

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

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNING CEREMONY
BETWEEN UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG
AND KARLSRUHE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

**TUESDAY, 22 NOVEMBER 2016; 8.00 PM;
OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF THE AMBASSADOR
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, KUALA LUMPUR**

SALUTATION

His Excellency Mr. Holger Wilfried Michael,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the Federal Republic of Germany to Malaysia;

Professor Dr. Karl-Heinz Meisel,
President of Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences;

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

1. This occasion indeed is another momentous feat for Universiti Malaysia Pahang in the context of expanding its academic partnership with Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences (HsKA) that has been in place since 2010.

2. That academic partnership has enabled the engineering education system in UMP to benefit from the Karlsruhe model which is based on the renowned German *Fachhochschule* system, thus taking our academic capacity to greater heights.

3. Our dual-degree venture with HsKA for undergraduate programmes in Automotive Engineering and Mechatronics Engineering is a success story which is highly regarded by the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia and I am glad to note here that a number of Malaysian universities have also indicated their interest to benchmark the UMP-HsKA collaboration model.

4. Thus, the formalization of the Memorandum of Understanding this evening is another historic milestone for both UMP and HsKA in the context of that academic partnership which has now extended to dual-Masters programme.

5. It is my firm belief that the commitment and willingness on HsKA's part to enhance our current academic partnership with the inclusion of this dual-Masters programme is the manifestation of their trust to UMP's capacity in that regard and the cordiality of our bilateral relations for the past six years.

6. That cordiality in my opinion, lies in the great dedication and dynamic leadership of Professor Dr. Karl-Heinz Meisel as the President HsKA in nurturing this venture right from the outset. With his committed team from HsKA, President Meisel has been working very closely with UMP to ensure the sustainability of this collaboration.

7. Thus, I would like this opportunity to congratulate President Meisel for receiving the Honorary Doctorate of Mechatronics Engineering from UMP's Chancellor, the Crown Prince of Pahang in conjunction with the University's Eleventh Convocation Ceremony on November 19, 2016 in recognition of his timeless dedication, outstanding contribution and excellent service towards strengthening the UMP-HsKA academic partnership.

8. I am also grateful to the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Germany Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and German companies in Malaysia for their continuous support to UMP's venture with its two German partners – HsKA and Reutlingen University and I am optimistic that with the attitude shown by the aforementioned, Malaysia-Germany diplomatic, trade and academic relations could be further augmented in future.

9. UMP looks forward to expanding its connection and network with other German institutions, organizations and companies and with the support of both Governments and our embassy in both countries, I believe that more ventures would soon materialize for our mutual benefit.

10. In conclusion, I would like to thank you Your Excellency for hosting this evening's occasion and please accept my most sincere gratitude for the warmth and kindness of your hospitality.

Thank you.