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### **NEWS RELEASE**

# UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk Expands Its Footprint Across The Region

## UOB (Thai) joins colleagues from Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia in flagship fundraising initiative

**SINGAPORE, 27 March 2011** – Some **8,000** members of the United Overseas Bank (UOB) family from four countries pounded the streets today – and collected close to \$\$900,000 for charity.

For the first time, staff from UOB (Thai) joined their Singapore, Malaysian and Indonesia colleagues in the annual UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk, widening the reach of the Bank's flagship Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme in the region. The event was launched in Singapore in 2007, followed by Malaysia in 2008 and Indonesia in 2010.

Participants were flagged off today at 7.30am (Singapore time) in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, and 8am (Singapore time) in Indonesia.

The S\$840,000 raised in Singapore will be donated equally to AWWA School, Fei Yue Early Intervention Programme for Infants and Children (EIPIC), Rainbow Centre EIPIC @ Yishun Park and the Very Special Arts Singapore (VSA).

These programmes are in line with the Bank's CSR focus on the children, education and the arts. AWWA School offers special education programmes to children with multiple disabilities and/or autism; Fei Yue EIPIC and Rainbow Centre EIPIC @ Yishun Park focuses on early intervention for special needs children up to 6 years old; while VSA provides art programmes for persons with special needs.

For some of the Bank's regional subsidiaries, fundraising effort is still ongoing. The funds raised in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand will also be channelled towards beneficiaries that are aligned with the UOB Group's CSR pillars. The amount raised will be donated to Yayasan Pembinaan Anak Cacat (Foundation for Development of Disabled Children), Jakarta, Protect and Save The Children Association of Selangor and Kuala Lumpur (P.S The Children), Persatuan StART Selangor & Kuala Lumpur (StART Society) and a children's hospital wing in Thailand.

In his address at the event, Mr Wee Ee Cheong, UOB Deputy Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer, thanked all staff, business partners and corporate customers for their participation and generosity.

"I am heartened by the enthusiastic response of our employees and business partners to helping the less privileged. It's not just about fundraising but volunteering time to make a difference in the lives of others. We hope our efforts will go some way in fulfilling the needs of the beneficiaries and empowering them to reach their fullest

potential. Our CSR efforts have grown in tandem with our regional franchise and we will continue to reach out to the communities where we operate".

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#### **About United Overseas Bank**

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia. It provides a wide range of financial services through its global network of over 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America, including banking subsidiaries in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and mainland China.

UOB plays an active role in the community, focusing on children, education and the arts. Its staff volunteerism programme was initiated in 2007. Through the UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk, UOB has raised funds for its named beneficiaries. UOB has also organised the prestigious Painting Of The Year Competition and Exhibition since 1982. In recognition of its contributions to the arts, UOB has been conferred the National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the sixth consecutive year.

For more information about UOB, visit uobgroup.com

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