

**Welcoming Speech by
Professor Ts Dr Mohamed Ibrahim Abdul Mutalib
Vice Chancellor Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS**

**Workshop on Energy Security in Malaysia:
The Past, Present, and Way Forward (WES2019)**

**Thursday, 14 November 2019
Centre of Advanced and Professional Education (CAPE), Menara
Kembar Bank Rakyat, Kuala Lumpur**

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Professor Dr Abhi Veerakumarasivam
Chairman of the International Network for Government Science Advice
(INGSA) Asia

Professor Ir Dr Suzana Yusup
Chairman of the Workshop on Energy Security in Malaysia: The Past,
Present, and Way Forward (WES2019)

Distinguished Speakers and Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, Selamat Sejahtera and a
very good morning.

On behalf of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP), it is a great pleasure
to be here and welcome all of you to the Workshop on Energy Security in
Malaysia: The Past, Present, and Way Forward or WES2019 here in
Centre of Advanced and Professional Education, Kuala Lumpur. Let me
first extend our deepest gratitude to Professor Dr Abhi
Veerakumarasivam, Chairman of the International Network for
Government Science Advice (INGSA) Asia for being here with us to

officiate WES2019. Thank you for making the time to attend this event despite your busy schedule. Your presence is indeed, truly appreciated.

I am delighted to see speakers and participants from policy makers, government officials, energy providers, market players, industrial experts, and academics jointly contribute ideas and support this Workshop, and I would like to thank my colleague, Professor Ir Dr Suzana Yusup, for her initiative to chair this event. In fact, this workshop is in line with the university's aim in supporting the nation development in the area of "energy security".

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we move forward, energy continues to play a significant role in ensuring rapid power development and sustainable long-term economic growth. In fact, energy efficiency and renewable energy are the two central components of the sustainable energy systems and plays a pivotal role in achieving sustainable development and climate problems mitigation. I believe workshop like this will be an impetus for fruitful discussions in addressing the key challenges related to the energy security in Malaysia, development and implementation of policies related to the energy security issues. It is timely for all parties and organisations to address the energy security and sustainability, which is one of the greatest issues that the world currently faces. The outcome of this workshop will provide a platform to build a strong network among the participants for the policy establishment and implementation, and to facilitate further discussion that will promote and nurture the use of renewable energy.

I believe there is no better time for us to rise to the challenge to assist the nation. Under the UTP's Centre for Biofuel and Biochemical Research (CBBR) headed by Professor Dr Ir Suzana Yusup, the chairman herself, we work together with diverse technologies to monetize different energy sources. Our expertise extends to a range of biofuels derived from a variety of agricultural, forest, and other feedstocks. Our researchers have achieved breakthroughs in the development and demonstration of biofuel processes, and they continue to lead the R&D community in the development of clean, inexpensive fuels from a virtually inexhaustible source of energy. Meeting the world's growing demand for energy is a formidable challenge. But there is no better place to rise to that challenge than here, and no better moment than now.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My heartiest appreciation goes to Professor Dr Abhi Veerakumarasivam, Chair of the International Network for Government Science Advice (INGSA) Asia, Puan Noorly Akmar Ramli from Energy Commission Malaysia, Encik Ahmad Ameen Mohd Kamal from MYBiomass, Ts Puan Azah Ahmad from Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) Malaysia, Dr Jay Mariyappan from PETRONAS New Energy, Yang Berbahagia Professor Dato' Ir Dr Abu Bakar Jaafar from UTM Ocean Thermal Energy Centre (UTM OTEC), Adjunct Prof Zulkifli Abd Rani from Centre for Energy Transition and Climate Intelligence (CETCI), Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER), and Encik Ahmad Nizam Hassan from Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) Energy Services; for your knowledge and expertise sharing today.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the organising committee for their dedication in making WES 2019 possible. I believe that, with our distinguished speakers and participants, this workshop will provide a productive and insightful discussions on energy related issues. Last but not least, let us strive towards a sustainable future for the advancement of economy, environment, as well as the society.

Thank you and Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.