

**SPEECH Y.B DATUK DR. ABU BAKAR
DEPUTY MINISTER OF SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION**

LUNCHEON & DIALOGUE

ON

5th JUNE 2013

PUTRAJAYA LAKE CLUB

SALUTATIONS:

1. DATUK SHAIK SULAIMAN HJ ISMAIL, PRESIDENT MACRI
2. MR. LEE YEE DIAN, VICE PRESIDENT, MACRI
3. MR. MOHAN K, VICE PRESIDENT MACRI
4. DR MAZALAN KHAMIS, CEO, YAYASAN INOVASI MALAYSIA
5. DATIN NUR WAHIDAH, MOSTI
6. MS. ARMELLE LE THEIX, WIPO
7. MR. MICHAEL TEOH SU LIM, NATIONAL YOUTH ICON

I AM PLEASED TO HOST THIS DIALOGUE AND LUNCHEON FOR THE MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION OF CREATIVITY & INNOVATION (MACRI), ITS PARTNERS AND INNOVATORS. THIS OCCASION WOULD BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO GET TO KNOW MACRI AND ITS INITIATIVES ON PROPAGATING CREATIVITY AND INNOVATIONS. I UNDERSTAND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH MOSTI SINCE MACRI'S INCEPTION IN 2007.

I FIRST CAME TO KNOW ABOUT MACRI IN 2010 WHEN I WAS THE CEO OF THE MELAKA R&D & CREATIVITY & INNOVATION CENTER (R&DCIC) AND DECIDED TO ORGANIZE THE PERTANDINGAN INOVASI REKABENTUK KASUT 2010 MELAKA IN OCTOBER 2010. I RECALL THAT MACRI HAD PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE AND ASSISTED US WITH THE GUIDELINES OF THE COMPETITION.

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN INTERESTED IN ANYTHING THAT IS CREATIVE AND WHEN I WAS WITH THE MELAKA R&DCIC I TRIED VERY HARD TO HELP COMMERCIALIZE SOME OF THE INNOVATIONS BY THE GRASSROOT COMMUNITIES. INDEED SOME HAVE SUCCEEDED IN GENERATING INCOME THROUGH THE ASSISTANCE GIVEN MY AGENCY THEN. HAVING WORKED IN AN INNOVATION BASED ORGANIZATION I AM VERY OPTIMISTIC THAT MALAYSIAN ACROSS ALL STRATA OF THE SOCIETY ARE CAPABLE OF CREATING INNOVATIONS WITH COMMERCIAL VALUE. WHAT THEY NEED IS GREATER ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT. I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT MY MINISTRY WILL BE ABLE TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF GRASSROOT INNOVATORS AND INDEPENDENT INNOVATORS. THIS IS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY I AM VERY KEEN TO HOST THIS SESSION FOR MACRI. I AM CONVINCED THAT MACRI CAN HELP TO FOSTER CLOSER RAPPORT WITH INNOVATORS AND EXPLORE NEW COLLABORATIONS TO MOVE FORWARD CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION INITIATIVES IN COLLABORATION WITH MOSTI.

I ALSO WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE MACRI FOR INITIATING THE 'PROJECT LINKAGES'. THIS IS INDEED A VERY TIMELY PROJECT THAT TAPS THE WISDOM AND LOCAL KNOWLEDGE OF ELDER CITIZENS. IF HARNESSSED EFFECTIVELY WE SHOULD HAVE A TREASURE TROVE OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE WHICH COULD BE FURTHER RESEARCHED AND DEVELOPED FOR COMMERCIAL USE. WE COULD EXPLORE THE EXISTING FUNDS UNDER MOSTI SUCH AS THE E SCIENCE FUND AND COMMUNITY INNOVATION FUND FOR ENTRIES WITH POTENTIAL. I FEEL THAT THE OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN PROJECT LINKAGES MUST BE TAPPED AND PUT TO GOOD USE. I HOPE THAT ALL PRESENT TODAY WILL CONTRIBUTE MORE IDEAS AND ADD GREATER VALUE TO THE INITIATIVE OF PROJECT LINKAGES. YOUR INPUTS WILL HELP US TO MOVE THE INNOVATION AGENDA AND MOSTI'S INITIATIVES TO GREATER HEIGHTS.

INNOVATION TODAY HAS BECOME WIDESPREAD AND COMPETITIVE. TO BE AHEAD WE HAVE TO BRING TOGETHER DIFFERENT SKILLS AND IDEAS TO CREATE NEW AND BETTER SOLUTIONS. I UNDERSTAND THAT IBM HAS PIONEERED THE 'INNOVATION JAM' AS A WAY TO COLLECTIVELY HARNESS VAST POOL OF CREATIVE IDEAS WITHIN A GIVEN TIMEFRAME. I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT IBM MALAYSIA SUPPORT MOSTI AND MACRI IN USING THIS ONLINE MODEL TO TAP THE CREATIVE MINDS OF MALAYSIANS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

IN CONCLUSION I HOPE THAT THIS DIALOGUE WILL BRING US CLOSER TO THE EFFORTS AND ASPIRATIONS OF MOSTI. I CALL UPON MACRI AND ALL PRESENT HERE TO CONTINUE TO PLAY A ROLE IN INCULCATING THE CULTURE OF INNOVATION.

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