

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

**CLOSING CEREMONY OF
THE INTERNATIONAL INNOVATION FESTIVAL ON GREEN TECHNOLOGY 2016**

**SUNDAY, 17 APRIL 2016; 2:00 P.M.;
UNIVERSITY SPORTS COMPLEX, UMP GAMBANG CAMPUS**

SALUTATION

My colleagues from UMP:

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

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

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

Assistant Vice-Chancellors, Seniors Officers,
Deans and Heads of Departments;

Mr. Abdul Syukor Abdul Razak,

Chairman of I-FINOG 2016 and I-FINOG Committee Members;

Mr. Madyasir Ahmad Basir,

President of the Student Representative Council;

Representatives from participating schools and higher education institutions;

Members of the media corps;

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh,

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

1. *Alhamdulillah*, it gives me great pleasure this afternoon to be amongst you and to say a few words in this auspicious occasion that marks the conclusion of the inaugural International Innovation Festival on Green Technology 2016 or I-FINOG, organized by Universiti Malaysia Pahang.
2. The initiative to organize this festival reflects our serious concern towards the green technology agenda which is widely deliberated and discussed in various global forums with the main focus of providing a safe parameter for sustainable development and promoting the usage of renewable energy to protect the environment.
3. The El-Nino phenomenon that we are currently experiencing is a serious environmental alert that should make us aware of the effects of global climate change not only to the environment, but also to our well-being and livelihood. Learning from recent research findings and news reports, we should worry about the future of mother earth if the impacts from global climate change are not well-dealt with, thus risking us to environmental catastrophe.

4. **Ladies and gentlemen,**

24 years ago, when the first United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or Earth Summit was held at Rio De Janeiro, Brazil in 1992, the issues on environment and earth's sustainability were seriously debated by the representatives of the participating countries, including Malaysia.

5. This Rio Earth Summit is not only historic, but also significant in term of providing us with a much clearer understanding on the initial commitment towards promoting green technology and renewable energy to preserve the nature and protect the environment.
6. The four policy documents that were agreed upon during the Rio Earth Summit, namely Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the Statement of Forest Principles, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity become fundamental references to the participating countries in determining their strategic directions and approaches towards green technology.

7. These countries are now seeking new ways to accelerate the use of green technologies as a measure for adapting to the effects of the changing climate. For them to be successful in this effort, they need to put the right conditions in place to support the take-up and diffusion of green technologies.
8. This will require tailor-made innovation policies that integrate and reflect each country's environmental concerns. Countries will need to strengthen the capacity of their policymakers for designing and executing these integrated policies in order to ensure suitable infrastructure, better access to external knowledge, and an enabling business environment.
9. **Ladies and gentlemen,**

Malaysia is blessed with rich natural bio-diversity, a vital national heritage and treasure that must be preserved and protected for the benefit of our future generations. We are so fortunate that the Malaysian Government has given serious regulatory and administrative emphasis in minimizing further exploits of this natural treasure by resorting to a more sustainable alternative, which is green technology.

10. As the result of the restructuring of the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water on April 2009, the Government launched the National Green Technology Policy on July 24, 2009. Green technology is defined as “the development and application of products, equipment and systems used to conserve the natural environment and resources, which minimizes and reduces the negative impact of human activities.” Here lies the vital role of higher learning institutions like UMP to embark on a serious effort to intensify research activities in relation to green technology innovation.

11. Such studies and innovations should meet the critical criterion of green technology namely minimizing degradation to the environment; has zero or low greenhouse gas emission; safe for use and promoting healthy and improved environment for all forms of life; conserving the use of energy and natural resources; and promoting the use of renewable resources.

12. In line with the Government's aspiration that green technology shall be a driver to accelerate the national economy and promote sustainable development, we are committed in actualizing this into concrete strategies and constructive initiatives throughout the implementation of UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020 with 'Communitizing Technology' as our tagline.

13. It is my firm belief that our existing talents, expertise and research capabilities in the related fields could be appropriately harnessed through cross-departmental and inter-disciplinary initiatives to address related issues and problems by providing green technology solutions.

14. The potential areas that UMP could explore are sustainable development, green growth; carbon emission trends; energy efficiency trends; ecological footprint and human development; climate change adaptation and mitigation; stages of the climate adaptation process; invention, innovation and diffusion of innovations; and green innovations. In fact, these are the areas that have been identified by the Innovation Policy for Green Technology which was published in 2013.

15. By seriously embarking on green technology agenda at the university level, UMP could significantly contribute to the successful implementation of the National Green Technology Policy through our research and innovation activities with practical and cost-effective solutions. Public education and advocacy on green technology through projects like I-FINOG could instil the awareness among university and school students on the significance of green technology and the benefit of its widespread use.

16. Such awareness enables our younger generations to value green technology as the tool that enhances economic development through minimal growth of energy consumption; strengthens national economy through the growth of green technology industries and enhances Malaysia's competitiveness through national capacity for innovation and green technology development.

17. Ladies and gentlemen,

I am pleased that many activities were carried out throughout this two-day festival with the noble purpose of instilling awareness on green technology among UMPians and also the public at large. In conjunction with this inaugural I-FINOG too, UMP has concluded two memorandums of understanding that were signed this morning with her latest strategic partner namely the Malaysian Invention & Design Society (MINDS) and Korea Invention Academy (KIA).

18. It is my firm belief that with the right strategies, supportive collaborative partners and strong commitment, this festival could be held annually as one of UMP's signature events. This certainly requires serious thoughts and preparation and I hope the organizer is willing to take up this challenge.

19. Honouring the efforts made to organize this inaugural edition of I-FINOG, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation and congratulations to the organizing committee for their relentless dedication and commitment. I would also like to extend my gratitude to all sponsors, partners and participating schools and institutions for your strong support and interest.

20. With that ladies and gentlemen, I hereby declare the inaugural International Innovation Festival on Green Technology 2016 officially closed.

Thank you,

Wabillahi taufiq walhidayah,

Assalamualalaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.