



**KEMENTERIAN SAINS, TEKNOLOGI DAN INOVASI**  
*MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION*

**Opening Speech By**  
**YBhg. Dato' Sri Dr. Noorul Ainur Mohd. Nur**  
**Secretary General**  
**Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation &**  
**Vice President**  
**Asia-Pacific Region of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Council**  
**(IGC) of the Management of Social Transformations (MOST)**  
**Programme**

**At The Launching of**  
**The Project "Promoting Social Inclusion Through Public Policies"**  
**& MOA Signing Ceremony Between IKMAS - UNESCO**

**Everly Hotel, Putrajaya**  
**8 June 2015**

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**[SALUTATION]**

- 1. YBhg. Professor Datuk Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali**  
**Vice Chancellor**  
**Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia**
- 2. Mr. Irakli Khodeli**  
**Head of Social and Human Sciences**  
**UNESCO Jakarta Office**
- 3. YBhg. Professor Dr. Rashila Ramli**  
**Director of Institute of Malaysian and International Studies**  
**Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia**
- 4. YBhg. Emeritus Professor Dato' Dr. Abdul Rahman Embong**  
**Head, Research Project Promoting Social Inclusion through**  
**Public Policies in Malaysia**

5. **Distinguished participants,**
6. **Members of the Media,**
7. **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Assalamualaikum warahmatullah hi wabarakatuh, A Very Good Afternoon and Salam 1Malaysia,**

1. It is indeed a great pleasure to be here today to mark the launching of the **project “Promoting Social Inclusion through Public Policies” in Malaysia**. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the organisers i.e. UNESCO Office, Jakarta and the Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia for organising this three-days workshop.

2. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome and thank all our local as well as foreign participants, especially those who have travelled far, which I am most certain will contribute brilliant ideas for this initiation workshop.

### **MOSTI AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

**Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,**

3. The Malaysian government believes that science, technology and innovation (STI) plays an important role in our quest to becoming a fully developed nation and ensuring sustainable economic growth. In this regard, we aim to drive STI for socio-economic growth by intensifying creativity and innovation; strengthening market-driven research and development, sourcing and diffusing new technologies; developing and attracting talent as well as deepening awareness on STI and

strengthening collaborations and partnerships. In this regard, MOSTI caters to different types of clients, ensuring that they have opportunities to benefit from our products and services. This is in-line with Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Malaysia, MOSTI's vision which is "Discovering, Developing and Utilising STI for Knowledge Generation, Wealth Creation and Societal Well-Being towards Achieving a High Income Advanced Economy that is Competitive, Sustainable and Inclusive."

## **WORKING TOGETHER TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH PUBLIC POLICIES**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

4. MOSTI is not alone in promoting social inclusion in public policies. In fact, other ministries and government agencies in Malaysia have been implementing cross-cutting social inclusion policies with the cooperation of the academia, the industry and the public through Quadruple Helix Model as well as the National Blue Ocean Strategy. For instance, the National Women Policy which was introduced in 2009 by the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development has been embraced by public sector and private sector alike. Among the 13 areas of concern is empowering women in STI field so as to include them as equal partners in building a high income nation, with the right fundamentals for sustainable growth. Among the outcomes, inter alia, includes significant increase of the number of total registered women engineers from 5,031 (10.1%) in 2005 to 15,774 (18.7%) in 2013 as reported by the Institution of Engineers Malaysia and Board of Engineers Malaysia.

## **11<sup>TH</sup> MALAYSIA PLAN**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

5. The pursuit to embrace inclusiveness in public policies is continued by the Malaysian Government in the recently launched 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (2016 – 2020), a five-year development blueprint. It reaffirms the Government's commitment to the people, and the belief that growth cannot be measured by economic success alone. The Government of Malaysia pledged to leave no Malaysian behind to ensure everyone prospers from the country's growth.

6. The first of six strategic thrusts of the 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan is enhancing inclusiveness towards an equitable society with key initiatives including uplifting vulnerable household through outcome-based support and productivity-linked assistance for these groups. At the same time, Malaysia will strengthen family institutions with integrated support systems; implement youth leadership and entrepreneurship programmes; increase female labour participation through flexible arrangements; improve childcare and child protection; support active ageing for the elderly and enhance employment and training for persons with disabilities. These shall all be achieved through public policies that include citizens from all walks of life.

## **UNESCO AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

7. UNESCO has been partnering with our government and society in transforming the lives of the people across our nation. Partnership is indeed the key driver in making differences through education, science and culture. It is important that the knowledge, expertise and know-how of inclusiveness are shared not only in the region but globally as well.

8. The Malaysia-UNESCO Cooperation Programme (MUCP) was launched in 2009 by the Honorable Dato' Sri Najib Tun Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia who announced the establishment of Malaysian Cooperative Trust Fund which will contribute to “enhance South-South cooperation for capacity building in education, science and culture for the benefit of the Least Developed Countries, Small Island States in Asia and the Pacific and in support of the Priority Africa agenda of UNESCO” at the 35th General Conference of UNESCO. The Government of Malaysia and UNESCO had signed a Funds-in-Trust (FIT) Agreement on Friday, 5 April 2013, under the MUCP.

9. It is the international partnership of UNESCO, UNESCAP, and Trinity College Dublin together with close cooperation with our Malaysian national stakeholders that has made the design of this Project on Promoting Social Inclusion through Public Policies possible through funding from MFIT. This project is divided into three stages namely Policy Initiation Workshop, Policy Assessment and Revision Facilitation, and Conclusion Workshop/National Policy Dialogue. As Vice President, Asia Pacific Region of the UNESCO Intergovernmental of Management of Social Transformation (MOST) Programme, I wish to reiterate that the present program is most welcomed by Malaysia and Asia-Pacific Region to enhance the inclusiveness of key social policies in our countries.

**69<sup>th</sup> ASEAN COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (ASEAN COST) & 12<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL (IGC) OF MOST PROGRAM**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

10. I am also proud to announce that during the 69<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Committee on Science and Technology (COST) Meeting in Phuket from 28 to 30 May 2015, as Malaysia's Head of Delegation, I have proposed an ASEAN-UNESCO Ministerial Forum: Mobilising Social Innovation for Sustainable Development in the ASEAN Region to be held back-to-back with the 16<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Science and Technology in November 2015 in Lao PDR. Social inclusion is very much relevant here since it includes grass-root innovation. This proposal has been well received by all delegates, marking another achievement of UNESCO in enhancing and elevating its stature at global level. I have also reported the social inclusion activities in the Asia-Pacific Region during the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Intergovernmental Council (IGC) of MOST Program held 1 June in Paris.

11. Herewith once again, before I end my speech, I would like to extend my gratitude to the organisers, in particular Mr. Irakli Khodeli of UNESCO Jakarta Office as well as YBhg. Professor Dr. Rashila Ramli and YBhg. Emeritus Professor Dato' Dr. Abdul Rahman Embong of IKMAS, UKM for the hardwork in coordinating this initiation workshop.

12. I hope that this three-day initiation workshop will be a fruitful event for everyone to jointly deliberate on theory, development and rationale for utilisation of the public policy innovative tool as well as best practices in Promoting Social Inclusion through Public Policies to help ensure that

public policies benefit everyone: inclusive of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups and contribute to equitable and sustainable development. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate IKMAS and UNESCO for the signing of MOA. May this be the start that will create a journey of thousand miles in elevating the cooperation between us.

**Thank you.**