

**SPEECH BY MR TAN KAI HOE,
CHAIRMAN, SINGAPORE RED CROSS COUNCIL
AT THE SINGAPORE RED CROSS 48TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
27 JUNE 2022 . HAW PAR HALL . RED CROSS HOUSE**

Singapore Red Cross Members

Fellow Council Members

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Evening. Thank you for joining us at the Singapore Red Cross' 48th Annual General Meeting.

While the latest easing of restrictions brings Singapore closer to normalcy, the social and economic repercussions of the pandemic will no doubt continue to linger and unravel other vulnerabilities in our community. We have our work cut out for us, but I am heartened that through this period, we have had the steadfast support of our partners, donors and volunteers who stood in solidarity with us amid the challenging times.

As you witnessed through the earlier video highlighting our 2021 efforts, and the heartwarming stories in our Impact Report, your contributions and support have enabled us to continue to deliver on our mission, and to bring hope to the many who were and still are adversely affected. It is the immense power of our collective action for humanity on which the Impact Report is themed. The Impact Report lays out the

transformative impact of our work on the community, and shares the experiences of the vulnerable persons and families amongst us.

Besides the COVID-19 pandemic, the recent humanitarian crises in Ukraine and Sri Lanka have emphasised the need to build prepared and resilient communities worldwide. Hence, SRC will invest more time and resources in building resilient communities that are better prepared to face crises. Besides our disaster response efforts, SRC will also focus on helping to build capacity in sister National Societies and to strengthen regional collaboration.

We must continue to adopt an integrated approach if we are to overcome the massive humanitarian challenges that will be facing us.

- First, we need to build on the lessons we have learnt from the pandemic and invest time, efforts and funds in innovations and innovative systems to improve the delivery of our humanitarian services.
- Second, we must strengthen our existing programmes to increase our reach amongst the vulnerable in Singapore. Our programmes meet niche needs in our society. Now we must be able to extend these services to more in the community who need them.
- Third, we need to forge stronger and more diverse coalitions, rallying partners in the social sector, public agencies and the business community, as one united force for humanity. With our broad humanitarian mission, I am convinced that

the Singapore Red Cross is uniquely positioned to contribute as a coordinator and integrator for the community.

We are grateful that you have chosen the SRC as your preferred organisation to be a part of in your own humanitarian journey to do good. We must work together to continue mobilising additional resources, financial, expertise and time to intensify and expand our support for vulnerable communities in Singapore, regionally and globally. Working together as members, volunteers and staff of SRC, we will continue to strive to build empowered, responsive and resilient communities, well into the future.

Thank you very much.