

TEKS UCAPAN

**YB DATUK SERI PANGLIMA MADIUS TANGAU
MENTERI SAINS, TEKNOLOGI DAN INOVASI**

**SEMPENA
BIONEXT DINNER 2015**

SELASA, 1 DISEMBER 2015

**HOTEL LE MERIDIEN
KUALA LUMPUR**

YANG BERTHORMAT DATUK DR. ABU BAKAR MOHAMAD DIAH
Timbalan Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi

YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO' SRI DR. NOORUL AINUR MOHD. NUR
Ketua Setiausaha, MOSTI

YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO' DR. MOHD AZHAR HJ YAHAYA
Timbalan Ketua Setiausaha (Dasar), MOSTI

YANG BERUSAHA DR. ZULKIFLI MOHAMED HASHIM
Timbalan Ketua Setiausaha (Sains), MOSTI

YBHG DATO' DR MOHD NAZLEE KAMAL
Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation
(BiotechCorp)

YBHG DATO' HAFSAH HASHIM
Chief Executive Officer, SME Corporation Malaysia (SMECorp)

Senior Management of BioNext companies

Senior Management of BiotechCorp

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good evening and a very warm welcome to everyone. I am indeed honoured to host this **BioNext dinner** together with the presence of such a distinguished group of technopreneurs, businessmen and government officials. I have been looking forward to this event as it is a great opportunity for me to get **better acquainted with the BioNext companies.**

2. I must also **thank both BiotechCorp and SME Corp** for their close support in arranging this evening's programme. Both organisations have been working earnestly to ensure the success of the BioNext Programme and I must say I am pleased with the results thus far.

3. I have already had the **privilege of meeting with ten (10) BioNext companies during my working visit to the Oxford Accelerator Programme (OAP) at Oxford University in September this year.** And tonight, I am **pleased to be meeting with all twenty (20) BioNext companies.**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. Establishing closer engagement and rapport with the BioNext companies is especially important for me because **these companies have a key role in boosting the growth of Malaysia's bio-based industry and economy at large.** Thanks to the BioNext programme, all of you have the opportunity to become **global home-grown champions** and contribute towards the realization of our national vision of becoming a high income developed nation by 2020.

5. While everyone is working hard to achieve this target, we must also be aware of the challenges that lie ahead. This occasion tonight

presents a golden opportunity for you to **voice your concerns and ideas** so we can explore ways to assist and speed up your achievements and minimise any setbacks, if any.

6. Indeed, **tonight's networking session** will give me a clearer picture of the current situation which you are facing. It will help MOSTI in providing the necessary assistance and facilitation in order to push you nearer to realizing your goals.

7. I have high hopes for the future of BioNext companies in contributing to the industry's growth and the nation's economy by enhancing wealth creation and social well-being of the *rakyat*. You are central to the country's **National Science, Technology & Innovation Policy** framework, as we look to transform Malaysia into an innovation and knowledge-based developed nation.

8. Therefore I urge everyone to continue to drive your efforts further so we can reach this programme's main objective, which is **to create competitive, innovative and resilient bio-based champions of Malaysia**.

9. I strongly believe that we can deliver successful results in upscaling and innovating business strategies for the BioNext companies to reach the global stage. This is crucial if we want to meet the targets of 'Going Global', the **third phase of the National Biotechnology Policy** starting next year.

10. I am sure the BiotechCorp and BioNext companies are more than ready to **seize the opportunities from the establishment of an Asean Community** which will take effect formally on December 31 this

year. With **625 million people**, it has the potential to be one of the largest economies and markets in the world.

11. On that note, thank you once again for taking your time to join me here this evening and let us enjoy each other's company and our dinner together.

Sekian. Terima kasih.