

## Keynote Speech

**YB DATO' SRI HAJI FADILLAH YUSOF  
SENIOR MINISTER OF WORKS MALAYSIA**

**The 1st International Architectural Education Exhibition And Conference  
(IAEEC) 2021**

**Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

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### Salutations

YBrs. Ar Zairul Azidin Badri, Immediate Past President of Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia and Patron,

Professor Ashraf Salama, International Advisor & Keynote Speaker, University of Strathclyde, UK,

Distinguished Keynote Speakers,

The organising committee of The First International Architectural Education Exhibition And Conference (IAEEC) 2021,

Tan Sri/Puan Sri/Datuk Seri/Datin Seri/Dato'/Datin,

Members of the Press

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

1. Let me begin by expressing my appreciation for being able to be with you this morning at the opening of the first **International Architectural Education Exhibition and Conference (IAEEC) 2021**. On behalf of the architectural fraternity, may I extend a warm welcome to all participants in this Conference

which is indeed a watershed moment in the history of Malaysia's architectural education.

2. Here I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the organising committee for giving us the opportunity to share our views, aspirations and dreams in envisioning the new horizons for Malaysia's architectural education.
3. Our warmest welcome to our counterparts from the USA, UK, Australia, Sweden, Indonesia and Thailand. Your presence here today on this auspicious occasion clearly demonstrates your commitment and passion in promoting excellence in architectural education globally.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. Malaysia sits within one of the most dynamic and attractive region in the world and is blessed with unprecedented economic growth, stable climate, rapidly expanding population and technologically advanced.
5. We are equally fortunate to have a vigorous built environment that reflects our character and cultural identity within its unique profile and setting. These seemingly unfettered positive factors are the result of all our hard work in ensuring that Malaysia remains competitive in facing the challenges of the future.
6. We have made great strides to ensure the continuity, progress and excellence in the field of architectural education in Malaysia. The Board of Architects Malaysia, or Lembaga Arkitek Malaysia is the reference point for architecture in the country and is actively advising and regulating all matters pertaining to architectural and interior design education, certification and mutual recognition in its field.
7. It is through the appointment of the Council of Architectural Accreditation and Education Malaysia also known as Majlis Akreditasi dan Pendidikan Seni Bina Malaysia ( MAPS ) that the Board is able to ensure full accreditation of all architectural programmes run in schools across the country so as to meet the stringent requirements in its pursuit of quality and excellence.

8. To-date, there are **eighteen (18)** fully accredited architectural schools in Malaysia with five (5) new approvals recently. Since 2016, MAPS has conducted twenty-four (24) Validation Visits to architectural schools in Australia and the United Kingdom.
  
9. We are also proud to announce that MAPS, together with the Council of Heads of Architecture Schools Malaysia ( COHAS ) and the Ministry of Higher Education will officially launch the Direction of Architectural Education in Malaysia 2030 or the Halatuju Pendidikan Senibina Negara (HPSN) 2030 early next year. This indeed is another milestone for MAPS as HPSN 2030 will outline the blue print which will chart the course of architectural education in Malaysia for the next 10 years.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

10. The pursuit of excellence in architectural education is far from over. From the onset of the Covid-19 global pandemic, the world today continues to be in a constant state of flux. Architectural education is not spared either and continues to be besieged in the way teaching and learning is conducted.
  
11. It is within these scenario that I wish to bring your attention to some of the themes which forms the basis of this conference. In spite of the disruptions architectural education is experiencing as a result of the global pandemic, we must re-establish its strategic planning and implementation in a post-pandemic world. Similarly adopting digital innovations, utilisations of unique learning tools, adopting Sustainable Design Goals in education and practice has become pertinent for architectural education.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

12. **IAEEC 2021**, apart from showcasing the best works of architecture students from participating universities and opportunity for architectural schools to promote their programmes aims :
- To be the premiere venue for global delegates to debate emerging challenges in architecture education whilst fostering partnership opportunities across the vast participating countries and regions; and
  - To bring together leading academicians, scholars and intellectuals to deliberate, share opinions and research results on all aspects of architecture education.
13. **IAEEC 2021** will be a primary interdisciplinary platform for educators, researchers and practitioners to address and discuss the most recent advances, transformations and innovations on the challenges that we are facing as a global community. Therefore it is incumbent on us as we embrace the way forward in strengthening the teaching, learning and practices of architectural education for a better society.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

14. The Government of Malaysia is continuously supporting and promoting the development of professionals in Malaysia. Towards this end, the Ministry of Works Malaysia through the National Construction Policy (NCP) 2030 is structured to guide the Malaysian construction sector including professionals to move in tandem with the Shared Prosperity Vision 2030 and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in ensuring that the local construction sector and its overall ecosystem evolves in line with Malaysia's goals to achieve sustainable growth encompassing fair and equitable distribution across income groups, ethnicities and regions. This is also aligned with one of the key priorities of the 12th Malaysia Plan which addresses the challenges in environmental sustainability and advancing Malaysia's commitment to its sustainability goals.

15. Apart from that, in line with Dasar Digital Negara, the Ministry of Works is focusing on the implementation of the Intelligent Transport System (ITS) Blueprint and Fourth Industrial revolution (4IR) Construction Blueprint as well as embracing and adapting new technologies in the construction sector.
16. These initiatives are designed to ignite further advancement in the industry and to address the issues and challenges that were mentioned earlier. It is my hope that all parties including the industry, government agencies, local authorities and all levels of the industry supply chain must work hand-in-hand if we are to bring these aspirations to reality.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

17. Based on the schedule and activities, the themes are indeed timely. The future has arrived; and the New Normal is here to stay.
18. It is my sincere hope that this Conference will provide *the* platform for us exchange information, share experience and ideas where it will form the framework in steering the direction of our architectural education, industry, nation and how we can connect on the global level.
19. And on that note, it is with great pleasure that I hereby officially declare the **first International Architectural Education Exhibition and Conference (IAEEC) 2021 open.**

**Policy and International Division  
Ministry of Works  
October 2021**