

# **SINGAPORE GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENCY FORUM**

**13 August 2025**

**Closing Address by Joshua Ong FCPA (Aust.),**

**Divisional Deputy President - Singapore, CPA Australia**

Good afternoon Guest of Honour, Mr Lim Tuang Lee, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

It is my pleasure to conclude this year's Singapore Governance and Transparency Forum. Thank you for taking the time to join us today.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our Guest of Honour, Mr Lim Tuang Lee, for gracing the occasion. A special thank you to Professor Lawrence Loh for presenting this year's results, to our esteemed panellists – Mr Daniel Ee, Ms Tan Yen Yen, Mr Michael Tang and Ms Stefanie Yuen Thio – for taking time out of your busy schedules to share your valuable insights, and Mr Terence Quek, for moderating the session. We certainly had a very robust discussion on the trends shaping the governance landscape and how companies are raising the bar to meet the evolving stakeholders' expectations.

I would also like to congratulate the SGTI award winners for their achievements in good corporate governance disclosure and practices.

CPA Australia is proud to be part of this national effort to improve the overall corporate governance among our Singapore-listed companies. We have sponsored the predecessor Governance and Transparency Index, or GTI, since its inception in 2009, and we continue to support the

SGTI today, and we look forward to the evolution of the SGTI toward a more market-centric model from 2026.

## **SGTI 2025 findings**

From this year's SGTI study, it is heartening to note that Singapore-listed companies have showed stronger results in accountability and audit, as well as board responsibilities. This is a testament to the unwavering commitment by companies towards greater transparency and accountability.

Strong corporate governance is paramount to driving sustainable growth in organisations and protecting the interests of stakeholders. But challenges lie ahead as organisations operate in these unprecedented times of rapid disruption and volatility.

More than ever, achieving a high level of corporate governance and sustainability has become a necessity, rather than an option. This is an ongoing journey where all stakeholders have a part to play. Speaking on behalf of CPA Australia, we strongly encourage all stakeholders – regulators, directors, management, investors, industry groups and professional bodies – to stay the course in this journey.

## **Conclusion**

To the winners of SGTI 2025 - Do continue to be shining role models for stronger governance and sustainability in the fast-changing business landscape. With strong governance and commitment to ESG, we can all play our part to build a better future.

My thanks to our partners – the Centre for Governance and Sustainability at NUS Business School, and the Singapore Institute of Directors – who have been instrumental in this journey. We are also grateful to The Business Times for being our media partner in this project.

To everyone here today – we hope you have benefited from this session. I wish you a pleasant day ahead.