

**PROGRAMME BOOKLET MESSAGE**  
**MR. MICHAEL PALMER, SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE AWARDS 2012**  
**WEDNESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2012, 6.15PM**  
**MANDARIN ORCHARD HOTEL, MANDARIN BALLROOM**

This year the Spirit of Enterprise (SOE) celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. My heartfelt congratulations go to the many volunteers and organisations who have worked, supported and contributed to the growth of SOE. Your contribution and support rendered to this charitable organisation has allowed it to grow into what it is today. This is also a testament of the SOE committee's dedication in promoting and encouraging the growth of the entrepreneurial spirit in Singapore.

With their ability to innovate, seize opportunities and make the best out of any challenge, entrepreneurs inject dynamism and contribute significantly to our economy. One key characteristic of great entrepreneurial companies is that they take on a global market perspective, scouting the world for business opportunities and resources to forge ahead. I urge all budding entrepreneurs to think global and to build networks with global players, including players in a fast-growing Asia.

What sets a successful entrepreneur apart from the crowd is that he or she will be able to pick themselves up after a fall. No entrepreneurial journey is without its failures. There will be ups and down, hiccups and setbacks; but it is the combined experience that makes the entrepreneur a success.

We should, of course, always recognise that these inspiring individuals would not have come so far if not for the unconditional support and love from families, friends, partners and colleagues in their lives.

I would like to congratulate all honourees and nominees and wish them continued success in their future endeavours. It is my hope that this success celebrated here today will continue to inspire even more Singaporeans to pursue their dreams and contribute to the growth and success of our people and nation. Thank you.