



MINISTRY OF RURAL AND
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OPENING ADDRESS

**HON. DATO' SRI ISMAIL SABRI BIN YAAKOB
MINISTER OF RURAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT MALAYSIA**

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT 2017 (ICoSD2017)**

**'TOWARDS GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:
IMPROVING WAY OF LIFE FOR FUTURE GENERATION'**

EVERLY HOTEL, PUTRAJAYA

**7 AUGUST 2017 (THURSDAY)
TIME ARRIVAL : 10.00 A.M**

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

**HONOURABLE DATUK ZAHIDI BIN ZAINUL ABIDIN
CHAIRMAN OF RISDA**

**HONOURABLE DATO' HAJI MOHD FASIAH BIN HAJI MOHD FAKEH
CHAIRMAN OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF AGROSCIENCE MALAYSIA**

**DATO' WAN AHMAD SHABRI ZAINUDDIN BIN WAN MOHAMAD DIRECTOR
GENERAL OF RISDA**

**PROFESSOR DATUK DR. FARIDAH HANAM BT MOHD RASHID
VICE CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF AGROSCIENCE
MALAYSIA**

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
ASSALAMUALAIKUM AND GOOD MORNING.**

1. First of all, I would like to thank University College of Agrosience Malaysia for inviting me today for the inauguration of the International Conference on Sustainable Development 2017 - "*Towards Global Sustainable Development: Improving Way Of Life For Future Generation*".
2. This is the first collaboration between the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development with UCAM and RISDA, organizing an international conference. Well done and congratulations.
3. Sustainable Development Issues are often debated since the concept was first introduced in 1987 in the Brundtland Report. Sustainable development has different implications on the basis of national planning, which are physical, social and economic. It means that there must be an equilibrium of economic, environmental, social as well as community culture. But the question is can we achieve the balance that we have been looking for?
4. The developmental pace has changed since the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit in 1992. All countries are warned of the need for people to safeguard and conserve the environment while pursuing the pursuit of progress. Often, this concept is associated with a form of balanced development. The economy grew fresh to build wealth. Wealth is then used to develop the identity of society.

5. At the same time the freshest environment needs to be kept and preserved while the damaged is conserved. This is so that the benefits of today's achievement can be enjoyed by future generations. Hence, the development must be balanced between the three components of sustainable development.
6. The Sustainable Development Goals or "SDGs" have become a global agenda when the United Nations introduced the 17 goals that should be reached all nations by 2030.
7. Malaysia Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abd Razak has responded to this challenge by stating the country's commitment in several forums he attended. The Economic Planning Unit (EPU) has been mandated to coordinate the actions of various parties to achieve this goal.
8. Many are still confused, sustainable development is not just an environmental agenda; it is also for the interest of community welfare and also for a comprehensive economic growth. It focuses on the philosophy of what we are currently doing, not harming the life-cycle of future generations.

Ladies and gentlemen,

9. During the Eleventh Malaysia Plan (RMKe-11) 2016-2020, green growth was an important shift in the socio-economic development of the country and was intended to protect the development output and its biodiversity. It also has become the essence of the aspiration of the National Transformation 2050 towards a more sustainable Malaysia.
10. KKLW always ensures that all initiatives implemented must be suitable for the need of sustainable development especially from the point of community development, high impact economic and quality education. There is still much effort we need to for the continuation of the "Rural Urbanization Transformation Programme" and many other special plans that we need to make sure that rural development can be continued holistically and effectively.
11. Hence, for the year 2017, the Ministry will continue its Rural Transformation initiative by focusing on the implementation of touch points in Rakyat Centric projects that can be implemented within an immediate period. This will ensure that rural communities get overall benefits in terms of infrastructure, economy, housing and education.
12. It is also to ensure that the benefits are felt by the rural community and to meet the needs and requirements of the targeted groups. To ensure the implementation of these projects and programs run more efficiently, some of these

projects and programs will be implemented by NBOS through implementing agencies to benefit all.

Ladies and gentlemen,

13. Malaysia is always committed to conserving the nation's biodiversity to ensure that future generations have equal access to these natural resources as the present generation.

14. The environment that supports green growth will also be strengthened primarily in terms of policy and regulatory framework, human capital development, green technology investment as well as financial instruments.

15. World climate change will also continue to be a major threat as it affects the outcome of economic and social development and increases the gap of economic inequality.

16. Excessive exploitation of natural resources, unsustainable land use, widespread deforestation, biodiversity destruction and land use change will undermine ecosystem services, increase exposure to climate-related disasters and impede the needs of present and future generations.

17. Collaboration and sharing of responsibilities across all walks of life are important in protecting the environment and biodiversity. The success of green growth is not only expanding economic opportunities but also increasing inclusion and reducing disaster risk.

18. In conclusion, this sustainable development is a development that meets the needs and requirements of consumers from various aspects such as city planning, food security and economic growth without affecting the environment.

19. This development involves various parties globally which transforms and enacts policies to make this development a reality as has been described.

20. The community also cannot escape from making this development successful because society is a group of supporters who support various government policies to create a healthy environment.

21. All parties should also look at this sustainable development as a development that benefits all parties, and corporate social responsibility related to sustainable development is expected to raise awareness about the importance of sustainable development.

22. Finally, on behalf of the ministry and university, I once again thank all of you who participating and attending this conference. Hopefully this world that we own together will be kept green for future generations.

23. On that note, I have a great pleasure to officiate the International Conference of Sustainable Development 2017.

Thank you.