1. A very good evening to:
   - Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources;
   - Ms Jane Henley, CEO, World Green Building Council;
   - Fellow colleagues and members of Singapore and regional Green Building Councils;
   - Distinguished guests;
   - Ladies and gentlemen.

Welcome Remarks
2. A warm welcome to all 800 of you here joining us to celebrate the Singapore Green Building Council’s 5th Anniversary, and Green Building Leadership in the Asia Pacific.

The Green Building Movement
3. The Green Building movement is flourishing and gaining traction all over the world, and there are now 100 Green Building Councils worldwide, with over 27,000 member companies and organisations. In addition, over 1.2 billion square metres of green building area have been registered by GBC rating systems.
4. SGBC is proud to be part of this global network of like-minded individuals and organisations. We greatly value the close ties with our regional and international counterparts, and we appreciate the journey of working together to unearth new ideas and germinate fresh programmes.

SGBC Achievements
5. It has been five years since SGBC was first formed, and we have accomplished much. Our Singapore Green Building Products and Services certification schemes have certified more than 700 building products and close to 50 building-related consultancy services. Set up with a focus on providing environmentally friendly alternatives for building owners and specifiers, our product and services certification schemes have contributed greatly to increasing the industry’s green procurement options.

Partnerships
6. None of this could have been done without the strong support of members and all of us working together to further the envelope of green building design and construction. Partnerships are instrumental to advancing the green building cause, and this is what the World Green Building Council will also be looking at in the coming months, to see if greater regional collaboration can optimise our individual limited resources.

7. SGBC’s partnership with JTC Corporation is one built up over time and which we value greatly. I am pleased to inform that SGBC has just recently renewed our longstanding MOU with JTC to promote green building solutions and knowledge. As the chief agency in Singapore leading the planning and development of the industrial landscape, JTC is
able to make a difference to industrial buildings and SGBC is glad to support JTC by sharing the latest developments in green buildings, global trends, as well as our certified product and services solutions.

8. SGBC also recently sealed a partnership agreement with the Berkeley Education Alliance for Research in Singapore, or BEARS for short, a Centre for research and innovation formed between UC Berkeley, the Nanyang Technological University and the National University of Singapore. The partnership agreement will see us working together to expand efforts on tropical building sustainability as well as on sustainable energy. The BEARS Centre will also support SGBC as a strategic partner for the Singapore Lighting Technology and Development Centre, SGBC’s joint initiative focusing on energy-efficient lighting solutions with the Building and Construction Authority.

9. SGBC has been fortunate in receiving support for our programmes and initiatives, and it is now our turn to give back. We hope that we will be able to share what we have learnt over the years. I am pleased to inform all that SGBC will be supporting the latest addition to the global GBC family - the Tanzania Green Building Council. SGBC has taken on the role of Mentor GBC to the Tanzanian Green Building Council, and we look forward to contributing to Tanzania’s green building growth and development.

SGBC Initiatives & Upcoming Programmes

10. Despite our many achievements and activities, we cannot stay still. SGBC has to constantly be on the pulse of the industry in order to remain relevant and add value to our members.
11. SGBC’s regular seminars and dialogues enable us to get accurate ground sentiments and feedback from the companies and people directly involved in green building. Recently, we have also reached out to all members to seek feedback for the development of BCA’s Green Mark Version 5, as well as for EDB’s plans for the development of the Green Economy as part of the Sustainable Singapore Blueprint. These are issues that will have an impact on our members and the green building industry.

12. One area that will receive increasing emphasis in the coming years is the carbon emissions contributed by buildings. BCA’s 3rd Green Building Masterplan will look into the embodied carbon of buildings. SGBC’s green product assessment criteria will progressively require the carbon footprint of products as a requirement.

13. As such, I am pleased to update that SGBC will be teaming up with the Singapore Institute of Manufacturing Technology, or SIMTech for short, to roll out a short course on carbon foot-printing of building products. This will equip our product companies with the knowledge and skills to calculate the carbon footprint of a product independently using software developed by SIMTech. With our collective efforts and over time, we will gain a better picture of the embodied carbon of buildings in Singapore.

Conclusion
14. In conclusion, I would like to assure all that SGBC will continue to be the champion of green building issues in Singapore. We welcome our members to take on an active role in the Council – if you have an idea, concept or just want to have a discussion on green building, please get in touch in SGBC. We are happy to work with you.
15. Once again, I would like to thank all of our members, partners, associates and supporting organisations for your support and presence here tonight.

16. Ladies and gentlemen, please enjoy the rest of the evening. Thank you.