

#### **WELCOMING REMARKS**

# YBHG. DATUK FADILAH BAHARIN DIRECTOR GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF STANDARDS MALAYSIA MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

# MTCP ON HALAL STANDARDS AND CONFORMANCE INFRASTRUCTURE

9 AUGUST 2016 THE EVERLY HOTEL, PUTRAJAYA



### Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Datuk Mustafa Mansur

Chairman of Malaysian Standards and Accreditation Council;

# Yang Berusaha En. Mad Aznor Mahat

Undersecretary of International Cooperation and Development Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

#### Yang Berusaha Dr. Mokhtar Bin Tahar

Undersecretary of Industry Division

Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation;

#### En. Hussalmizzar Hussain

Director of Strategic Planning Division, Standards Malaysia

# Senior officials from Ministries and Agencies;

Honoured guests and participants;

# Ladies and gentlemen;

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh, Salam 1 Malaysia, Salam 1 MOSTI, Salam 1 Standards Malaysia and a very good morning to all of you.

- 1. I am indeed honoured to be given this opportunity to be with you at the closing ceremony of the MTCP on Halal Standards and Conformance Infrastructure 2016 organised by the Department of Standards Malaysia.
- 2. I would like to thank YBhg. Tan Sri Datuk Mustafa Mansor, Chairman of the Malaysian Standards and Accreditation Council, for being here to deliver the closing speech. Tan Sri has always been supportive of our activities and I am sure he will always be with us when needed.
- 3. I would also like to record our appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for funding this initiative. It clearly demonstrates the commitment of the Malaysian Government in supporting the standardisation activities in Malaysia. The MTCP is being administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia for some years now, with the aim to assist agencies related to Halal matters in developing the Halal Standards and Conformance Infrastructure. Based on the experience of Malaysia in developing a framework for quality assurance of Halal products, this training programme allows the sharing of experiences and concerns amongst participating countries. In addition, Malaysia is able to extend its services in the related areas of technical assistance and capacity building in OIC and non-OIC countries, in line with efforts to promote Halal products and services globally.

# Ladies and gentlemen,

4. Department of Standards Malaysia is a government agency under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. As you are aware by now, we are the National Standards and Accreditation Body, responsible for the development and promotion of Malaysian Standards and providing accreditation services to conformity assessment bodies.

- 5. We were established on 28 August 1996 (we are celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the end of this month). Standards Malaysia has established a credible standardisation development infrastructure. With the engagement of various stakeholders in the standards development activities, Standards Malaysia has managed to develop 6059 Malaysian Standards in 25 sectors, including 13 Malaysian Standards on Halal.
- 6. Standards Malaysia also strives to enhance its services and increase its participation and recognition at national and international platforms. Standards Malaysia has been actively involved in conducting annual MTCP Course on Halal Standards and Conformance Infrastructure for OIC Countries since 2006. The MTCP course has received an overwhelming response from OIC Countries where it has successfully assisted them in developing their own framework of quality assurance of halal products and services.

# Ladies and gentlemen,

- 7. This is the 11th year Standards Malaysia is hosting the MTCP. Since 2006, it has been attended by 150 participants from 38 OIC Countries. These countries have acknowledged Malaysia as the focal point of halal development infrastructure and the leader in developing standards related to Halal industry.
- 8. This year we decided to invite OIC and non OIC Countries, ASEAN countries and also the Small Island Developing States (SIDS). I understand from abroad, there are 11 participants from 10 countries. i.e.

Azerbaijan, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Lao PDR, Morocco, Republic of Maldives, Sudan, Saudi Arabia (2) and Zimbabwe.

We also have <u>10 local participants</u> from mainly government agencies such as Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Prime Minister's Department, Department of Chemistry, Ministry of Health (MOH) and MARA.

9. This training programme includes lectures, participation in case studies and experience-sharing and also technical visits to **Global Halal Support Centre One Touch Point** and **Ramly Food Processing Sdn Bhd**, and briefings by the relevant agencies. These would enable participants to understand the roles of standards and accreditation on Halal in Malaysia. I hope that all the participants have gained the necessary knowledge and learned from Malaysia's experience.

# Ladies and gentlemen,

10. Finally, I would like to congratulate all the participants for successfully completing the MTCP on Halal Standards and Conformance Infrastructure 2016. To all our guests from abroad, we hope that you had an enjoyable and memorable stay in Putrajaya. I would like to thank the presenters, and of course the secretariat from Standards Malaysia for all the hard work, the preparation, before and during the week to ensure the success of this course.

Thank you.