

SPEECH

BY

**YB TUAN BARU BIAN
MINISTER OF WORKS MALAYSIA**

**PRE-LAUNCH
10th MALAYSIAN ROAD CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION**

2018

**PIARC INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON ASSET
MANAGEMENT**

3rd SEPTEMBER 2018

BILIK TANJUNG, BLOK A, KEMENTERIAN KERJA RAYA

[Final salutations to be provided on event day]

1. Y. Bhg. Tuan Haji Mohd Anuar Bin Mohd Tahir,
Deputy Minister of Works, Malaysia

2. Y.Bhg. Dato' Zohari bin Haji Akob,
Secretary-General, Ministry of Works

3. Dato' Sri Ir. Dr. Roslan bin Md Taha
Director General's, Public Works Department,
Also;
The President of Road Engineering Association of
Malaysia (REAM)

4. Y.Bhg. Dato' Ir. Ahmad Asri' Abdul Hamid
Chief Executive Officer
Construction Industry Development Board

5. YBhg. Ir. Hj. Zulakmal Bin Hj. Sufian

Senior Director of Road Branch, Public Works
Department

Also;

Chairman of the Organising Committee

6. Distinguished Guests,

7. Members of the Media, Ladies and Gentlemen

Salam Sejahtera and a very good afternoon.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

MALAYSIA ROAD CONFERENCE (MRC) IN BRIEF

The Malaysian Road Conference (MRC), held since 1994 has emerged as the premier national and regional platform for presenting research findings, and for discussing and exchanging ideas on cutting-edge technologies relating to the development, construction, management and maintenance of roads, highways and related infrastructure.

The last MRC in 2014 attracted close to 900 participants, a testimony of participant confidence in the outcome of this conference. This shows that the MRC is a good platform for local and international engineering practitioners and academicians to present their research findings, draft manuals, specifications and guidelines. It is also an excellent venue to share experiences and gain exposure to the latest technologies related to the planning, design, development, construction, management and maintenance of roads and highways.

Ladies and gentlemen,

10th MRC EVENT

The 10th Malaysian Road Conference and Exhibition 2018, with the theme '**Global Approaches to Advance Road Asset Management**' which will be held from 29 to 31 October 2018, is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Works, Road Engineering Association Malaysia (REAM), and the World Road Association (PIARC).

As in the last 2014 series, the MRC will be held simultaneously with the PIARC International Seminar on Asset Management. The PIARC is represented by its Technical Committee D.1 (Asset Management) with the objective of improving the quality and efficiency of road infrastructure, amongst others.

This conference will provide a platform for delegates to explore and be motivated by new ideas for the maintenance of road assets such as the use of innovative designs, new materials, methods, or techniques, among others. This is a golden opportunity for local practitioners to be exposed to the advancement of innovation around the globe and ways to adapt them to local conditions.

Ladies and gentlemen,

MALAYSIA ROAD ASSET MANAGEMENT

Road Asset Management is vital when we talk about roads. The effective management of road networks requires budget levels to be sufficient to keep the core road assets in acceptable condition in the long run. With rapid development and the corresponding increase in the number of motorized vehicles, a nation's budget allocation is normally expected to increase in tandem with the increase in road length and axle load of commercial vehicles.

In Malaysia, the Public Works Department (PWD) maintains a total of 237,022.353 KM of roads with a limited operating and maintenance budget of RM1,712.00 per kilometre for routine works.

It is always a challenge to maintain existing and new road infrastructure assets with minimum costs. Hence, adequate maintenance funding remains a major concern in the good up-keeping of road assets. In addition, overloading of commercial vehicles, high annual rainfall coupled with the occurrence of flash floods intensify the degradation rates of road structures in Malaysia.

Here, I would like to emphasize that up-to-date information to support management decisions on items such as network inventory details, traffic, axle loads, cost and road condition is imperative. This is becoming increasingly important for us, to be able to predict the effects on the infrastructure that proposed policies are likely to have in the future for the safety, level of service and efficiency of the operation of our road infrastructure.

Ladies and gentlemen,

WORLD ROAD CONGRESS

Since the first World Road Congress held in Paris in 1908, the World Road Association or PIARC, has organized Congresses once every four years in a member country.

Malaysia has been invited to bid for the 27th (XXVIIth) World Road Congress 2023 in Yokohama, Japan, from 22nd to 26th October 2018.

The 26th (XXVIth) World Road Congress with the theme “Connecting Cultures- Enabling Economies” will be held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 6th to 10th October 2019. The proposed programme includes around 50 sessions, a large exhibition, technical visits and social activities. This will be a unique opportunity for us to present numerous technical results and best practices in all areas related to road infrastructure and road transport.

The Road Engineering Association of Malaysia or REAM, as national organization representing the country's road engineering fraternity, welcomes more technical paper submissions from both the public and private sectors who can meet to present and discuss new approaches and solutions and share their experiences based on the 41 topics identified by the Organizer.

Papers submitted to this congress will be automatically entered in the PIARC Prizes Competition and each qualified paper writer will be entitled to free travel expenses, accommodation and registration fee for the congress. The dateline for the submission of abstracts is on 15th September 2018 and all industry players are advised to submit your papers through REAM.

I am hopeful that all industry players and agencies will support and participate in this congress and be tremendously inspired to take appropriate actions and strategies in your respective countries to ensure better road infrastructure and road transport.

Ladies and gentlemen,

CLOSING

In closing, I would like to wish the ***10th MALAYSIAN ROAD CONFERENCE 2018 AND PIARC INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON ASSET MANAGEMENT*** success in achieving its goal. I hope that the involvement of international and local delegations will represent a new stage of cooperation on these very complex issues, to bring our positions closer and clearer, and render our cooperation more productive to pave the way for a well-connected Asia in the near future. I look forward to meeting you in Petaling Jaya, Selangor in October 2018 for an engaging discussion and exchange of ideas.

Thank you and have a nice day.