

TEXT OF OPENING BY

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DIRECTOR GENERAL MALAYSIAN NUCLEAR AGENCY

AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF

WEBINAR : DOES UV RADIATION KILL COVID-19 VIRUSES?

WEBINAR ROOM, BLOK 11

9th September 2021 (Thursday)

9.15 am – 12.30 pm

Y.Brs Prof Ng Kwn Hoong
Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC)

Y.Brs Dr Roza Sarimin
Ministry of Health, Malaysia (MOH)

Dr Tutsomo Okuno
International Commission for Non-ionising radiation Protection (ICNIRP)

Dr Yusof Hamzah
Malaysian Nuclear Agency

Pn Roha Tukimin
Malaysian Nuclear Agency

Dr Rasif Md Zain
Manager of RMC, Malaysia Nuclear Agency

Distinguished participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum and Good Morning,

1. First of all, it gives me great pleasure to be here to address an Opening Speech to welcome all participants and speakers to the Webinar on UVC Radiation. Thank you for your participations. We hope that with this webinar, the participants will gain more knowledge on safety and efficacy of UV Radiation.

2. I also wish to express the gratitude to the committee member and secretariat for conducting this event for the 1st time. For your information the hosting of this programme is always in line with our national mission and as National Research Institute on nuclear and related technologies. Therefore the host for this webinar are part of our strong commitment to further creating awareness and disseminate information on the applications and safety of UV Radiation to the public.

Ladies and Gentleman's,

3. As you may know, Nuclear Malaysia plays an important role in promoting the use of nuclear technology applications in medical, agriculture, industry and environment in Malaysia. Nuclear Malaysia was given the mandate by the Government of Malaysia to use Nuclear Technology applications for the National Development. Toward this end, for the past 40 years, Nuclear Malaysia has carried out research work and provides services pertaining to nuclear technology.

4. Malaysia have been effected by the Covid-19 pandemic when the first case was reported on January 2020 and since than, our life suddenly change. People around the world are struggling to live in the new norm. Daily activities were being restricted in order to stop the spreading of covid-19 viruses. We have to wear mask, practice social and physical distancing and most importantly to always keep environment and ourselves clean especially our hands. Since then, sanitization is very important to disinfect covid-19 viruses. Conventionally, the common way to disinfect virus are using chemicals, but with the technology advancements, UV radiation has been seen as an option. UV radiation has been used for sterilization and disinfection as early as the mid-20th century. Since then, UVC technology has been used widely around the world. [Hospitals](#) and water treatment plants, for example, rely on the UV rays to kill mold, viruses and bacteria. And with the [promising](#) research into COVID-19-killing potential, UVC light-emitting machines are being utilized more — popping up in transportation such as train, busses and even the air ducts of many public places, including restaurants and hotels.

5. The innovative approaches have been developed in the disinfection process to assist in reducing the transmission of Covid-19 viruses. Among the disinfection systems are ultraviolet (UV) emitting devices, which are used to kill pathogens associated with infectious disease and infections. These devices work through the use of lamps that produce ultraviolet C (UV-C). And the technology is making its way into consumer culture as well, with free-standing UVC lamps meant for your home or office. Due to this, UVC lamps and UVGI products are penetrating worldwide market including

Malaysia. They are easily accessible to consumer and selling on the online platform with reasonable price.

You can find UVGI products for water, air, fruits, vegetables, surgical utensils, tablet computers, toys and a variety of surfaces disinfection. However, there are concern on the effectiveness and safety issues . Are these products really effective for virus disinfection and safe to be used? Therefore, we bring all the expert for this webinar to enlighten this issues as our objective are to disseminate information and awareness on UV radiation safety and its efficacy for Covid-19 viruses disinfection

6. Nuclear Malaysia is committed to conduct research and development activities regarding the usage of UV radiation. During the covid -19 pandemic, we manage to develop our UVGI product for PPE disinfection. We can see that this technology has a very big potential to be commercialised and brings enormous benefits to people when it is used safely. Besides study on the efficacy of the UVGI, the potential hazard of UV radiation exposure risk must be assessed. Therefore, we conduct research on the safety aspect of the UV exposure to human and develop the guidelines on UV safety. We hope this will be very beneficial to our beloved country, Malaysia.

7. Finally, I wish express my highest gratitude to all speakers, Dr Roza Sarimin from Ministry of Health, Dr Tutsomo from International Commission for Non-ionising radiation Protection (ICNIRP), Prof Ng Kwan Hoong from Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) and Dr Yusof and Pn Roha from Nuklear Malaysia of their willingness and commitment towards this webinar.

The various speakers in this webinar will further highlight the important details of this UV radiation technology and related safety aspect and no doubt it will help enlighten participants of this webinar.

I am confident that this webinar will be a fruitful one and probably produce some tangible outcomes for the benefits of all. With that and the phrase Bismillahirrahman nirrahim.

I hereby declare this webinar is open officially.