

## **Opening Speech**

**YB Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof  
Minister of Works**

**8<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Construction Summit (MCS)**

**“Redefining Profit and Value Creation through Quality and Safety”**

**The Plenary Theatre, Level 3,  
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), Kuala Lumpur**

**Monday, 11 April 2017**

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YBhg. Dato' Sri Zohari Bin Haji Akob  
Secretary-General, Ministry of Works

YBhg. Dato' Ir. Ahmad 'Asri Abdul Hamid  
Chief Executive  
Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Malaysia

Mr. Foo Chek Lee  
President  
Master Builders Association Malaysia (MBAM)

Mr. Eric Yong  
Organising Chairman  
8<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Construction Summit 2017

Tan Sri/ Puan Sri/ Datuk/ Datin

Distinguished Speakers

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalammu'alaikum WBT

Salam Sejahtera, Salam 1 Malaysia and a very Good Morning to all of you.

1. Let me begin by expressing my appreciation to the organisers, Master Builders Association Malaysia for inviting me to officiate the *8<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Construction Summit ( MCS 2017 )* . Here, I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the international speakers and delegates to Malaysia and hope you will have a wonderful experience during your stay.
2. The theme of MCS 2017, “Redefining Profit and Value Creation through Quality and Safety” is apt and timely as we are witnessing a complex business environment which is challenging at all economic front. In the construction industry, there can be many competing interests from different stakeholders. May it be clients wanting to have their structures built quickly and ahead of schedule or contractors trying to keep track of their budgets and schedules in delivering quality work, all these competing interests can sometimes create conflict. Nevertheless, we must all agree on one single guiding principle, the preservation of lives and safety of those working at the construction site which is of utmost importance.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

3. Malaysia in gearing herself towards realising its goal of becoming a developed and high income nation by 2020 is now in the middle of the 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Plan implementation, the last laps of making this dream a reality. Undoubtedly, one of the key sector which will propel the nation into the path of prosperity is the construction industry.
4. The construction industry indeed has a bright future considering the numerous mega infrastructure projects which will continue to fuel our construction demands. Among the major projects are the Refinery & Petrochemical Integrated Development (RAPID) project in Pengerang, Johor, East Coast Rail Line ( ECRL ) from Port Klang to Tumpat, High Speed Rail from Kuala Lumpur to Jurong East in Singapore, Pan Borneo Highway in Sabah and Sarawak, Damansara – Shah Alam Elevated Expressway (DASH), Lightrail Transit 3 from Bandar Utama to Johan Setia, Klang, West Cost Expressway (WCE) from Banting to Taiping, Mass Rapid Transit 2 which will cover Sg Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya and East Klang Valley Expressway (EKVE).
5. In addition, there are commercial real estate development projects which will boost construction demand even further. These includes the Bandar Malaysia project, Cyberjaya City Centre, Malaysia Vision Valley in Negeri Sembilan, Melaka Gateway and Kuantan Industrial Park.

6. In short, we foresee opportunities abound for the construction industry and as captains of the industry, you must not only reap the benefit of economic prosperity. Instead you must all uphold the responsibilities in carrying out and implementing these projects seriously in the highest possible quality standards coupled with the best safety records.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

7. The Ministry of Works, through the Construction Industry Development Board proactively developed the Construction Industry Transformation Programme (CITP) to empower and strengthen the construction industry as outlined in the 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan. The CITP is a comprehensive 5 year programme to transform the construction industry to be at par with its counterparts in developed nations by 2020. Notably, quality and safety are key parts of the CITP and are primary prerequisites in transforming the construction industry to become responsible corporate citizens of the industry.
8. I fervently believe that safety is the most important mark as a “compulsory subject” in the industry’s report card which reflects the attitude of its people and their commitment towards the wellbeing of their workers and the public.
9. Among the initiatives of the CITP is the push for more construction companies to adopt the Safety and Health Assessment System in Construction (SHASSIC), which is an independent method of

assessing and evaluating the safety and health performance of contractors in construction projects to ensure high Occupational Safety and Health standards are being maintained.

10. The CITP also addresses the Health and Wellbeing of construction workers as one of its Key Performance Indicator by introducing a Malaysian Standard Code of Practice which outline the guidelines for temporary construction site workers amenities. This is achieved through the strong commitment from the team at the Ministry of Human Resource who share the same aspirations of ensuring the condition of workers amenities in the construction industry is elevated. In fact, the minimum standard for construction workers' housing and amenities is expected to be included in a new Act which will be tabled by the Human Resource Ministry next year.
  
11. At this juncture, I would like to mention here that the MBAM President Mr Foo Chek Lee is currently the co-chair of the CITP Initiative Working Group for Safety in collaboration with the Director General of Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Dato' Ir Mohtar Musri. I am grateful to both of them for their high commitment in providing leadership to the group and ensuring that we are on track in achieving the CITP goals. We are certainly in need of more industry leaders who has the passion for safety and the overall well-being of the industry.

Ladies and gentlemen

12. In reducing accidents and fatalities at construction sites, we will need more Site Safety and Health Officers and Supervisors for the construction industry. In this regards, I would like to congratulate the Master Builders Association for their effort in producing more than 3,477 site safety officers and supervisors from 2011 until March 2017.
13. Apart from conducting such training, MBAM has also introduced the MBAM Safety and Health Awards to recognise builders who are actively promoting and implementing safety and health initiatives at the construction site. I was made to understand that these awards are presented every year in conjunction with the MBAM Safety and Health Annual Conference and indeed is exemplary of an industry-led initiative to elevate the safety and health performance of the industry.
14. The initiatives by MBAM is the manifestation of the CITP tagline “Driving Construction Excellence Together” , a collaborative effort of the private and public sector working in tandem to achieve the CITP transformational goals.
15. I am impressed with the line up of speakers at this Malaysian Construction summit which I believe the organizing committee must have put a lot of efforts and thoughts in identifying the best speakers for the important topics that we must share with the industry. I have no doubt that you will leave this conference with more knowledge on

how to uplift the quality and safety performance of your own respective organizations and projects which will improve the overall position of the industry performance in the near future.

16. Finally, I wish all of you a fruitful session ahead and look forward to receiving new innovative solutions and recommendations on how to improve the construction sector at the global stage.
17. On that note, it is with great pleasure that I declare the *8<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Construction Summit* officially open.

Thank you.