

**Welcome Remarks by**  
**Yang Berbahagia**  
**Tan Sri Dr. Ir. Ahmad Tajuddin Ali, FASc.**  
**Chairman**  
**Construction Industry Development Board, Malaysia**

**International Construction Week 2019**  
**Opening Ceremony**

**Theme:**  
***Construction Beyond 2020***

**19 March 2019**  
**Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre**

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(Salutations to be provided on event day)

Members of the media,  
Distinguished guests,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

Assalamualaikumwarahmatullalhiwabarakatuh, Salam Sejahtera and a very good morning to all of you.

1. On behalf of the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Malaysia, I am pleased to welcome all of you to the ***International Construction Week 2019***. CIDB is honoured to be organizing this event, the largest of its kind in the region. It is our privilege to present ICW as an annual platform for construction industry players to come together and learn from one another, share experiences and expertise and most importantly build strategic partnerships.
2. I would also like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Honorable Tuan Baru Bian, the Minister of Works Malaysia for his presence here today, to be a part of the ICW 2019, the premier annual event for the construction industry in Malaysia

and the region. Sir, we hope that ICW 2019 will be a wonderful induction and mark a new beginning as you journey with us to witness even more exciting ICW in the coming years.

3. Let me take this opportunity to thank our ICW 2019 partners – all 73 of them which includes government agencies, private companies, universities, industry bodies and associations. Truly ICW 2019 is a product of all of our collaborative efforts -- an event by the industry, with the industry, for the industry.
4. I would also like to thank our entire distinguished panel of speakers from eight separate conferences organised in conjunction with ICW 2019. All of you are renowned thought leaders in the industry. We are excited to learn from your vast experience on ways we can elevate and transform the construction industry in Malaysia to be at par with other developed nations.
5. Since the very first ICW that was introduced in 1998, the event has evolved to become the premier construction trade conference and exhibition in the region. We are delighted to be entering the sixth year of partnership with United Business Media (UBM), who has brought the ASEAN Super 8 mega construction trade fair under the roof of ICW. This is the first time that eight separate industry exhibitions converge under one roof – made possible by our new venue here at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC). This certainly adds a new level of excitement to ICW, and marks a new achievement in its history!

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. This year, ICW brings to you the theme “**Construction Beyond 2020**”. As we stand at the cusp of 2020, we know that the global business environment is facing unprecedented challenges. Technology is disrupting industries at a rate like never before and the speed of change is staggering. What better way to make sense of all these changes than to gather the best of the best in the industry to deliberate on how construction industry in Malaysia and regionally can keep themselves on top of the latest development in technology and innovation.

7. Apart from conferences which discuss topics related to the theme, ICW also offers free seminar sessions in and around the exhibition areas where visitors can drop by to listen in on a specific topic of interest. This year, we offer 65 free seminar sessions. The topics are very exciting – ranging from Artificial Intelligence for Building and Construction, to Engineered Timber – the New Concrete. I encourage all of you to take some time to go through our list of topics from the brochure or website, and register yourselves to attend the sessions before the seats run out. They are free knowledge sharing sessions which are not to be missed!
8. I am also delighted to share that we have on schedule three awards recognition throughout the week. First, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, we have the Prize Giving Ceremony of the Open Ideas Competition organised by CIDB and the Malaysian Structural Steel Association (MSSA), where Engineering and Architectural students from local universities compete in teams to design a project. This year, their task is to design a Regional Airport Terminal. Every year, we are astounded with the creativity and innovativeness displayed by the teams in their final design. They show that the industry is certainly not short of future talents. They will surely be the future leaders who will bring the industry to the next level of achievement in the future.
9. Secondly, we have the Malaysian Security Industry Excellence Awards (MSIEA) organised by the Asian Professional Security Association Malaysia (APSA). The award is to recognise individuals and corporations for their commitment and achievement in enhancing the security management industry.
10. Last and certainly not the least, we celebrate and recognise industry players who have achieved high quality workmanship in their projects, on QLASSIC Day. QLASSIC, as you may know, stands for the Quality Assessment System in Construction. Every year, we recognise the high achievers, who have embraced good workmanship quality through the implementation of QLASSIC. The high achievers will be receiving their award from the Minister of Works on Thursday. This year is the first time; we are able to schedule the QLASSIC Day within the

ICW week. The QCLASSIC Day is scheduled to be the last event of the ICW, so as to let us end the week on a high note of recognition and celebration.

11. Apart from recognition, what the industry can look forward to during ICW is international business opportunities. Over the years, CIDB have been working closely with MATRADE to organize international business matching during ICW. This year, more than 20 companies from seven countries so far have confirmed their participations in the International Business Matching sessions held in conjunction with ICW. They are trade buying missions from Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam, Hong Kong, South Africa and Holland. The ICW Business Matching session presents an excellent opportunity for exhibitors to present their products, services, and innovative solutions to be matched with the needs of the international buyers. I hope that the business matching sessions this year will continue to bring great opportunities to our construction industry players.

Ladies and gentlemen,

12. In conjunction with the opening ceremony of ICW 2019 today, we will witness the exchange of the Memorandum of Understanding between CIDB and the Northern Corridor Implementation Authority (NCIA). The MoU has been signed between the two organisations to mark our collaboration in the implementation of initiatives that will support the Construction Industry Transformation Programme (CITP) achievements. The NCIA is certainly a much-welcomed addition to our list of strategic partners in CITP implementation.

13. Apart from the MoU exchange, we will take the opportunity today, to recognise 21 Malaysian contractors who have received the five star SCORE rating award. SCORE is a system to assess a contractor's capability and capacity in project execution. From the evaluation, CIDB will rate a company from 0 (the lowest) to 5 (the highest). Companies are evaluated based on these seven parameters;

- Business performance
- Financial capacity
- Technical capability
- Project Management

- Procurement Management
- Best practice adoption
- Management capability

Congratulations to all recipients of this award!

Ladies and gentlemen,

14. As you can see, the ICW 2019 has so much in store and the week is full to the brim with activities. It is our sincere wish that each and every one of you will find your Eureka moment, at the ICW 2019. It could be the discovery of new products, knowledge or the establishment of new partnership. We hope the ICW 2019 will be the start of a new great adventure that will bring you, your organization and the whole industry to greater heights. As the CITP tagline goes, “Driving Construction Excellence, together”!

15. Once again, let me put on record my appreciation to our Honourable Minister of Works Tuan Baru Bian for gracing today’s event and to all our partners for making this event a success.

Thank you!

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