Good afternoon.

Thank you for joining us today at this momentous occasion. The official opening of the Mochtar Riady building marks the climax of our 45th anniversary celebrations and we are proud and deeply grateful for the overwhelming support that you have given to NUS Business School.

This celebration displays the strengths of our school and more importantly, shows the concerted effort made by everyone; the faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends in coming together to actualise this celebration.

First and foremost, to Dr Mochtar Riady and family, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your generous gift and goodwill. This building that houses all our faculties, students and staff, aids in fostering a greater spirit of community, friendship and learning.

I would like to thank the faculty and alumni as well. You have been instrumental as the foundation of our institution of learning. Your hard work and diligence has enabled NUS Business School to reach the high standards that it enjoys today.
Furthermore, together with our students and staff, they have rallied behind the building project and have contributed generously to the Building Excellence Campaign, our fundraising campaign for the building fund. We owe our thanks to all of you.

To our Management Advisory Board, thank you for your guidance and strategic advice that has led us through our decisions concerning the school and its future.

To the President and his leadership team, your support and encouragement have been most valuable. Thank you for believing in us.

And to the students, who are the key reasons why we are here; thank you for your hard work and the willingness to push yourselves in your studies, constantly asking questions that keep us on our toes. You energize us.

I want to thank the celebration committee, led by Prof. Hum Sin Hoon. When we plan the celebration, I invited all ex-deans to form the council of celebration because they are the leaders who built our current platform. I want to thank them all, particularly Prof. Hum Sin Hoon who chaired the council.

Looking ahead, here at the NUS Business School, we aspire to become the source of transformational business and management teaching and ideas that contribute directly to the development of Singapore and Asia. This aspiration means several things.

First, we have to relentlessly apply world-class standards and capabilities to rigorously tackle important research questions that generate practical and relevant business, economics and policy insights.

Second, we must develop our students to be leaders. Besides having rigorous thinking, practical and relevant knowledge and leadership capabilities, our
graduates also have to be eloquent leaders who have the right values and the desire to serve our societies.

Third, we need to be a community that cares – alumni, students, faculty and staff together have the pride in our hearts to be an engaging community that makes a meaningful difference.

We have had a wonderful 45 years, during which we grew with Singapore. In the next 45 years, Singapore will be a source of innovation and growth for Asia. We want to soar with Singapore. Along this direction, I look forward to working hard with all of you to build a future that positions us as the leading Asia’s Global Business School. This wonderful new building, the Mochtar Riady Building, will be the cornerstone for our further growth.

Again, thanks to everyone. Enjoy the party; let us celebrate our past success and solidify our resolve to climb the next heights with Singapore based on this beautiful modern new home, the Mochtar Riady building.

Thank you.