



**UCAPAN PERASMIAN
YBHG. DATUK IR. DR. SITI HAMISAH BINTI TAPSIR, KETUA SETIAUSAHA
KEMENTERIAN SAINS, TEKNOLOGI DAN INOVASI
(MOSTI)**

**5TH WOMEN IN NUCLEAR CONFERENCE 2021
“NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY : PROVIDING SOLUTIONS FOR CHALLENGES IN
FUTURE DEVELOPMENT”**

Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalamu’alaikum and salam sejahtera.

At the outset, I wish to congratulate Women in Nuclear (WiN) Malaysia on their 5th Annual Conference and on the success of their previous conferences. I note that WiN Malaysia is the local Chapter of WiN Global which is the international non-profit organization of women nuclear professionals with one hundred and one (101) chapters worldwide. WiN Malaysia was established in 2014 with the mission to support Malaysian women (and men) working in the nuclear field and to share and spread information regarding the benefits of nuclear and radiation technology.

The term “nuclear” has the unfortunate and often misconstrued notion of being something dangerous and deadly, and is always associated with images of mushroom clouds and massive destruction. It is therefore imperative that factual information be communicated to the general public in order to debunk the myths, dispel disinformation and allay unwarranted fear. Hence, organisations like WiN Malaysia have an important role to play in this regard.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Government of Malaysia has long recognized the benefits of the peaceful uses of nuclear and radiation technology. We became a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in 1969 and have since established a Permanent Mission to the Agency based in Vienna, Austria.

Through our long-term partnership and technical cooperation with the IAEA, we have benefited from numerous research projects and training opportunities for our researchers. Alhamdulillah, nuclear courses are also being offered by our local universities. As a result, we have many overseas and locally-trained nuclear professionals. In other words, the country has a valuable human resource pool to support our national nuclear programmes.

Looking at the range of topics that will be presented at this Conference in the next two days, it is evident that nuclear and radiation technology is employed in a wide range of applications in industry, agriculture, medicine, the environment and in addressing climate change issues, in education, as well as in the production of clean energy. In fact, it is the most regulated technology with high international safety standards and robust guidelines to ensure safety, security and safeguards for the protection of people, workers and the environment. The Atomic Energy Licensing Board (AELB) is tasked with enforcing these regulations and the relevant licensing requirements while research organisations like the Malaysian Nuclear Agency plays a key role in promoting and conducting research and development in this field.

I am delighted that this conference is being held in March as we are celebrating National Women's Day events nationwide. The Conference theme "Providing Solutions to Challenges in Future Development" is well-chosen as we are tackling current issues with Covid-19 with its concomitant challenges, not just to health but also to the economy and future progress. It is heartening to note that nuclear technology remains relevant in addressing current and emerging challenges such

as, among others, looking into food safety and security and potential novel therapeutics for Covid-19.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am confident that you will have fruitful discussions during the next two days and I wish you another successful Conference.

On that note, I am pleased to declare the 5th WiN Malaysia Conference officially open.

Thank you.