



OPENING ADDRESS

BY

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SECRETARY GENERAL,
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“Atoms for Peace: Nuclear Technology in the 21st Century”

by H.E. Yukiya Amano

Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Putrajaya International Convention Centre

21 January 2015

His Excellency Yukiya Amano,
Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA),

YBrs Dr Zulkifli Mohamed Hashim
Deputy Secretary General, MOSTI

YBhg Dato' Dr. Muhamad Bin Lebai Juri
Director General of Nuclear Malaysia

Prof. Datuk Dr. Sukiman Sarmani
Chairman of the Atomic Energy Licensing Board, Malaysia

Dr Mohd Zamzam bin Jaafar
CEO, Malaysia Nuclear Power Corporation

Mr Hamrah bin Mohd Ali
Director General, Atomic Energy Licensing Board, Malaysia

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamualaikum and a very good morning to all.

1. We are delighted to have all of you here to participate in this Executive Talk session this morning. Thank you for coming.

2. First and foremost, on behalf of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, I would like to welcome our guest of honour, His Excellency Yukiya Amano, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to Malaysia. We are deeply honoured that His Excellency Yukiya Amano has chosen Malaysia as his first stop in his tour of the ASEAN region. Indeed, it is our honour and we thank you.

3. I am very sure that His Excellency Yukiya Amano needs no introduction. Not only that he has an illustrious career he is also a recipient of the coveted Nobel Peace Prize, which he received in 2005 along with the then Director-General of IAEA, His Excellency Mohamed ElBaradei. Therefore, we are truly honoured by your presence and support.

Ladies and gentlemen,
Distinguished guests,

4. I would like to take this opportunity to express Malaysia's appreciation and gratitude for the Technical Cooperation & Assistance Programme (TCAP) of IAEA in convening the International Post-Review Mission on the Radiation Safety Aspects of the Operation of our rare earths processing facility in October 2014. The TCAP team reviewed on the extent of implementation of previous recommendations made in 2011 and provided a preliminary assessment that contained a total of eleven (11) recommendations, all of which have been implemented by Malaysia. Malaysia has received the final report of the post-review mission on 15 January 2015.

5. We are grateful to note that IAEA had recognised Nuclear Malaysia Agency as the IAEA Collaborating Centre in Radiation Processing of Natural Polymer from 2006 to 2009, and the IAEA Collaborating Centre in Radiation Processing of Natural Polymer and Nanomaterials for the period of 2010 to 2014. We hope that the IAEA would also award the same recognition to the Gamma Green House Facility, a facility under the care of Nuclear Malaysia Agency, which I believe was visited by Your Excellency during your visit to Nuclear Malaysia yesterday.

6. A very recent achievement which I am pleased to share with all of you is the Plant Mutation Breeding Award received by Malaysia during the 58th IAEA General Conference in Vienna in September 2014 in recognition of Malaysia's contribution in the field of plant mutation breeding.

Your Excellency,

7. Under the Malaysian Economic Transformation Programme (ETP), deploying nuclear energy for power generation is one of the entry point projects under oil, gas and energy sector. The Government of Malaysia is studying the possibility of deploying nuclear energy to meet rising energy demands and to diversify the energy mix for Malaysia. To spearhead the initiative, Malaysia Nuclear Power Corporation (MNPC) has been formed to plan and coordinate the implementation of a nuclear energy development programme for Malaysia.

8. MNPC will assess the feasibility of a nuclear power programme in Malaysia which includes among others the preparation of a Nuclear Power Infrastructure Development Plan as well as the development of a robust

regulatory framework in Malaysia before the Government makes a well-informed decision on the deployment of nuclear energy. Besides this, MNPC will also conduct public engagement and buy-in programmes to educate the public on nuclear energy for electricity generation, apart from highlighting nuclear applications in non-energy areas such as medical, industrial and agricultural sectors.

Your Excellency,
Ladies and gentlemen,

9. I am also pleased to inform that our revised Atomic Energy Bill which will encompass the “3S” aspects, namely Safety, Security and Safeguards, will provide a holistic approach to nuclear power management and regulation. The Act is at the final stages of drafting and will be tabled in the Parliament in the near future.

10. Last but not least, as a member state of the IAEA, Malaysia would like to enhance and expand collaboration with the IAEA by building, strengthening and maintaining capacities for the safe, peaceful and secure use of nuclear technology in support of sustainable socioeconomic development.

Thank you and hope you all have a productive morning.