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**SPEECH BY PROFESSOR YOSHIAKI FUKAZAWA, CHAIRMAN,
ORGANISATION FOR UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES,
WASEDA UNIVERSITY
AT THE INAUGURAL WASEDA-SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC SCIENTIFIC
CONFERENCE AT
SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC ON TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2013**

1. Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Yoshiaki Fukazawa, Chairman of the Organization for University Research Initiatives in Waseda University. I am also a member of the Faculty of Science and Engineering at the University. On behalf of Waseda University, I would like to extend my gratitude to Chief Technology Officer Mr. Lance Lim, and all the staff of SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC, for your hospitality. It is my great pleasure to be here at this special ceremony to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.
2. Waseda University developed "Waseda Vision 150," a new mid-and-long-term plan last year. We consider that promoting international researches is one of the main pillars to achieve this Vision 150.
3. The establishment of a strong collaborative research system in Singapore, the crossroads of economy and information linking Japan with Western countries, China, India, and Oceania, has great strategic significance for Waseda University in its promotion of international researches. Therefore, the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding with SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC is very important.
4. In 2009, Waseda University established "Waseda Bioscience Research Institute in Singapore (WABIOS)" in Biopolis, as its first single-operating overseas research institute. Since then, we have been developing researches in fields such as Physical Biology, Bio-imaging, Chemical Biology, and Nano-Biotechnology.

5. Waseda University has sent some Principal Investigators to this WABIOS from Japan, where they have been energetically developing joint researches with excellent researchers belonging to A*STAR, NUS, and NTU who gathered from all over the world. Now, we are expecting that joint researches will be extensively conducted in various research subjects also with the research team of SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC.

6. In addition, the researchers of various fields in the university belong to the Organization for University Research Initiatives in Waseda University, as well as WABIOS. I am hoping that the Memorandum of Understanding to be signed today will facilitate, as a first step, researchers exchange and joint research projects between us.

7. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for all of you attending this ceremony, and to wish each of you health, success, and prosperity. Thank you very much for your attention.