



KEMENTERIAN KERJA RAYA MALAYSIA

Speech by

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General Assembly, World Skills Asia (WSA) 2019

Dinner

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Pulse Grande Hotel, Putrajaya

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

, Salam sejahtera and Good evening

I wish to take this opportunity to welcome all delegates who have come from near and abroad to attend the General Assembly, Worldskills Asia (WSA) here in Malaysia. “*Selamat Datang*” and a warm welcome to all of you.

1. TVET as defined by UNESCO, is that it involves “*in addition to general education, the study of technologies and related sciences as well as the acquisition of practical skills, attitudes, understanding, and knowledge relating to occupations in various sectors of economics and social life*”. In TVET, young people have the opportunity to learn from basic to advanced levels across a wide range of institutional and work settings. Worldskills Asia as a non-profit association is striving to promote excellence in the field of skills and competence development. The most amazing promotion of TVET in Asia happens every two years once during the World Skills Asia Competition.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

2. The member countries of World Skills Asia have come together for this general assembly in Malaysia to discuss preparation in World Skills Asia Competition 2020 and preparation for way forward in

reinforcing the role of the Worldskills Asia in the development of innovative skills and capacities of the Asian youths through TVET. I strongly believe this General Assembly will allow knowledge sharing cooperation and collaboration amongst member countries towards achieving greater TVET development in Asia.

3. We Asians have a rich array of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in Asia. However, most Asian countries have been working in 'silo' to develop TVET training and achievements may have been modest. An association such as World Skills Asia is expected to play a vital role in bringing together member countries to implement their TVET programmes in good cooperation and collaboration. Trust, commitment and cooperation amongst member countries will be most important factors in achieving greater TVET development in Asia. As we stand on the brink of technological revolution, this amazing cooperation and collaboration amongst member countries will enable Asian countries to embrace the 4th Industrial Revolution towards achieving the desired development. The 10 pillars of 4th Industrial Revolution are definitely the way forward in transforming the TVET programs worldwide. Thus, Asian countries should look into TVET programmes for Pre-fabrication and modular construction, advanced building materials, 3D printing and additive manufacturing, autonomous construction, augmented reality and virtualisation, big data and predictive analysis, wireless monitoring and connected equipment, cloud and real time collaboration, 3D scanning and photogrammetry and building information modelling.

4. Member countries of Worldskill Asia should also look into strengthening TVET's links to cross border industry and workplace training. Cross border industry and workplace training will be an excellent way forward towards achieving desired development. Besides that, basing TVET on standards that are set or validated by member countries is an excellent way forward. Worldskills Asia and it's General Assemblies is the right platform for such cooperation and collaboration.

5. In Malaysia, TVET programs are not just to provide skills on the specific field but at the same time is a platform to expose the young workforce for other opportunities such as to use their acquired skills and venture into business instead of depending on wages base jobs. TVET includes formal and informal learning that prepare young people with the knowledge and skills required in the world of work. TVET is one of the 10 shifts embedded in the *Malaysia Education Blueprint 2015-2025 (Higher Education)*. The blueprint states that there is an under-supply of TVET workers in 10 of the 12 national sectors, and Malaysia would require a 2.5 fold increase in TVET enrolment by 2025. The Education Ministry has outlined various strategies with industry involvement and partnerships to achieve the target.

Ladies and gentleman,

6. TVET programmes in Malaysia are offered at certificate, diploma, and degree levels by seven ministries that include the Ministry of Education (MOE), which offers the TVET programmes to a large

number of students. Presently, qualifications for academic (higher education) and vocational education sectors offered by MOE's universities, polytechnics, and community colleges are accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA), whereas skills training programmes offered by skills training institutions are accredited by the Ministry of Human Resources.

7. In supporting TVET, each year Malaysia organises the World Skills Malaysia Youth (WSMB) competition to identify participants with exceptional skills. The winner will then represent Malaysia in the ASEAN Skills Competition (ASC), Worldskills Competition Asia (WSA) and World Skills Competition (WSC) for at least in 20 fields. Participants for these competitions are trained and managed by Department of Skills Development (DSD) an agency under Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia and Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) an agency under Ministry of Works. Both DSD and CIDB are equal partners in a unique collaboration in organizing and participating in TVET competitions both domestically and internationally.

8. CIDB TVET programmes provide access to a variety of innovative, industry-led programmes that better prepares our construction industry players for the workplace and establish a workforce that is able to be competitive globally. Welding, bricklaying, electrical installation, plumbing and heating, painting and decoration, Refrigeration and air conditioning, joinery and Mechanical Engineering Design (CAD) are some trades under the construction industry championed by CIDB. Besides CIDB and DSD many other public and private TVET agencies are striving towards this TVET training for Malaysian Workforce.

9. Holistically, Malaysia with a renewed focus and direction given by our beloved Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to fulfil the national agenda of Vision 2020, TVET education strives to provide a skilled Malaysian workforce which can benefit every industry in this country. TVET will equip workforce with the practical skills that will transform workforce into a skilled worker ready for the real world. However, level of awareness on TVET in Malaysia still need to be heightened that is only possible with cross border cooperation and collaboration from all members of Worldskills Asia.

10. Lastly, I strongly believe all the participating countries will take the dinner tonight as an excellent networking opportunity for knowledge sharing and to establish further cooperation and collaboration among member countries to promote high-quality TVET. Let us all be the forefront of shaping the future of Asia through TVET programmes.

Thank you. Terima kasih

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