

**EMBARGOED UNTIL DELIVERY ON 26 AUGUST 2015  
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**SPEECH BY MR HAWAZI DAIPI, SENIOR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR  
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND MINISTRY OF MANPOWER, AT THE KIDS  
WITNESS NEWS GLOBAL CONTEST 2015 AWARD CEREMONY ON 26 AUGUST  
2015**

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Mr Toru Nishida - Managing Director, Panasonic Asia Pacific

Mr Junichi Nakata - Director, Corporate Advertising Office, Panasonic Corporation

Mr Ng Ser Miang - Member of the International Olympic Committee / Chairman of the Finance Commission

Mr Duane Kale - Governing Board Member, International Paralympic Committee (IPC)

Mr Mark Wallace – Head of Production, Olympic Broadcasting Services

Ladies and Gentleman

Boys and Girls

Good afternoon.

1. It is my honour to be here at the Kid Witness News (KWN) Global Contest 2015 Award Ceremony today. I am glad to be among the finalists and their teachers and friends, representatives of the overseas and local Panasonic offices, and our local students and friends.

2. First, let me congratulate Panasonic for successfully running the KWN programme for an amazing 26 years! This is the fifth year I've been invited and every year I look forward to viewing participants' projects. I understand that this is the first time that the Global Award Ceremony is being hosted in Southeast Asia, in conjunction with Singapore's Golden Jubilee. We are indeed honoured. I extend a warm welcome to our overseas friends who are here with us.

3. This year, I noticed all our finalists chose to focus on the theme 'Communication', using videos as a platform to express their thoughts on family relationships, social media, and dangers of the Internet. This is not a surprise given the younger generation, being born into technology are very savvy with technology and Internet. Social media also plays a big part in their lives.

4. Having personally viewed some of the entries at the competitions held here in Singapore in previous years, I am impressed by the standards of the video projects submitted by the young participants, who demonstrate a high level of creativity and imagination. Through the global education programme, participants get the opportunity to engage in teamwork outside the classroom as they work on a unique exploration of

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the world. Such out of the classroom experiences, and the international exposure provided by the programme, are valuable learning opportunities for our youths. I can only imagine how hard it is for the judges to decide on the winners every year!

5. To all the 7 finalists, congratulations! I hope that the experience has broadened your horizons and that all of you to continue in your exploration of society and the environment around you. I encourage you to put what you have learnt to good use and contribute to the society, in your own way. I would also like to thank the teachers and organisers of the programme who have inspired the students and guided them in their projects. On this note, I hope that our foreign friends will have a pleasant stay in Singapore. Thank you and enjoy yourselves!

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