
NEWS RELEASE

IN SUPPORT OF THE WAR AGAINST SARS

Singapore, 23 April 2003 - As a token of our appreciation for the valiant healthcare workers, and our empathy for those Singaporeans affected by the SARS outbreak, United Overseas Bank is contributing \$200,000 towards The Courage Fund.

And because the Bank believes that the battle against SARS is a community effort, we have also initiated an internal fund-raising exercise among management and staff members of the UOB Group working in Singapore. The Bank's donation, together with the staff contributions will be sent to The Courage Fund in May.

Deputy Chairman & President of UOB, Mr Wee Ee Cheong said, "The SARS outbreak has not only caused much suffering and pain to the affected families; it has disrupted our everyday lives and our national economy. But the Singapore spirit remains high, as demonstrated by the dedication of the medical services personnel and the generous donations to The Courage Fund.

"Money cannot dissolve the sense of loss among the SARS affected families; neither can it measure the bravery of our healthcare fellow citizens. But it remains the most practical way for a corporate citizen like UOB to join the fight against SARS and to help alleviate the financial hardships faced by the SARS affected Singaporeans. As the battle against SARS is a national effort, we are also asking management and staff members to make voluntary contributions towards The Courage Fund."

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