

**SPEECH BY THE MINISTER OF WORKS
AT THE
CWORKS INTERNATIONAL FACILITY MANAGEMENT
CONFERENCE (CIFMC) 2009**

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9.00 AM

PWTC, KUALA LUMPUR

TEXT READ BY:

Y.BHG DATUK THOMAS GEORGE

SECRETARY GENERAL MINISTER OF WORKS MALAYSIA

- En. Abdul Rani Abdullah, CEO of CWorks Systems Berhad
- Y.B Dato' Zainal Abidin Bin Haji Sakom, Chairman of Yayasan Basmi Kemiskinan
- En. Muhd Shaman Bin Bakar, Director Incubation & Networking Division, of Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC),
- En. Ramesh Verma, Head MSC Assessment & Operations, Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC)
- Distinguished line of speakers
- Dato'-Dato'; Datin-Datin; and conference delegates.

A very good morning to everyone.

1. It is a pleasure for me to be here today at CWorks International Facility Management Conference. I would like to extend apologies from the Minister for not being able to be with us. I am pleased to represent the Minister at this gathering of professionals from the Facility Management field, a unique service industry that plays an important role within the corporate as well as government sectors.

Ladies and Gentlemen

2. Throughout the development of the nation, we plan for constructions of infrastructures and buildings that are high investment projects with billions of ringgit spent on the development and construction of these facilities. It is therefore crucial for us to manage and maintain these facilities, to ensure that we get maximum life expectancy of the building components. This is where Facilities Management plays a crucial role – as an interdisciplinary field primarily devoted to the maintenance and care of large commercial or institutional buildings.

3. With the changing landscape of building and infrastructure, Facility Management has become very demanding. Facilities are not only more complex, but they are also bigger, taller and more hi-tech. This demanding environment challenges the operation skills of facility and property managers to facilitate good returns on investment as well as

ensuring that these facilities can be sustained for longer life and optimum usage.

4. This conference is certainly in line with the Government's plans in developing the facility management industry to work hand-in-hand in supporting and building Malaysia's infrastructure and to ensure that our future generation will benefit from our efforts today. On 31st March 2009, the former Prime Minister of Malaysia, Y.A.Bhg. Tun Abdullah bin Hj. Ahmad Badawi launched the Government Asset Management Policy (GAMP) with the theme "National Assets, A Collective Trust and Responsibility", or (*Dasar Pengurusan Aset Kerajaan; 'Aset Negara, Amanah & Tanggungjawab Bersama'*) at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC). This policy has become the focal point region drive to a government asset management system which is more comprehensive and systematic. Formulated by the GAMP Committee based on key resolutions arising from the National Asset and Facility Management Convention (NAFAM) in 2007, the GAMP policy outlines the implementation of a control and monitoring system with view of achieving higher effectiveness on asset functionality, more effective asset procurement processes and to maximize returns on investments from assets.

5. Through this policy, an Asset Management Manual has been introduced by government. This manual acts as a guideline to explain the concept of Total Asset Management, starting from the planning process, existence, the use as well as termination of assets, besides

undertaking the responsibility and the best management practice to all organizations.

Ladies and Gentlemen

6. As we are all well aware, Malaysia is currently a developing nation with a mission that is to be a developed nation by the year 2020. Towards achieving this vision, we should avoid situations where we enjoy 1st class infrastructures yet we are still in the 3rd class mind set. We need a sustainable frame of mind as one of our priorities especially in the aspect of asset management. We have to ensure all the assets that we own be the nation's pride and would be able to provide long lasting benefits for the generations to come.

7. The Ministry of Works is certainly critical and places high importance on this area of facility management. We are now requiring construction contracts to have a systematic facility management solution in place to ensure that upon completion of a construction project, the provisions are in place to maintain the buildings. In addition, inputs and best practices from facility management experts can be incorporated during the design and development stage of a construction project.

8. Through a strategic agency under the Ministry of Works, that is the Public Works Department (PWD), as a way to face different situations especially in the form of eco system and global climate change, proper approach to asset management is necessary, and this is asset management based on perfect environmental friendly approach.

Amongst the initiatives that have been taken by PWD are MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the government of Denmark and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Energy-saving and Green Building efficient management are in line with the government's policy which focuses on being environmentally friendly towards project developments in Malaysia.

Ladies and Gentlemen

9. I am confident the existence of this policy will stimulate the growth of asset management in line with the services development as an economic growth in the long run. I hope that every private sector would also be the key players in supporting this policy and I believe that we will achieve the optimum benefit value from our existing assets.

10. I would like to congratulate CWorks Systems Berhad in taking this initiative to organize this convention and to thank the list of inspiring speakers that have taken their time to be here in Kuala Lumpur. To all delegates and members of the FM Industry, this will be such a good opportunity and as a platform to benchmark the best practices of the industry and I encourage you to join hands to continuously improve our Facility Management industry.

11. I have also been informed that there will be an MOU signing between CWorks Systems and Permodalan Yayasan Basmi Kemiskinan (YBK) to develop the Facility Management concept and knowledge right

from grass roots. With this initiative I am sure we will benefit in terms of maximizing our human resource capital as well as bringing up the industry to a higher level. I am sure that this will be a good start and part of the initiatives in promoting the increasing relevance of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) especially in this industry. Congratulations to both YBK and CWorks!

11. I hope to see more conferences and seminars of this nature in the future, especially conferences that allows us to learn, share and apply experiences from global experts and professionals in the industry.

12. With that, I wish you all the best and on behalf of the Works Minister, I now declare the conference officially opened.

Thank you.