



MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES



**KEYNOTE ADDRESS
BY**

**YANG BERTHORMAT
DATO' SRI RICHARD RIOT JAEM
MINISTER
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES,
MALAYSIA**

**EVENT:
1MALAYSIAGRIP CONVOCATION CEREMONY
20 JANUARY 2017
8:00 AM
HILTON KUCHING, SARAWAK**

SALUTATIONS FOR Y.B. MINISTER

**Yang Berbahagia Dato' Sri Adenan Ab.
Rahman,
Secretary-General,
Ministry of Human Resources**

**Yang Berusaha Dr. Mohd Gazali bin Abas,
Deputy Secretary-General (Operation),
Ministry of Human Resources**

**Yang Berbahagia Dato' Dr. Abdul Razak bin
Abdul,
Pengerusi Lembaga Pengarah,
The Human Resources Development Fund
(HRDF)**

**Yang Berbahagia Dato' CM Vignaesvaran
Jeyandran,
Chief Executive
The Human Resources Development Fund
(HRDF)**

**Heads of Departments and Agencies under the
Ministry of Human Resources**

Board of Director of HRDF

**Distinguished Guests, Employers, Training
Providers, Members of the Media,**

Our celebrated trainees,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Salam Sejahtera dan Salam 1Malaysia,

KEY TALKING POINTS

- 1. First and foremost, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) or Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB) for inviting me to officiate today's 1MalaysiaGRIP Convocation Ceremony and to present the 1MalaysiaGRIP certificates to its graduates.**
- 2. My gratitude, also, goes towards the employers, employer associations and the training providers for the continuous support towards HRDF in its efforts to up-skill and re-skill the Malaysian workforce.**

3. I would also like to take this opportunity to also applaud the Organising Committee for organising a positive and successful event – in which more than a thousand employees from Sarawak and 300 of them are gathered under one roof today to rejoice in their success towards completing the Programme and today, receiving their certificates. Congratulations all of you, both employers and employees — you are now part of a skilled Malaysia workforce that will help vaunt the nation towards its aspired high-income status by the year 2020!

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. Before I continue with my speech, allow me to share this quote from American entrepreneur and the Founder of Lotus

Mitch Kapor, who said: “If we’re not creating an educated and skilled workforce, there is just no conceivable way that we’re going to be economically competitive.” I cannot agree more.

- 5. Malaysia had set its sights on becoming a developed nation and a high-income nation by the year 2020 as stated in the Sixth Malaysia Plan back in 1991. The key to attaining this goal is to have a-35 per cent skilled local workforce, in which programmes such as 1MalaysiaGRIP — or the 1Malaysia Globally Recognised Industry and Professional Certification Programme — play a pivotal role.**
- 6. Under the 11th Malaysia Plan, which was announced earlier this year, human capital development occupies an important role as**

it is an essential enabler for Malaysia to become an advanced nation. We aim to create 1.5 million new jobs by the year 2020, with targeted improvements in labour productivity through the continuous shift from labour-intensive to knowledge and innovation-based economic activities. While Malaysia has made great strides in human capital development since Independence, we cannot afford to sit on our laurels as we still have much to do before achieving our goal of being a knowledge economy that is competitive on a global scale.

- 7. With only three more years to the year 2020, I am proud to say that Malaysia is well on track towards the goal of achieving high-income nation status. And it is, in part, thanks to the efforts and initiatives**

put in place by the HRDF. The agency was established in 1993 with the aim of developing quality human capital and a world-class workforce to help the Government attain developed-nation status by 2020. And it has done a fantastic job towards this end, providing various up-skilling and re-skilling programmes for Malaysian workers in various positions across a broad range of industries.

- 8. The 1MalaysiaGRIP, implemented by HRDF in June 2015, aimed to up-skill and re-skill 20,000 Malaysians, and as at 31 December 2016, a total of 23,730 employees of HRDF registered and non-registered employers have participated under this Programme, which featured more than 1,000 certification courses. Today we are recognising the efforts of the employees**

who have undergone training with 15 training providers in Sarawak. As I understand, these trainees come from various fields — human resource, information technology, maintenance or system control, management or strategic management, process and operation, language, quality and productivity, and safety and health.

- 9. As I mentioned earlier, we have achieved much in our journey towards becoming a developed nation. With the finishing line so close... this is the time for us to intensify our efforts in the creation and growth of high quality human capital to meet the challenging demands of the local, regional and global marketplace. HRDF will continue its mandate to assist the less academically-inclined demographic of the Malaysian**

labour force to reduce the competency gap that we are currently facing.

10. I am hopeful that 1MalaysiaGRIP will provide workers with a means to upgrade their skills — and employability in a fast-changing and developing economy — and help us attain a high income nation status. Let's not forget the bigger picture of achieving the national agenda of reaching 35 per cent skilled workforce by the Year 2020, as outlined in the Eleventh Malaysia Plan (11MP).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

11. On this note, I would like to congratulate all employers and their employees who are graduating today. I would also like to take this opportunity to call on all Malaysian

workers to continue their dedication of increasing their knowledge, skills and becoming an asset to their companies and to a knowledge-intensive economy.

12. A special Congratulation also for the 20 employers who will receive the Certificate of Appreciation today for their utmost support to the human capital development and the growth of the Nation as a whole.

13. I believe that HRDF's role is vital in supporting the government's human capital development agenda. I applaud the efforts by the committee that have worked hard to organise this event with great success.

14. On behalf of the Ministry of Human Resources, I would also like to express my

sincere appreciation to the guests and media who have taken the time to be with us today.

Thank you.

**Yang Berhormat
Dato' Sri Richard Riot Anak Jaem
Minister
Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia
20 January 2017**