
17th International Surveyors' Congress

One World Hotel, Bandar Utama, Petaling Jaya, Selangor

11 June 2015 (Thursday)

Speech for

YB Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah Bin Haji Yusof

Minister of Works, Malaysia

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

YBhg. Dato' Sr Hasan Bin Jamil
President
Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM)

YBhg. Dato' Sr Sri Kandan Kanagainthiram
Organising Chairman
17th International Surveyors' Congress

Fellows and Members of RISM

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh
and Salam 1Malaysia

1. Firstly, allow me to thank the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia for inviting me to officiate the 17th International Surveyors' Congress which brings together members of all disciplines of the surveyors fraternity, both locally and internationally. I believe this is the avenue to discuss and resolve outstanding issues, network, upscale and formulate strategies for the profession to participate and compete in a liberalized market environment.

2. In this regard, I believe the presentations by eminent professionals and renowned speakers in this International Congress will be able to provide the necessary insights and way forward for the profession to transform given the challenges of globalization.

3. The theme of the Congress “**Integrating for Excellence**” meets the contemporary demands of the industry as all disciplines of the surveyors’ fraternity needs to rise to global standards and leverage on each other’s expertise core competencies. Only with such integration shall we be able to ensure greater efficiency, improve the value chain and deliver services in a timely manner which will eventually result in higher quality products, solutions and services.

4. With this concerted efforts, I am confident that the quality and integrity of the construction industry can be further enhanced. The enforcement of the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) (Amendment) Act 2011, referred to as Act 520 will further improve the accountability, integrity and professionalism of the construction industry, thus raising the quality of construction work and strengthening the industry as a whole. The Act also gives CIDB the mandate to enforce the quality of building materials used by the industry and will be reviewed from time to time.

Ladies and gentlemen,

5. In your context, I would like to inform you that the amended Quantity Surveyors Act 2014 will be enforced soon and have a game-changer effect on the transformation of the QS profession by making it more competitive and resilient. The abolishment of citizenship requirements will enable foreign QS to register with the Board of Quantity Surveyors Malaysia (BQSM) and practice as “nationals” here. Similarly, it will also provide numerous opportunities for Malaysian QS to demonstrate their skills in the international market, especially in emerging economies, on equal footing. By being competitive and being

in the league of the best, Malaysia can become a global “education hub” in providing the best professional education for the industry. The amended Quality Surveyors’ Act further expands the scope of the QS industry professionals with the registration of “QS Technologist” and other non-core QS degree graduates into the profession thus making the industry more vibrant and diversified.

6. As such, I call upon RISM members to acquire and adopt the best and latest technologies in their work culture and be ready in facing new challenges. Let me also emphasize that the Government is determined on expanding the usage of the Industrialized Building System (IBS) to reduce foreign and unskilled labour, thereby reducing completion time and costs.

7. I am pleased to know that RISM is actively promoting the usage of the Building Information Modelling (BIM) among its members and construction industry professionals as an important tool to enhance construction productivity and streamline the delivery of buildings in a systematic and integrated manner. Your efforts in playing the lead role in spear-heading the use of BIM in the industry and at Institute of Higher Learning has my full support and should be accelerated where BIM is incorporated in the curriculum for accreditations from other professional bodies.

Ladies and gentlemen,

8. At this juncture, please allow me to share my observation on the happenings around us where we are witnessing a huge exchange of technology, skills and knowledge between foreign and local contractors

in Malaysia's largest infrastructure projects, namely the Light Rail Transit (LRT) and the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT). I believe we should leverage on these opportunities and find creative ways of tapping into the knowledge and expertise generated by exposing our undergraduates and young professionals in these projects. Institutions of Higher Learning and professional organizations should also design their syllabuses incorporating the lessons learned and best practices harnessed through the abundant transfer of knowledge and expertise involved.

9. Likewise, in view of the unprecedented flood and most recently the earthquake in Sabah, we must take cognizance of the fact that extreme climatic changes and natural catastrophes are disrupting our quality of life and well-being. To mitigate these environmental challenges we must focus and emphasize on sustainable construction excellence in ensuring that our buildings and dwellings will be able to withstand these calamities by complying with international standards such as the Euro-Code on Design of Structures for Earthquake Resistance and The US Structural and Seismic International Building Code.

10. The Budget 2015 and people-centric 11th Malaysia Plan (2016-2020) that was unveiled by our Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak recently, will continue the nation's economic agenda to ensure Malaysia is on track in becoming a high income nation by 2020. As such, the key denominator "Sustainable Development Approach" will undoubtedly enhance job opportunities, improve education and create more affordable housing which I am confident RISM can play a significant role in ensuring our national imperatives are achievable.

11. Finally, I would like to congratulate RISM for organising this prestigious conference and wish everyone attending this Congress a fruitful deliberation over the next two days.

12. On that note, it is with great pleasure that I officially declare the 17th International Surveyors' Congress open.

Wabillahi Taufek Walhidayah

Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Ministry of Works
Malaysia
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