavioral sciences; and beyond. It serves alongside the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering as an adviser to the U.S. and the international community. The NAM collaborates closely with its peer academies and other divisions within the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

About the MOH Office of Healthcare Transformation (MOHT)

MOHT is an agile unit with the mandate to address fundamental and longer-term issues critical for system-level healthcare transformation to meet Singapore's changing demography, and health and disease patterns. MOHT works with partners to identify pilots that support its programmes and complement ongoing work at MOH and clusters / institutions, with each pilot

taking a design-centric approach to implementation, involving providers, healthcare professionals, patients and caregivers at all stages of the design of solutions. MOHT adopts a value-based healthcare approach in endeavouring to achieve better health and clinical outcomes.

A longer-term and broader perspective is essential in identifying key system-wide changes needed. These encompass shifts to encompass the following three directions: (1) longitudinal, holistic care across persons' entire life course; (2) strengthened focus on wellness and the prevention of chronic disease; and (3) empowerment of individuals and patients for better self-management.

Each collaboration will be staged with rapid build-measure-learn cycles, anchored by enablers such as technology scanning, IT, data analytics, finance and incentive redesign. From these collaborations, MOHT will develop frameworks, methodologies and toolkits to enable effective solutions to be scaled across the wider healthcare system.

For more information, visit www.moht.com.sg.

About the National University Health System (NUHS)

The National University Health System (NUHS) aims to transform how illness is prevented and managed by discovering causes of disease, development of more effective treatments through collaborative multidisciplinary research and clinical trials, and creation of better technologies and care delivery systems in partnership with others who share the same values and vision.

Institutions in the NUHS Group include the National University Hospital, Ng Teng Fong General Hospital, Jurong Community Hospital and Alexandra Hospital; three National Specialty Centres - National University Cancer Institute, Singapore (NCIS), National University Heart Centre, Singapore (NUHCS) and National University Centre for Oral Health, Singapore (NUCOHS); the National University Polyclinics (NUP); Jurong Medical Centre; and three NUS health sciences schools – NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (including the Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies), NUS Faculty of Dentistry and NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health.

With member institutions under a common governance structure, NUHS creates synergies for the advancement of health by integrating patient care, health science education and biomedical research.

As a Regional Health System, NUHS works closely with health and social care partners across Singapore to develop and implement programmes that contribute to a healthy and engaged population in the Western part of Singapore.

For more information, please visit <http://www.nuhs.edu.sg>.

About National University of Singapore (NUS)

The National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore's flagship university, which offers a global approach to education, research and entrepreneurship, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise. We have 17 faculties across three campuses in Singapore, as well as 12 NUS Overseas Colleges across the world. Close to 40,000 students from 100 countries enrich our vibrant and diverse campus community.

Our multidisciplinary and real-world approach to education, research and entrepreneurship enables us to work closely with industry, governments and academia to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in our faculties, 29 university-level research institutes, research centres of excellence and corporate labs focus on themes that include energy, environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases common among Asians; active ageing; advanced materials; as well as risk management and resilience of financial systems. Our latest research focus is on the use of data science, operations research and cybersecurity to support Singapore's Smart Nation initiative.

For more information on NUS, please visit www.nus.edu.sg.

About the National Research Foundation Singapore (NRF)

The National Research Foundation Singapore (NRF) is a department within the Prime Minister's Office. NRF sets the national direction for research, innovation and enterprise (RIE) in Singapore. It seeks to invest in science, technology and engineering, build up the technological capacity of our companies, encourage innovation by industry to exploit new opportunities that drive economic growth, and facilitate public-private partnerships to address national challenges.

Under RIE2020, NRF is committed to create greater value in Singapore from our investment in research, innovation and enterprise through 1) closer integration of research thrusts, 2) stronger dynamic towards the best teams and ideas, 3) sharper focus on value creation, and 4) better optimised RIE manpower.

For more information, visit www.nrf.gov.sg/RIE2020.