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Subject: (EMBARGOED) Speech by Ms Ngian Lek Choh, Senior Director, Library Services, NLB

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**Speech for Ms Ngian Lek Choh, Senior Director, Library Services, National
Library Board at the Donation Ceremony
of Design Collection by the Singapore Trade Development Board
Courtyard National Library
21 March 2000**

- 1 Good evening Ms Mavis Kuek, Deputy Director, Corporate Communications, Singapore Trade Development Board, ladies and gentlemen. I am delighted to be here today, on behalf of the National Library Board, to proudly announce and happily acknowledge the generous donation of the Trade Development Board's Design Collection.
- 2 If you had a chance to look at the collection, you would probably be as impressed as I was. The subject coverage is so wide that I was personally "wowed" by it. The collection covers the softer and creative side of life – architecture, beadwork, commercial art, furnishings, graphics, jewellery design and more.
- 3 Indeed it's a treasure of materials and information – reference books, magazines, videos and CD-ROMs on all design disciplines.
- 4 You might wonder how this collection came about. Here's some background history.
- 5 The Design Centre Library was set up in 1992 as the information arm of the Design Centre. It catered to the needs of design and design-related professions: the business community and design students.
- 6 Within three years, the library developed the most comprehensive collection on design and design-related works in Asia and was THE single

most important source of information and inspiration for many local and overseas users.

- 7 The Design Centre Library then merged with the TDB Library in 1995 – housed in the new TDB premises in Bugis Junction.
- 8 Given the National Library Board’s resources and growing emphasis on creative Arts, the TDB felt it would be more effective in terms of reach and impact that this collection should be further developed by the Library Board.
- 9 I am pleased to say that the collection of 7,000 books will be housed on the 3rd level of this library. Most of the collection will be easily found within the Arts Collection and some will be found in the General Reference and Business Collections.
- 10 My immense thanks go to the TDB for its generosity. We at the National Library Board will do all we can to further develop this important new acquisition. Thank you!

National Archives of Singapore