

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signing Ceremony between
CIDB Malaysia
and
State Financial Secretary's Office, Sarawak
14th July 2023
Welcoming Speech
by
YBhg. Datuk Ir. Ahmad 'Asri Bin Abdul Hamid
CIDB Chief Executive**

Distinguished guests,

Yang Berhormat

Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas, Deputy Premier of Sarawak

Yang Berbahagia Dato Sri Dr. Wan Lizozman bin Wan Omar

State Financial Secretary

State Financial Secretary's Office, Sarawak

Esteemed senior officials from the State Financial Secretary's Office Sarawak and CIDB Malaysia, respected ladies and gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum w.b.t, and a very good morning.

1. It is my privilege to speak on behalf of CIDB Malaysia today as we celebrate the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CIDB Malaysia and the State Financial Secretary's Office, Sarawak.

2. Allow me to begin by acknowledging the fruitful collaboration that commenced in 2017 between CIDB Malaysia and the State Financial Secretary's Office Sarawak through the Malaysia Contractor Portal (MCP) program. This initiative has been a testament to the enduring partnership between our organisations. I am grateful for the Office's expressed interest in becoming a strategic partner for CIDB, further strengthening our ties to serve the construction industry better.

3. Amidst this collaboration, the state of Sarawak has witnessed remarkable growth in its economy, as indicated by the increasing number of registered contractors, now totaling 9,454 companies. This growth has opened up numerous employment opportunities, empowering individuals with stable incomes and greater financial security, which contribute to overall well-being and the quality of life for the people in Sarawak.

4. The seeds of our collaboration were sown under the Construction Industry Transformation Programme (CITP) 2016-2020, a visionary initiative launched by the 6th Prime Minister of Malaysia on September 10, 2015. Since then, CIDB has taken proactive steps toward digitising registration processes and transactions concerning contractors and construction personnel. The Centralised Information Management System (CIMS) was developed in 2016 and launched in July 2017, streamlining processes and reducing the need for physical visits to CIDB counters. As a result, the registration process has become more efficient and less reliant on human resources.

5. As we navigated through this transformative journey, we encountered valuable feedback from contractors who expressed the need to engage with various government agencies for licensing and certificate applications. In response, we endeavoured to create a seamless platform that provides access to all construction-related agencies. This endeavour materialised into the Malaysia Contractor Portal or MCP, which officially launched on February 15, 2022.

6. The Malaysia Contractor Portal has emerged as a pivotal one-stop center, revolutionising the way contractors interact with multiple agencies within the construction industry. This ground breaking platform facilitates a seamless and effortless registration process for contractors, streamlining their interactions with various relevant agencies.

7. I am proud to share with you some of the key features and benefits of the Malaysia Contractor Portal:

- i. MCP successfully incorporates a robust framework that ensures smooth integration and information exchange among all pertinent agencies. This comprehensive integration encompasses crucial company details from SSM, essential project information, and pertinent regulatory actions. By consolidating this information in one centralised platform, we empower our stakeholders with unprecedented access to critical data, optimising decision-making processes;

- ii. One of the key features of the MCP is the implementation of a single sign-in mechanism for contractors. This ingenious approach eliminates the hassle of multiple logins and passwords, providing contractors with a user-friendly experience and reducing administrative burdens. With just one login, contractors can seamlessly access registrations for multiple agencies, vastly enhancing their efficiency and productivity;
- iii. With MCP, users can easily view the registration application status, which presents the information with utmost clarity and user-friendliness; and
- iv. Each registered contractor under MCP receives a Contractor Report Card (CRC), which agencies and clients can use as a primary reference source when evaluating contractor performance before and during tender stages. Additionally, the MCP enables agencies and the public to conduct contractor searches and access their profiles via the Contractor Report Card. This increased transparency fosters trust and confidence in the system, instilling a sense of reliability and dependability.

8. We firmly believe that this technological innovation will not only strengthen the ties between contractors and relevant agencies but also propel the construction industry in Sarawak toward sustainable growth and prosperity.

9. In our continuous pursuit of excellence, we remain steadfast in our efforts to expand the MCP's scope and reach. Unit Pendaftaran Kontraktor dan Juruperunding (UPKJ) will be amongst the first agencies to join MCP once the system development is complete.

10. The collaboration between UPKJ and CIDB will continue, with a focus on training for contractors and construction personnel in Sarawak. We are excited to explore opportunities to expand this partnership to include other government agencies in Sarawak involved in the construction industry.

11. As we embark on this transformative journey, we envision a future where innovation and collaboration intertwine, shaping a vibrant and thriving construction landscape for the benefit of all. I extend my heartfelt gratitude for the unwavering support and cooperation shown, and may this partnership between CIDB Malaysia and the State Financial Secretary's Office, Sarawak mark the beginning of an era defined by progress, unity and prosperity.

Thank you. Salam Malaysia Madani.