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Headline: AMTD, Xiaomi Finance, SMU and ISS Launch Pivotal Program to Empower Digital Finance Leaders

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*Caption: [Top row, from left] Mr Calvin Choi (Chairman and CEO, AMTD Group and Founder, AMTD Foundation), Guest-of-Honour Mr Sopnendu Mohanty (Chief Fintech Officer, Monetary Authority of Singapore), and Mr Shouzi Chew (Senior Vice President, President of International, Xiaomi Corporation).[Second row, from left] Professor Lily Kong (SMU President), Professor Tan Eng Chye (NUS President), and Mr Khoong Chan Meng, (CEO, NUS-ISS).Mr Calvin Choi, Mr Shouzi Chew, Professor Lily Kong and Mr Khoong Chan Meng signed the Gift Agreement for the AXSI Programme, witnessed by Mr Sopnendu Mohanty and Professor Tan Eng Chye.*

AMTD Group, Xiaomi Finance, Singapore Management University (SMU) and the Institute of Systems Science at the National University of Singapore (NUS-ISS), have jointly launched the 'AMTD-Xiaomi-SMU-ISS Digital Finance Leadership Programme' ("AXSI Programme") at a virtual signing ceremony graced by Mr. Sopnendu Mohanty, Chief FinTech Officer of the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

This unique program will strengthen Singapore's leading position as a FinTech and innovation hub by deepening the knowledge and ability of senior finance and regulatory leaders, as well as FinTech entrepreneurs in Asia in the areas of digital business transformation and digital finance, enabling them to harness digital financial solutions and services to drive business excellence.

The AXSI Programme leverages the strengths of its four partners – AMTD's leadership and network of resources in digital financial services and AMTD SpiderNet eco-system; Xiaomi Finance's deep experience in digital technology services, consumer IoT and innovations; SMU's expertise in digital finance, law, and governance and track record of delivering leadership programs; as well as NUS-ISS' expertise in cybersecurity and artificial intelligence.

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In addition to the five-day executive program in Singapore, participants of the AXSI Programme will undergo two days of learning journeys in Hong Kong and Beijing, hosted by AMTD and Xiaomi Finance, respectively. They will be able to gain first-hand knowledge and insights into the FinTech development at both companies, and the opportunities available in the two cities. During their five days in Singapore, the learning sessions will comprise curated content drawn from Asia focusing on the topics of new financial ecosystem, financial innovation, sustainability and green finance, FinTech solutions and cybersecurity. Beyond FinTech related topics, participants will also learn and share the best practices of various issues in a post-COVID-19 world, including being responsible and responsive leaders.

Participants such as regulators, corporate leaders and FinTech entrepreneurs, are expected to come from different segments of the FinTech ecosystem in the Greater Bay Area, Southeast Asia and other parts of Asia, to learn and network with policymakers, faculty and industry experts during the Programme. Such interactions with practitioners from different geographies will broaden the minds of the participants to the existing and emerging opportunities and challenges in these fast-growing regions. Through this shared learning experience, the participants will be engaged on a common and powerful platform to foster collaboration and growth in the digital finance space.

Mr. Calvin Choi, Chairman and CEO, AMTD Group and Founder, AMTD Foundation, said, "AMTD has been a long-time supporter of Singapore's FinTech community and endeavors to contribute to Singapore's continuous role as an international FinTech centre. AMTD Digital, the digital arm of AMTD Group headquartered in Singapore, leverages its "fusion-in" strategy and AMTD's SpiderNet ecosystem to enable and empower entrepreneurs as well as support talent's cultivation and up-skills in Singapore. We are glad to continue supporting the Lion City's talents and provide continuous education and business connectivity opportunities in Singapore and beyond through this Digital Finance Leadership program."

Mr. Shouzi Chew, Senior Vice President, President of International, Xiaomi Corporation, said, "Together with our long time partner AMTD Group, Xiaomi is excited to be part of this program in Singapore. We look forward to sharing our experience as a technology and internet company and opening our supply chain and FinTech ecosystem to FinTech leaders in Singapore. It's our honor to participate in this program, and help strengthen their leadership skills and understanding of the leading technologies to boost the competitiveness of Singapore's FinTech ecosystem."

Professor Lily Kong, President of SMU, said, "The rapid advancement of digital technologies and the advent of the digital economy have brought about the transformative impact on businesses, governments, and societies. Senior executives, entrepreneurs and policymakers who are nimble in adopting a multidisciplinary approach will be required to drive business success and lead the growth in the development of FinTech and financial innovation in Singapore, Southeast Asia, and the Greater Bay Area. We are confident that participants of the AXSI Programme will be equipped with the expertise and skillsets to contribute meaningfully to the development of the digital finance sector."

Professor Tan Eng Chye, President of NUS, said, "These unprecedented times have magnified the pressing need for sharpened skillsets and the AXSI Digital Finance Leadership Programme is set to deepen the capabilities of FinTech leaders. The gift agreement signed today underscores our continued support through our Institute of Systems Science in developing digital talents for the industry. We would like to express our gratitude to AMTD, Xiaomi and SMU for partnering NUS in growing the digital finance ecosystem for a stronger post-pandemic future."

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AMTD and Xiaomi Finance will contribute a total of S\$5 million to support the AXSI Programme. The contribution will enable SMU and NUS-ISS to build the relevant curriculum and teaching resources, as well as support the cost of managing and organizing this Programme. Part of the contribution may also be used to fund scholarships to attract the most outstanding candidates from the public sector to join the AXSI Programme.

The AXSI Programme, which will have two runs each year, will welcome its first cohort of participants in November this year. Each run will have up to 25 participants. The inaugural run has been designed to coincide with the Singapore FinTech Festival, which brings insights from global thought leaders, showcase innovative solutions, and engage entrepreneurs, investors and innovators from around the world. Participants of the inaugural AXSI Programme would be invited to the Festival.