

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – PRESS ALERT

# Great Eastern pledges S\$1 million support package to help customers who are affected by COVID-19 and gives S\$200,000 to the Courage Fund

**SINGAPORE, 14 February 2020 –** Leading insurer Great Eastern today said that it is providing a holistic support package to help its customers should they be affected by COVID-19. On a national level, it is also contributing S\$200,000 to provide financial assistance to those in Singapore affected by COVID-19 through the Courage Fund, facilitated by the National Council of Social Service (NCSS) and Community Chest.

The Courage Fund aims to support vulnerable individuals and groups such as patients, healthcare workers and members of the community affected by serious infectious diseases.

Khor Hock Seng, Group Chief Executive Officer of Great Eastern, said: "As the Life Company, with a 112-year old history in Singapore, we want to do our part in this time of need. By contributing to the Courage Fund, we are strengthening the national effort to ensure that vulnerable groups are addressed".

The company has also put aside S\$1 million to support its customers in Singapore. Effective 14 February 2020 until end-2020, Great Eastern customers and/or their immediate family members\* who are hospitalised due to COVID-19, will receive a cash benefit of S\$200 per day of hospitalisation up to a maximum of 60 days. In the unfortunate event that death occurs, a S\$20,000 lump sum will be paid out.

Mr Khor said: "With our support package, we want to give our customers peace of mind when they seek medical treatment, so that they can focus on recovery with less worry, in the event the unforeseen occurs".

The company's COVID-19 support package supplements the insurance coverage it offers customers through their existing policies\*\*.

For its travel insurance customers, the company is also offering a full premium refund for those who have purchased policies from 6 February to 30 June 2020 should they decide to cancel their plans.



As a leading insurer, Great Eastern is also providing monetary support for its financial representatives and their families, should they be affected by COVID-19. "The health and well-being of our financial representatives is important to us and it is essential that we support them as best as we can", Mr Khor added.

\*spouse & children aged 18 and under.

\*\*More information on Great Eastern policies and coverage can be found <u>HERE</u>. Customers affected by COVID-19 may contact Great Eastern's Customer Service for more assistance.

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### About Great Eastern

Founded in 1908, Great Eastern is a well-established market leader and trusted brand in Singapore and Malaysia. With over S\$90 billion in assets and more than 8 million policyholders, including 5 million from government schemes, it provides insurance solutions to customers through three successful distribution channels – a tied agency force, bancassurance, and financial advisory firm Great Eastern Financial Advisers. The Group also operates in Indonesia and Brunei and has a presence in China as well as a representative office in Myanmar.

The Great Eastern Life Assurance Company Limited and Great Eastern General Limited have been assigned the financial strength and counterparty credit ratings of "AA-" by Standard and Poor's since 2010, one of the highest among Asian life insurance companies. Great Eastern's asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors Limited, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

Great Eastern is a subsidiary of OCBC Bank, the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC Bank is consistently ranked among the World's Top 50 Safest Banks by Global Finance and has been named Best Managed Bank in Singapore by The Asian Banker.

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