

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

International Construction Week 2018
Opening Ceremony

Theme:
Achieving Peak Productivity

27 March 2018
Plenary Hall, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Members of the media
Fellow construction industry professionals
Our distinguished guests from abroad
Ladies and gentlemen

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, Salam Sejahtera, Salam Negaraku and a very good morning to all of you here today.

1. On behalf of the Construction Industry Development Board or CIDB Malaysia, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to all of you. It is indeed a great privilege for CIDB Malaysia to once again host the **International Construction Week** or **ICW 2018**. I wish to thank the **Minister of Works, Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof**, who is officiating the opening of ICW 2018 today. Thank you YB for your continuous support over the years at this leading construction event in Malaysia and across the region.
2. Our sincere appreciation is also conveyed to the various federal agencies that are supporting ICW 2018, including the Public Works Department, the Boards of

Engineers, Architects and Quantity Surveyors, the Department of Irrigation and Drainage, the National Solid Waste Management Department, Department of Occupational Safety and Health among others. We are proud to have your support, and we hope to see increased involvement by even more government agencies in the near future. We need to work together and accelerate the transformation of the construction industry in a comprehensive manner.

3. It is a great honour for us, at CIDB Malaysia, to host the leading minds in construction, who have travelled from abroad to be part of ICW 2018. Certainly, through the wide range of experts who will be sharing their knowledge and expertise with us, we will be able to truly understand the steps we need to take toward '**Achieving Peak Productivity**', which is also the theme for ICW 2018.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. Since the very first edition that was introduced in 1998, ICW has evolved to become the premier annual event that we know of today – the largest construction trade conference and exhibition in Malaysia and South East Asia. We are delighted to be entering the fifth year of partnership with United Business Media (UBM) in featuring Ecobuild Southeast Asia as the exhibition component of ICW 2018.
5. This year, ICW 2018's theme of 'Achieving Peak Productivity' is in line with the third strategic thrust of the Construction Industry Transformation Programme 2016-2020, or CITP, namely the Productivity strategic thrust. This theme is particularly relevant as the Malaysian construction industry continues to undergo promising growth, acting as a catalyst for the country's overall economy. Furthermore, with the fast paced and digital landscape that we operate in today, we need to accelerate our efforts to synergise a highly-skilled workforce with the modern construction technologies that are available today.

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. Coming back to ICW 2018, the week-long programme is filled to the brim with exciting programmes and activities that promote the use of the latest technology and innovation to enhance productivity in the construction industry. ICW 2018 will play host to conferences, exhibitions, seminars and talks on the use of advanced construction technologies such as Industrialised Building Systems (IBS) and Building Information Modelling (BIM), new sustainable materials and energy sources, innovative design approaches, as well as advances in digital technology, including the use of big data in construction. Please allow me to take you through some of the highlights at ICW 2018.
7. For the first time, we have introduced the two-day **International Construction Transformation Conference** or **ICTC**. ICTC features world-class speaker on the topic of technology and productivity, and in particular, these experts will be weighing in on the impact and benefits of advanced technologies and methodologies in construction as key drivers to increase construction productivity.
8. We are truly privileged to have speakers and moderators who are the leaders and trend-setters of the industry at ICTC. Keynote speakers for ICTC includes leading experts such as Rajat Agarwal of McKinsey Capital Productivity Southeast Asia; Zhang Yue of BROAD Group China; and Richard Kuppusamy of Lendlease Asia.
9. Moreover, ICTC will also feature leading women professionals in the industry at **Konvensyen Usahanita Binaan 2018 (KUBINA2018)**. This creates a unique platform to highlight the strengths and diverse perspective that women can bring to the industry, to ultimately enhance women's role in the construction industry.

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. ICW 2018 will also feature the **Malaysia IBS International Exhibition or MIIE**, which is an important platform to showcase latest developments in IBS. I am pleased to announce that we have expanded MIIE to also be an outdoor event whereby IBS product demonstrations, IBS challenges, guided visits to IBS show houses and heavy machinery exhibitions will be located at CIDB Convention Centre. This is in addition to the indoor MIIE programmes located at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

11. I strongly encourage participants to take advantage of the free shuttle service provided and to visit CIDB Convention Centre, whereby in addition to the MIIE programmes, there will also be a heavy construction machinery showcase and food trucks to be enjoyed.

12. I am also pleased to announce that ICW 2018 will feature the largest Construction Career Fair to date, where we have expanded the career fair to fit an entire hall 4 in KLCC to promote construction technical and vocational education and training (TVET). Through the career fair, we are connecting talents with prospective employers as well as provide advice and guidance to those interested to pursue a career in construction. This is part of our efforts to develop a future pipeline of skilled talent for the industry who will be the future enablers of increased construction productivity.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

13. With a week full of programmes ahead of us, I certainly hope that you will benefit from the learning and networking opportunities available at ICW 2018. Before I conclude, I would like to once again thank the **Minister of Works, Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof** for taking the time to officiate the ICW today, and to all of our participants, I wish a fruitful ICW.

Thank you.