

**OPENING SPEECH BY
YB DATUK DR. ABU BAKAR BIN MOHAMAD DIAH
DEPUTY MINISTER OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION
AT
THE NATIONAL CONGRESS ON MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY
(NATCOM 2016)**

**24 AUGUST 2016 (WEDNESDAY)
INDERAPUTRA HALL, PULAI SPRINGS RESORT, JOHOR**

Assalamualaikum W.B.T and a very good evening.

YBRS. PROF. DR. AHMAD FAUZI BIN ISMAIL

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation), Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM);

YBRS. DR. MOHD HAFIZ DZARFAN BIN OTHMAN

Chairman of National Congress on Membrane Technology (NATCOM 2016);

YBRS. PROF. DR. MADZLAN BIN AZIZ

Co-chairman of NATCOM 2016;

Speakers and participants; and

Ladies and Gentleman.

1. First and foremost, on behalf of the organising committee, Advanced Membrane Technology Research Centre (AMTEC), Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), I would like to express my warm welcome to all participants of the **National Congress on Membrane Technology (NATCOM 2016)**. To our renowned international speakers hailing from Canada, Thailand and India, welcome to Malaysia!

2. I was informed that **NATCOM 2016** will focus on the sharing of experience regarding the development of membrane technology and its advanced knowledge in vital sectors namely environment, energy, food

and biomedical. Based on the interest shown and feedback by the participants across this nation, it is my firm belief that this national congress will be one of the most rewarding congresses that you have attended.

3. I sincerely hope that **NATCOM 2016** will be able to congregate experts and technologists in membrane technology both locally and internationally to not only establish rapport and forge closer ties in your respective fields, but also to share insights on the vast opportunities to further harness and to elevate this technology for the betterment of mankind.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. With our unending commitment towards proper management of environmental preservation and energy conservation, this conference with its theme, “**Membranes Technology for Efficient Separation and Energy Generation**” aims to spur innovative ideas in membrane science and technology which are effective and sustainable. I strongly believe that this congress would contribute significantly not only to those involved in academia and research but also to industries and the general public whom would be the ultimate end users.

5. I have the confidence that **NATCOM 2016** will be an enriching experience for all of you. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the efforts undertaken by the committees involved in organising this conference. It is my fervent hope that all delegates will have a fruitful and rewarding conference as this **NATCOM 2016** will greatly serve as a platform for us to learn much more on membrane science and technology.

Thank you and please enjoy your dinner.