



**OPENING ADDRESS**

**BY**

**YANG BERHORMAT DATO' SRI HAJI FADILLAH BIN HAJI YUSOF  
MINISTER OF WORKS**

**DELIVERED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF GREEN BUILDINGS AND  
PARKS WORLD 2015**

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**BALLROOM II, INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL KUALA LUMPUR**

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Yang Berbahagia Datuk Dr. Abdul Aziz S.A. Kadir,  
Chairman of Confexhub

Excellencies,

Distinguished Speakers,

Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Good morning and *Salam 1Malaysia*.

1. It is with great honour and pleasure for me to be here today to officiate the second edition of the Green Buildings and Parks World ( GBPW 2015 ). Here, I would also like to congratulate the GBPW 2015 secretariat for organising this important event which is a joint effort between the Confexhub Group and The Institute of Parks and Recreation of Singapore.
2. As we are all aware urbanisation is one of the most important socio-economic transformations that a community must undertake to upscale its living standard. While the timing and speed of urbanisation may vary between countries, regions and continents, it has proven to be the most unstoppable and desirable phenomenon around the globe.
3. Although urbanisation has brought about enormous economic and social benefits to most countries, this process of social transformation comes with a price that the world has to pay especially on issues such as climate change, depletion of resources and the ever growing pollution which have been identified as some of the most critical issues that the world is facing currently.
4. Nevertheless, this does not mean that we should halt or scale down the socio-economic growth of a country as it is equally important to meet the rising demands and expectations for development of its people. In mitigating these challenges, it will require us adopting global initiatives encompassing technology adoption, policies and consumption patterns to maintain ecological sustainability and economic growth that aims to raise the standards of living of a community.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. One of the critical solutions to this challenge is to embrace the Green building initiatives by cultivating green building practises where both the energy consumed and waste produced are reduced and managed without irreversible impacts to the ecosystem.
6. In addition, it is also acknowledged that green building practises can reduce building operation costs, increase the value of a building as well as generate higher ROI or return on investment for the investor.
7. Apart from tangible outcomes, green buildings practises can also provide a better indoor environment that will contribute towards the well-being and productivity of its users. Similarly, these buildings if properly designed and managed will also help owners save money, increase comfort and create a healthier environment for people to live and work in.
8. Therefore, the theme of this conference, “Green Buildings — Building Green: The Keystone for Sustainability” is relevant and timely. Ultimately, Green buildings are becoming more popular for various reasons and with environmental concerns being a key factor. The buildings we live and work in are responsible for the consumption of many of our natural resources. Therefore we will have to proactively and consciously build green buildings to reduce our consumption pattern of energy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

9. The Malaysian construction and building industry has over the years develop and work towards a more sustainable and green architecture. The SBRS (Sustainable Building Rating Systems) has in recent times become more apparent with the increasing demand from building owners and end-users for green rated buildings. This is also supported by the objectives of many companies in operationalising good corporate social responsibility by supporting environmentally-friendly initiatives as much as possible, including in their office premises.
10. Currently, many *go green* practices which are being implemented includes adopting day-lighting and natural ventilation, applying landscaping in buildings, incorporating renewable energy features such as solar water heating, practising total water management and installing water-saving devices for sanitary appliances in buildings, and maximising rainwater harvesting technologies.
11. However, there is still a lot to do as our Honourable Prime Minister has set for Malaysia to achieve the target in transforming the country into a Green Economy by 2030. The Green Plan which outlines the strategic direction for the country to implement green technology policies are expected to drive the change into a green economy through the harmonisation of economic growth with environmental sustainability.
12. The Government is committed in creating a sustainable and green built environment for our future generations through collaborative efforts between the public and the private sectors especially in four key sectors namely energy, transportation, building, water and waste management.
13. In the construction sector particularly, efforts undertaken through this plan has resulted in a positive outcomes. These are evident in the number of projects, mainly residential and commercial properties,

seeking Green Building Index (GBI) assessments which have grown exponentially since the rating system was introduced in 2009.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

14. For the year 2015, as of 15th July 2015, 636 buildings were registered with GBI Malaysia to be certified. 45 buildings out of that number has already been fully certified and the rest are still under provisional certification stage. As for the year 2014, during this date, only 548 buildings were registered. This shows an increase of 14% in numbers of buildings registered. As for pH JKR, up to 15th July 2015, 16 projects was registered to be certified. Whereas, during the same date last year, only 10 projects was registered. This shows a positive hike in numbers of registrations by 38%. However, only 1 project so far, has been fully certified and the rest are still in the provisional stage.
15. In moving forward, the Government through the Ministry of Works Malaysia and the CIDB under the Eleventh Malaysia Plan, will introduce the Construction Industry Transformation Programme (CITP). One of the thrusts under the CITP is to raise Malaysia's commitment to environmental sustainability in the construction sector by developing and promoting programmes and initiatives that encourages more sustainable infrastructure projects. The Ministry of Works will continue to support excellence in green building programmes and push continuously for the increase in the design and construction of greener buildings in the country.
16. It is in this context that I see this conference as an essential part of the green building initiative and understand that experts and award winners in green building designs and landscape architects are here to share

knowledge and work together on solutions to promote the 'Green Concept' on a large scale so as to reduce the cost of 'Going Green' in the region.

17. I am hopeful all participants will gain tremendous benefits from this Green Buildings and Parks World 2015 conference and that you will be inspired to take preemptive actions through your respective professions to ensure our environment be preserved better for the future generation.

On that note, it gives me great pleasure to declare the *Green Buildings and Parks World 2015 Conference* open.

Thank you.