



**WELCOMING SPEECH**

**BY**

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**ASEAN WELCOMING DINNER**

**INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION WEEK  
(ICW) & BUILDXPO 2025**

**THEME: CONSTRUCTING THE FUTURE OF  
ASEAN**

**WEDNESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2025**

**MITEC, KUALA LUMPUR**

**[Salutations to be updated accordingly]**

Good evening, Salam Sejahtera, Salam Malaysia MADANI

And a very warm welcome to all our distinguished guests from across ASEAN and beyond.

### **A Night of Friendship and Reflection**

1. Tonight, as we gather in the spirit of regional friendship and collaboration, we also mark a very special milestone — the **30th anniversary of the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Malaysia**.
2. Thirty years of service is not just a number. It represents **three decades of dedication, partnership, and progress** — and above all, the collective effort of the men and women who have carried CIDB's mission with pride and perseverance.

## **CIDB's Transformative Role**

3. Over the years, CIDB has played a truly transformative role in shaping Malaysia's construction landscape. From contractor development and certification, to advancing Industrialised Building Systems (IBS), promoting green and sustainable construction, and fostering regional and international partnerships — CIDB has been the driving force behind the sector's steady evolution.

4. It has guided the industry through changing times, helping Malaysia grow from traditional construction practices to one that embraces **technology, professionalism, and sustainability**.  
**Empowering People, Building Capability.**

5. As the agency entrusted to build the capability and capacity of our construction workforce, CIDB's contribution to human capital development has been remarkable.

6. Through **Akademi Binaan Malaysia (ABM)** and **CIDB Technologies**, the Board has successfully trained **over 460,000 individuals** — including more than **160,000 youths** and nearly **300,000 skilled personnel**. These are not just statistics. They represent opportunities created, livelihoods improved, and futures built — one skilled Malaysian at a time.

## **Strength in People: The Heart of CIDB**

Ladies and gentlemen,

7. While we celebrate CIDB's achievements, let us also acknowledge the real engine behind this success — its people. From the officers at headquarters who craft policies, to those on the ground who conduct site inspections, training sessions and community engagements — each one plays a vital role in building this legacy.

8. In particular, I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation to all CIDB staff across the country — be it the contract staff, who made up the majority of CIDB officers and staff, and those serving in a permanent position.

9. Your commitment, despite uncertainties and challenges, reflects the **true spirit of service and professionalism**. Without your dedication at the grassroots — in districts, training centres, and project sites — much of what we celebrate today would not have been possible. You are the backbone of CIDB, and you have my utmost respect and gratitude.

## The Road Ahead

10. As we look ahead, CIDB is once again at the forefront of transformation — this time driven by digital technology. Through initiatives in **Building Information Modelling (BIM)**, **smart construction platforms** and **data-driven project delivery**, CIDB is steering the industry toward greater productivity, transparency, and sustainability.

11. The **Ministry of Works fully supports** these efforts, ensuring that Malaysia's construction ecosystem remains **competitive, future-ready, and aligned with global standards**. And as we advance this transformation, I am confident that the same resilience and teamwork that brought us here will carry CIDB — and Malaysia's construction industry — into a new era of growth.

## Collaboration and Celebration

12. I would also like to record my sincere appreciation to all organisations, partners, and sponsors who have contributed to the success of ICW & BuildXpo 2025. This year's edition has been one of the most vibrant yet — with **over 350 booths, 200 companies, and representation from 10 countries** and a projected **RM700 million in business activities** over these three days.

13. This energy and collaboration reflect the strength and diversity of our construction community — and the value of platforms like ICW in bringing people together for shared progress.

## Closing: A Toast to the Builders

Ladies and gentlemen,

14. As we enjoy this evening together, let us celebrate not only what we have built, but also what we will build together — for Malaysia, for ASEAN, and for generations to come.

15. To the entire CIDB family — from senior management to every officer and those on the ground — **thank you** for your dedication and contribution to nation-building.

You are the unsung heroes behind our progress!

16. Here's to the next chapter of collaboration, innovation, and shared success. Enjoy the evening, and may this spirit of unity continue to inspire us all.

**Thank you.**

**ENDS**