Mr Heng Swee Keat, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic Policies, Chairman, National Research Foundation

Mr Hsieh Fu Hua, Chairman, NUS Board of Trustees

Prof Tan Eng Chye, NUS President

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

1. On behalf of the whole REC family worldwide, let me express our huge excitement for this joint research project. We feel honoured to be part of this Corp Lab project and its launch in the attendance of our Guest-of-Honour, Mr Heng Swee Keat, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic Policies, and Chairman of National Research Foundation.

2. I would also like to thank Prof Tan Eng Chye, NUS President; Prof Armin Aberle, CEO of SERIS at NUS; Prof Subodh Mhaisalkar from NTU; and the teams at A*STAR, EDB, Enterprise Singapore and NRF for their support of this ambitious project.

3. For more than 25 years, the REC Group has been committed to the same mission: to empower people with clean and affordable solar energy through pioneering solar technology.

4. Since its inception in 2009 as the Global headquarters of technology & manufacturing, REC Singapore has led this mission. Despite numerous upheavals in the industry, which has seen large brand names disappear from the market, REC has held its ground and continued to celebrate milestones, innovations and awards. We have achieved this through our unwavering focus on developing & industrialising next-generation technologies in close collaborations with local Singapore research institutes such as SERIS. Today we stand as the only company in the industry which has won three Intersolar awards in past 8 years for successfully launching products on three different technology platforms. It is a matter of pride for all of us based in Singapore that all these award-winning technologies were developed in-house right here in Singapore.

5. All these innovations continue to drive the global energy transition by allowing homeowners and businesses to generate more power from less space with highly sustainable and reliable solar panels.

6. Yet the job is not done. New technologies promising even higher efficiencies at much lower costs must be continuously developed in order to further increase the global generation of solar energy. The REC@NUS Corporate Lab project is one such ambitious endeavour which aims to develop efficiencies beyond the limits of traditional silicon solar cells on large-area wafers. As impressive as this ambition is, it must be matched with an equally ambitious plan to successfully industrialise it in a cost-effective manner. This is where REC Singapore’s manufacturing excellence, which has been the key behind our success, is going to play a very major role.
7. Global energy transitions can only happen by bold technology innovations, and at REC innovation is in our DNA. Together with NUS and NTU, we will aim to redefine the benchmark once again for a brighter and more sustainable future.

8. Thank you very much.