



HEAD OFFICE

80 Raffles Place UOB Plaza Singapore 048624 Tel (65) 6533 9898 Fax (65) 6534 2334 uobgroup.com

Co. Reg. No. 193500026Z

## **News Release**

# UOB colleagues and their families around the world clock more than 200,000 km in the first UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk for charity

The Bank raises more than S\$1.7 million this year for the UOB #UnitedForYou COVID-19 Relief Programme

**Singapore**, **30 November 2020** – The COVID-19 pandemic has not put a dampener to UOB's flagship employee volunteerism and fundraising event, UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk. From London to Los Angeles, Shanghai to Singapore, UOB colleagues from across the Bank's global network<sup>1</sup> stepped up to raise funds for charities as part of the first UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk.

By going virtual, UOB colleagues and their families from around the world were able to keep fit and to keep the good going in a safe way amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Whether it was a hike to The Victoria Peak in Hong Kong, an urban run by Jakarta's Bundaran HI (Selamat Datang Monument) or a leisurely stroll by Marina Bay in Singapore, UOB colleagues and their families were united in spirit as they collectively walked, jogged or ran a total distance of more than 200,000 kilometres throughout the month of October. Their combined distance was the equivalent of travelling the circumference of the earth five times.

Their collective efforts also saw the Bank donate an additional S\$75,000 to 17 charities and welfare organisations<sup>2</sup> as part of the Bank's #UnitedForYou COVID-19 Relief Programme. The global programme had already directed more than S\$1.65 million to help frontline healthcare workers and vulnerable members of the community overcome the challenges of COVID-19.

Mr Wee Ee Cheong, UOB's Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, said, "This year has been a difficult and challenging one for many people, particularly our frontline healthcare workers and those from disadvantaged backgrounds. While we were unable to continue our annual tradition of coming together for the physical UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk, our commitment to fostering social inclusiveness and to forging a



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UOB's global markets which participated in the UOB Global Heartbeat Virtual Run/Walk included Australia, Brunei, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Mainland China, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Vietnam

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Refer to Appendix for details of charities and welfare organisations



sustainable future remains. I am heartened by the unwavering support from UOB colleagues and their families to keep the good going even in these trying times."

Mr Chew Chee Keong, 55, a UOB colleague from Singapore, was the top contributor to this year's event, running close to 800 kilometres in October. "The COVID-19 pandemic has upended our lives in some shape or form. However, it is also in these times that we see the strength of the human spirit shine through as we step up and give back to those in need. I am thankful that the Bank continues to organise such events for us to unite in our efforts to support the community."

The UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk, which is in its 14<sup>th</sup> year, is the Bank's flagship volunteerism and fundraising event. The monies raised this year were directed to UOB's #UnitedForYou COVID-19 Relief Programme. The programme focuses on ways to help alleviate the financial burden or distress many are facing during this difficult period through various initiatives. These include relief assistance schemes to help customers who are impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak as well as initiatives to see the Bank's people and communities through to better times.

- Ends -





## Appendix: UOB Global Heartbeat Run/Walk 2020 beneficiaries

Market	Name of charity	Targeted impact
Australia	The Smith Family Children's Charity	Funds raised will provide six months of education for four children from disadvantaged backgrounds
Brunei	SCOT Brunei	Funds raised will provide essential food and household items to eight families
China	Amity Foundation	Funds raised will provide books for close to 1,600 underprivileged children in five schools in the Yunnan Province
Hong Kong	Evangel Children's Home	Funds raised will provide free childcare support for 40 children aged six to 12 from low-income families
India	The Akshaya Patra Foundation	Funds raised will go towards the distribution of 'Happiness Kits' containing nutrition packs, education packs and hygiene packs to 133 disadvantaged children who are now unable to have their meals in schools
Indonesia	UOB Heartbeat mask donation programme	Funds raised will provide 10,000 reusable masks to disadvantaged families (including children) in Jakarta and its surrounding areas
Japan	Waku Network	Funds raised will provide 50 bags of rice for 50 disadvantaged households with children.
Korea	Good Neighbours	Funds raised will provide psychotherapy sessions for 20 children from disadvantaged families affected by COVID-19
Malaysia	Food Aid Foundation	Funds raised will go towards providing meals for 1,200 children from across 40 children's homes in Malaysia for six months.
Myanmar	Yangon General Hospital and Yangon Children Hospital – Halpin	Funds raised will provide 500 meals to patients including those with COVID-19 in Yangon hospitals
Philippines	The World Vision Philippines	Funds raised will go towards providing education packs for 500 disadvantaged students from public schools for their home-based learning needs.
Singapore	Club Rainbow	Funds raised will assist 47 low-income families with children suffering from chronic illnesses with their daily





		necessities such as diapers, milk powder and groceries for two months
Taiwan	The World Vision Taiwan	Funds raised will provide five months of tuition supplies for 10 disadvantaged children who study in elementary schools
Thailand	Community Children Foundation	Funds raised will support 2,200 children and families in the remote areas of Thailand with their meals, supplies and daily essentials.
UK	Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity	Funds raised will go towards purchasing three baby monitors, to help hospital staff and patients communicate with each other, and 12 new sets of scrubs, which are essential attire for key workers looking after patients
US	Foodbank for New York City	Funds raised will provide 5,000 meals for disadvantaged children in New York City
Vietnam	Kidspire Vietnam	Funds raised will sponsor two orphanages with virtual learning tools and health and sanitation supplies





### **About United Overseas Bank**

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia with a global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. UOB is rated among the world's top banks: Aa1 by Moody's Investors Service and AA- by both S&P Global Ratings and Fitch Ratings. In Asia, UOB operates through its head office in Singapore and banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam, as well as branches and representative offices across the region.

Over more than eight decades, generations of UOB employees have carried through the entrepreneurial spirit, the focus on long-term value creation and an unwavering commitment to do what is right for our customers and our colleagues.

We believe in being a responsible financial services provider and we are committed to making a difference in the lives of our stakeholders and in the communities in which we operate. Just as we are dedicated to helping our customers manage their finances wisely and to grow their businesses, UOB is steadfast in our support of social development, particularly in the areas of art, children and education.

### For media queries, please contact:

Daryl Tan

Group Strategic Communications and Brand

Email: daryl.tanwk@UOBGroup.com

Tel: 6539 4064

