

Speech By Mr Cheng Wai Keung, Chairman, Wing Tai Holdings, At Opening Party Of Uniqlo Global Flagship Store In Southeast Asia, Orchard Central Singapore, 1 Sep 2016

Before I begin, I'd first like to thank Yanai-san for his compliments of Wing Tai which I deeply appreciate. I also wish to say Yanai-san, you are my hero. I have learnt a lot from you.

Growth & Success

We celebrate the first Uniqlo Global Flagship store in Southeast Asia that will officially open tomorrow. I'm happy you have joined us this evening to mark this occasion.

In 2009, we brought Uniqlo to Singapore. Our products and services are well received and Uniqlo has become a household name.

Positive Partnership

From the suburban store in Tampines, we now operate 24 Uniqlo stores in Singapore and 34 stores in Malaysia, all part of the 129 Uniqlo stores throughout Southeast Asia. Tomorrow we open the first global flagship store here on Singapore's prime shopping belt, to serve the Southeast Asia market.

The partnership between Fast Retailing and Wing Tai Retail has been a positive one. Over the last 8 years, our relationship has grown in strength and vigour. I look forward to achieving more milestones together with Yanai-san.

Our winning partnership is built on our shared values, of mutual trust and respect. We value this partnership highly. I thank Yanai-san for his unfailing support and confidence in Singapore.

First Global Flagship store in SEA

Uniqlo's global flagship store brings many benefits. When Yanai-san chose Singapore, it demonstrates his optimism and long-term commitment to our city-state. It creates good jobs for people, draws savvy shoppers here and brings vitality to our retail scene. It secures Singapore's place in the retail industry of Southeast Asia and the world.

With this flagship store, customers in Singapore will be first in the world to own Uniqlo's latest and best quality, and access a Uniqlo world that is exceptional and magical.

Global is Local, Local is Global

This flagship store has a different vibe when you enter it. With Uniqlo's global outreach, it is a space for collaborations with the creative community here, to showcase our talents and ideas to the world. By being authentic and local, we create value for the brand to be global.

Looking at this special store, I am moved by the effort our Japanese and Singapore staff have put in. For me, at least, this project has been 8 years in the waiting.

I join Yanai-san in thanking you all for celebrating with us today.