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**SPEECH BY MAYOR TEO SER LUCK  
FOR LAUNCH OF NTUC FAIRPRICE FOUNDATION - CDC  
MILK FUND ON SATURDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2017 AT  
10AM AT NTUC FAIRPRICE XTRA @NEX**

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Minister Chan Chun Sing  
Fellow Mayors  
Representatives from NTUC FairPrice, People's Association and  
Community Development Councils  
Grassroots Volunteers and Residents

**Welcome**

A very good morning to all of you. On behalf of the Mayors, I welcome all of you to the launch of NTUC FairPrice Foundation-CDC Milk Fund.

**Common Base of Programme**

2 Our five CDCs are very happy to partner NTUC FairPrice Foundation in this programme. It is important for our young, regardless of family circumstances, to have access to good and essential nutrition. This programme is not new as there are similar programmes organised at the local level to help the residents. For example,

- (a) MacPherson has a milk fund to purchase formula milk powder to benefit up to 80 children from low-income families in the Constituency every quarter;
- (b) South East CDC works with Family Service Centres (FSCs in short) on "Grow Up Milk Fund" for each centre to purchase formula milk powder to be disbursed to at least 70 children below the age of 3 years every year; and
- (c) Central Singapore CDC is currently partnering with a Corporate and FSCs in Central Singapore District to provide milk powder to low income families with children in need of milk.

3 To give more support towards this area, the five CDCs have decided to consolidate resources at district level for this milk fund scheme.

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Through this partnership, we aim to reach out to as many as 7,500 children from low-income families.

### **Why CDCs partner NTUC FairPrice Foundation in the scheme**

4           While the CDCs continue to provide financial assistance such as bursaries, tuitions, enrichment courses, free books and school meals to school going students, we have also not forgotten the younger ones, in particular those between 6 months and 6 years old.

5           Raising a child is not easy, especially in this current economic climate. We often rely on various forms of support, including our families, neighbours etc. As the saying goes, it *takes a village to raise a child*. . Hence, every effort on different fronts will be helpful. But most of all, it is great to have a generous Foundation that knows the needs of the community.

6           When NTUC FairPrice Foundation approached the CDCs on this scheme, the CDCs supported it because we know that during a child's formative years, it is very important that he or she is provided with the essential nutrients from milk so that they can grow up well and healthy. We also recognised the importance to help the low-income parents provide the needed nutrition for their young children, especially in today's uncertain economic climate. We therefore agreed to partner NTUC FairPrice Foundation to help these families with the purchase of milk powder. The CDCs will help to identify children from low-income families through our wide network. With this 1.5 million dollars' worth of milk vouchers, we can help up to 7,500 children in need.

7           I hope that the vouchers will come in handy for parents to provide their children with basic nutrients for their growing up years, help relieve them of the heavy burden and put a smile on their faces and that of their little ones. However, the CDCs' assistance will not end here. Beyond the provision of formula milk, we will also be working with our community partners on programmes to support these families, especially parents by equipping them with good parenting knowledge and skills.

8           The CDCs will continue to do our best to serve the community. While each CDC implements various programmes to meet

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the differing needs of residents in their district, the five CDCs will also work together on common platforms such as today's milk scheme for the benefit of the wider community.

### **Conclusion**

9 Let me conclude by taking this opportunity to thank NTUC FairPrice Foundation again. We need and hope that many more of you can come forward to join us. Together, with our community and corporate partners, we can all do more for our residents and build a more cohesive and caring community.

Thank you

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