



REMARKS BY SCCCI PRESIDENT KHO CHOON KENG

SPECIAL CULTURAL EVENING COMMEMORATING THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCCCI AND 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCO

14 AUGUST 2026

Ms Sim Ann, Second Minister for Foreign Affairs and Second Minister for Home Affairs,

Mr Ng Siew Quan, Chairman of the Singapore Chinese Orchestra,

Excellencies and members of the Diplomatic Corps,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, it is my great pleasure to welcome all of you to this very special evening.

Tonight, we celebrate two significant milestones — SCCCI's 120th anniversary and the Singapore Chinese Orchestra's 30th

anniversary. While these are two different journeys, they share something deeply meaningful: both have been shaped by Singapore's openness to the world.

For 120 years, SCCCI has grown alongside Singapore — supporting businesses, connecting enterprises, fostering economic cooperation, and contributing to cultural, educational and community development in Singapore.

This evening is also about expressing our appreciation to all who have helped Singapore remain connected to the world. We are especially honoured to welcome members of our diplomatic community tonight!

In Singapore, we appreciate that strong international relationships are built not only through official engagements and economic agreements, but also through trust, friendship and people-to-people connections.

Excellencies and diplomats play an important role in building these bridges. They help our businesses understand markets, open doors to new partnerships, and strengthen ties between Singapore and countries around the world.



This evening, through the music performance by our celebrated and world-renowned Singapore Chinese Orchestra, we hope to express our heartfelt appreciation for your friendship and partnership.

Indeed, music transcends borders. It speaks across languages, cultures and generations. It reminds us that while our backgrounds may be different, we can still find harmony and enjoyment in a shared experience. Under the baton of SCO's Conductor Emeritus Tsung Yeh (葉聰), without doubt, the concert will bring all of us a little closer — to Singapore, to one another, and to the many friends around the world who have journeyed with us.

As Singapore navigates an increasingly complex and uncertain international landscape, our partnerships matter more than ever. SCCCI remains committed to strengthening these connections — through business, friendship and a shared belief in the value of an open and connected Singapore.

Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for being part of this special celebration. May tonight's music celebrates our diversity,



strengthens our friendships, and inspires many more years of partnership between Singapore and the world.

Last but not least, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the SCO for the wonderful partnership and collaboration in making tonight's concert possible.

I wish all of you a wonderful evening and an unforgettable concert!
