

TEKS UCAPAN

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

SEMPENA

**“THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES MALAYSIA
CONFERMENT DINNER”**

**GRAND BALLROOM, TKT 3
PUSAT KONVENSYEN KUALA LUMPUR (KLCC)**

SABTU, 31 OKTOBER 2015

YANG BERBAHAGIA TAN SRI DATUK DR AHMAD TAJUDDIN ALI
President of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia

**YANG BERBAHAGIA ACADEMICIAN EMERITUS PROFESSOR
TAN SRI DATO' SRI DR ZAKRI ABDUL HAMID**
Science Advisor to the Prime Minister,

Fellows of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia

Presidents of Science Academies

Members of Media

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

Salam Sejahtera and Salam 1Malaysia.

Allow me to extend a very warm welcome to all everybody for attending this prestigious annual event to honour the best scientific minds in the country.

2. I am glad to be here, as it is very important to **recognise the significant contributions made by our eminent scientists, engineers and technologists to move the science, technology and innovation (STI) agenda of the nation.**

3. To all the newly elected Senior Fellows and Fellows of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, I congratulate and thank you for your outstanding scientific contributions for the nation's development.

4. I hope you will continue to contribute effectively towards enhancing the nation's competitiveness by virtue of your distinction and accomplishment in respective STI related disciplines.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. Science, technology and innovation (STI) has always been recognised as **the driver of the nation's economic growth and societal well-being** whilst the role of Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) has become increasingly more important **to translate STI towards providing practical solutions for the needs of the people.**

6. Apart from strengthening the R&D ecosystem and inculcating STI awareness, we need to keep abreast **with the fast pace of technological advancement** that is taking place globally.

7. Hence, I would like to commend our agencies, particularly the Academy of Sciences Malaysia for providing strategic input on issues related to STI.

8. Indeed, as a 'Think Tank', ASM has contributed in numerous ways, particularly, through **STI ideation** by providing new ideas through studies such as a **the Flagship Study on Malaysia 2050, Foresight on Emerging Technologies, studies on Sustainability Science as well as the Science Outlook.**

9. In this context, the role of the Senior Fellows and Fellows of ASM is particularly important. ASM taps the expertise and knowledge of the Fellows, whereby they act as a focal point in providing credible inputs and recommendations to MOSTI, other ministries and stakeholders.

10. This has been demonstrated amply through their participation in the various ASM studies and programmes that complements the Government's efforts to forge the STI agenda and bring about tangible benefits.

Ladies and gentlemen,

11. **Inclusiveness and sustainability needs to be adequately addressed to avoid social, economic and political tension which will undermine growth.** In this regard and to reinforce this need, the 11th Malaysia Plan has highlighted the need for 'enhancing inclusiveness towards an equitable society' as the first thrust in addressing the needs of the *rakyat*.

12. In this endeavour, **MOSTI and its agencies have undertaken many social innovation projects adopting the concepts of Open Innovation and Inclusive Innovation** where ideas of innovation are channeled to meet the community's needs for affordable as well as quality goods and services. Programmes to elevate the livelihood of the bottom 40% households and safeguard the vulnerable will be re-emphasised.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

13. **The critical role of the GLCs and SMEs in leading the innovation push for the country** cannot be ignored. To survive and grow in today's unrelenting global landscape, our local industries, especially the SMEs must be forward-thinking, innovative, and always be conscious of the rapid change in market needs.

14. In this regard, MOSTI in championing technology and innovation is in the midst of mobilising effective platforms for the local SMEs and Industry to innovate. One of the initiatives is **the rebranding of SIRIM Berhad to implement an SME Technology Penetration and Upgrading Programme and technology auditing programme**. It provides SIRIM with a vantage position that SMEs can use as leverage to enhance their technological capabilities.

15. This year, MOSTI also launched **the National Internet of Things (IoT) roadmap**, to take lead in accelerating IoT adoption in Malaysia. The idea is to re-energise our industry as a premier Internet of Things (IoT) development hub with IoT as a new source of economic growth. This augurs well with the 11th Malaysia Plan that identifies IoT as a key technology area in enhancing productivity among others.

16. **STI talent and High skilled workers** are an imperative for STI advancement. One initiative is the recently established **Malaysian Board of Technologists (MBOT)**. MBOT will play a key role in **accrediting technologists and technicians**, regulate ethics, promote education, as well as provide vocational training. MBOT has set a target to produce 380,000 technologists and technicians by 2020.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

17. Forging of international alliance for collaborations to generate beneficial partnerships is undeniably needed. Consonant with the importance of creating ASEAN partnerships for an STI-led nation, MOSTI supports the formation of **the Network of ASEAN Science Academies known as NetASA**. This Network will act as a 'Think Tank' in offering independent advisory and strategic input for policy development and formulation in ASEAN.

18. This will also enable the ASEAN community to have a regional platform to exchange ideas on common issues impacting our region such as water scarcity, energy accessibility and most currently, haze.

19. Here, MOSTI hopes that its counterparts in ASEAN member states would lend their support to NetASA, and allowing them to do regional research transcending all ASEAN countries.

Ladies and Gentlemen

20. Science and technology have helped create the quality of life we experience today. The progress and prosperity of future generations will depend on what we do now. We need to think about new and

creative ways to engage young people in science, technology, and innovation.

21. On that note, I would like to wish great success in your future endeavours and hope that you will continuously contribute your STI expertise for the benefit of the nation.

22. Finally, I wish to thank ASM for the excellent work in being an effective voice for STI and I look forward to close engagement with ASM on STI issues of national and international importance in the future.

Sekian, terima kasih.