

WELCOMING ADDRESS BY

**YBHG. DATUK FADILAH BAHARIN
DIRECTOR GENERAL**

AT

**THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE
37th MEETING
ASEAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDS AND
QUALITY WORKING GROUP 1 ON STANDARDS AND MUTUAL
RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENTS**

ON

**3 NOVEMBER 2016 (THURSDAY), 10.00 AM
GRAND MILLENNIUM HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR**

YBHG. DATO' DR. MOHD AZHAR BIN HAJI YAHAYA

Secretary General

Ministry Science, Technology and Innovation

Puan Norhaliza Arifin

Chair of the ACCSQ Working Group 1 on Standards and MRA

Department of Standards Malaysia,

Heads of Delegation from ASEAN Member States,

ASEAN Secretariat Representatives,

Delegates and observers,

Ladies and Gentlemen

Salam 1 Malaysia and a very good morning to everyone.

1. Firstly, on behalf of the Government of Malaysia, I would like to extend Selamat Datang, to all the delegates of the 37th Meeting of the Asean Consultative Committee For Standards and Quality Working Group 1 on Standards and Mutual Recognition Arrangement.

2. I would also like to thank, Yang Berbahagia Dato' Dr. Mohd Azhar Bin Haji Yahaya, Secretary General of Ministry Science, Technology and Innovation for taking time from his busy schedule, to officiate this

meeting. Your presence here Datuk, indicates the commitment and support of the ministry and your good self, in our efforts to promote a culture of quality amongst Malaysians, to make standards an accepted component of businesses locally and to achieve global recognition for the nation's products and services.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

3. I am very pleased to inform that this is the third time the ACCSQ Working Group 1 is organized in Kuala Lumpur. MOSTI through the Department of Standards Malaysia, is honoured and privileged to host this meeting here. To our guests, speakers and delegates from overseas, I hope you will have a pleasant stay here.

4. I believe you are having fruitful and extensive deliberations in various topics in this meeting. Since Malaysia is the Chairman of this Working Group, we strive to contribute significantly to the progressing of this committee. In this coming day, I believe that we will move forward on many issues through strengthening of collaboration and cooperation activities among members. I also believe that our National Mirror Committee members had shared their experiences and best practices.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. This year marks the 20th anniversary for Department of Standards Malaysia which has successfully achieved several milestones in standardisation and accreditation activities in order to sensitise Malaysians on various aspects of quality for the better life. I am delighted to inform that for the past two decades, Standards Malaysia

has kept contributing in this quality infrastructure by developing standards in various sectors and also actively propagating the utilisation of standards through its Standard Compliance Program. Concurrently, Standards Malaysia has also provided credible accreditation services to the industry. To date, through the concerted effort by all parties, Standards Malaysia has managed to excel in the development of more than 6,000 Malaysian Standards (MS) across 25 different sectors for example in Halal, agriculture, road vehicles, building and rubber. Besides, Standards Malaysia has accredited more than 650 labs, 29 certification bodies and 11 inspection bodies in whole Malaysia. In short, Standards Malaysia will continue to sensitise Malaysians on various aspects of quality for better businesses, better economy and the better life.

6. Besides our 20th anniversary, we have celebrated the World Standards Day on 14 October 2016. So, I would like to take this opportunity to wish, Happy World Standards Day 2016! to all of you. As we know, World Standards Day is celebrated internationally every year on 14 October. With the theme “Standards Build Trust”, World Standards Day pays tribute to the thousands of experts all over the world who develop voluntary standards for the advancement and welfare of societies. It also provides the perfect opportunity to reflect on the benefits that standards bring to our everyday lives, the market economy and to the smooth running of public affairs.

7. Despite your tight schedule during these meetings, I do hope that all of you will have the opportunity to experience and enjoy the diversity of our true Malaysian culture, the beautiful places throughout the country and the warmth and hospitality of the local people. Malaysia is a

multicultural nation with multi-ethnic group living in peace and harmony. May your stay here in Malaysia, especially in Kuala Lumpur, remain with you thereafter as a joyful, unforgettable memory.

8. My appreciation goes to the staff of Standards Malaysia, as well as ASEAN secretariat for their preparatory work. Not forgetting a special mention to the Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation for their full support to realise this meeting. In conclusion, I would like to wish all of you great success in your deliberations and hope that you will continuously contribute your expertise in the activities of standards and quality.

Thank you.