

**SPEECH OF  
YANG HORMAT PROFESSOR DATO' DR. DAING NASIR IBRAHIM  
VICE-CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG**

**CEO@FACULTY PROGRAMME'S PUBLIC LECTURE**

**MONDAY, 22 MAY 2017; 2:30 PM;  
LIBRARY'S AUDITORIUM, UMP GAMBANG CAMPUS**

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**SALUTATION**

Our Guest Speaker:

Yang Hormat Dato' Sri Zohari Haji Akob,  
Secretary-General, Ministry of Works;

My colleagues from UMP:

Yang Hormat Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli Mohd Yunus,  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International);

Yang Hormat Professor Dato' Dr. Yuserrie Zainuddin,  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni);

Professor Dr. Mashitah Mohd Yusoff,  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation);

Encik Ab Hamid Majid,

Registrar;

Yang Hormat Professor Dato' Dr. Ishak Ismail,

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Corporate & Quality Affairs);

Professor Dr. Jamil Ismail,

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Industry & Community Relations);

Senior officials, Deans, Directors and Heads of Departments;

Distinguished guests, students, ladies and gentlemen.

*Assalamualaikum warahmatulahi wabarakatuh,*

*Salam Sejahtera, Salam 1Malaysia* and a very good afternoon.

1. It is with great pleasure that I have the honour of welcoming all of you to this edition of public lecture series that is specially organized in conjunction with CEO@Faculty Programme here at the Gambang Campus of Universiti Malaysia Pahang.

2. On behalf of the University's management, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest greetings and heartfelt gratitude to our guest-of-honour, Yang Hormat Dato' Sri Zohari Haji Akob, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Works for kindly accepting the invitation to deliver the public lecture on "Human Resource in Construction Industry" this afternoon.
  
3. When the Ministry of Higher Education launched the CEO@Faculty Programme in 2016, the initiative was designed as a platform to realize the integration and synergy between the industry experts with university researchers and students. The initiative enters its second cycle this year and we are indeed very fortunate to have more Chief Executives, both from the public and private sectors participating in this programme for the benefit of the intellectual community of all Malaysia's 20 Public Universities.
  
4. The CEO@Faculty Programme itself is indeed a unique one. The diversity of talents, trades, expertise and experience of the assigned CEOs, plus their proven outstanding achievements, excellent track records as well as their exemplary leadership qualities and managerial capabilities make them the ideal role-models for our varsity community, especially our students.

5. A total of 67 CEOs have been assigned to this programme for 2017, and out of that number, 12 are senior civil servants, including our guest speaker for this afternoon, 22 are from the Government-linked Companies (GLCs) and 33 represent Private Companies. The willingness of these top guns to lend us some of their precious time for experience-sharing and knowledge-dissemination is most inspiring, a great opportunity which, in my opinion is not to be missed by our students and academics.
  
6. That is indeed the very idea of having the CEO@Faculty Programme. We look upon the assigned CEOs as the icons for students who are able to improve the existing curriculum through the sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices from the CEOs to formulate a new integrated assessment via a holistic learning. It is my firm belief that the positive interaction between the students and the assigned CEOs through this constructive intellectual engagement would certainly broaden their worldview with better practical understanding of the current realities from various perspectives, thus bringing out the maturity and wisdom in their thoughts and actions.

7. For the year 2017, three CEOs have been specifically assigned to UMP namely, Tan Sri Noorul Ainur Mohd Nur, the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Higher Education, Dato Sri Ir. Azman Mohd, the Chief Executive Officer of Tenaga Nasional Berhad and Dr O Hari Narayanan, the Managing Director of Motorola Solutions Malaysia Sdn Bhd. However, the flexible nature of the CEO@Faculty Programme has also allowed us to benefit from the CEOs assigned to other universities as well, just like what we are having this afternoon, for Dato' Sri Zohari Haji Akob is actually assigned to Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia.
  
8. I am sure that our intellectual interaction with Dato' Sri Zohari Haji Akob that will take place shortly will enhance our understanding on the challenges faced by the local construction industry, a domain where human resource issues really matter, particularly in the aspects of recruitment of skilled and non-skilled workers, terms of employment, talent development, occupational safety and regulatory framework.

9. With his present official role as the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Works and directorial appointments in the boards of the Construction Industry Development Board and Jambatan Kedua Sdn Bhd, Dato' Sri Zohari Haji Akob is undoubtedly the right person to enlighten us on the aforementioned issues.
  
10. 2017 marks Dato' Sri Zohari's 31<sup>st</sup> year in the civil service, a career that he has served with great dedication and distinction since his first appointment at the Fisheries Development Authority Malaysia (LKIM) in 1986. He then moved to the Prime Minister's Department from 1988 to 2013 where he was assigned to Economic Planning Unit (EPU) and the Public-Private Partnership Unit (UKAS). Prior to joining the Ministry of Works in 2014, Dato' Sri Zohari was the Deputy Secretary-General of the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water.
  
11. A native of Kuala Lipis, Pahang Darul Makmur, he received his first degree in Marine Biology from Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (UPM) in 1984 and later the Diploma in Public Management from the National Institute of Public Administration (INTAN) in 1988. Seven years later in 1995, he was awarded the Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Leicester, United Kingdom.

12. With that brief overview and introduction, ladies and gentlemen, please join me in giving a big round applause to welcome our guest speaker for this edition of the CEO@Faculty Programme, Yang Hormat Dato' Sri Zohari Haji Akob.

Thank you.