



Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY**  
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**JAWATAN DALAM SERI MAHARAJA DATO SERI UTAMA**  
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**OF INDUSTRY AND PRIMARY RESOURCES, BRUNEI**  
**DARUSSALAM**

***Opening Ceremony of the***  
***2<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Halal Science and***  
***Innovative Product Development,***  
***11 February, 2014, Brunei Darussalam***

## ***Bismillah Hirahmaneer Raheem***

Yang Mulia, Dayang Cristalina Jalil Marsal, Acting Head of the Halal Industry Innovation Centre and as the Chairperson of the Organising Committee;

Yang Mulia, Awang Mohd Riza bin Dato Paduka Haji Md Yunos, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Industrial and Entrepreneur Development), Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources;

Distinguished Speakers, Heads of Departments and Divisions, Senior Officers and Participants of the symposium, ladies and gentlemen.

***Assalamualaikum Warramatulahi Wabarakatuh*** and a very good morning to all of you.

Alhamdulillah, all praise to Allah s.w.t., by whose grace and blessings we are able to gather here today. I am very pleased to be invited to officiate the '*Second International*

*Symposium on Halal Science and Innovative Product Development'* and to deliver a key note address at this symposium. To all our friends from overseas, I wish you a very warm welcome to Brunei Darussalam.

I am indeed honored to join you all this morning and it is heartening to note the enthusiasm displayed by the huge presence of representatives from various local and international public and private sectors here today. Certainly this is an indication of the halal science and business gaining serious attention to support the growth of the global halal industry. I appreciate your presence here at this symposium and I am sure everyone can share their knowledge and expertise.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

There is now considerable awareness internationally of the underlying principles of Halal products. This unquestionably constitutes a huge market, and one that is expected to increase over the next ten years.

Thus, once again this year, Brunei Darussalam hosting the Second International Symposium on Halal Science and Innovative Product Development with the theme “Advancing Halal Science and Product Innovation”. It is our aim to inspire innovation within the area of Halal science and research by providing a platform for international and local researchers and academics to establish stronger interactions on the subject of Halal Science and Halal Businesses.

The theme of this Symposium is most appropriate as we continuously attempts to bring awareness on the halal food, beverage and dietary products and also cosmetic products as well as to get updated on the cutting-edge technology and detection methods to address the Halal issues.

I note that, in the course of the discussions over the next three days, participants will be sharing experiences from a number of countries. One of the topics I hope will be

discussed is innovation in halal research that could contribute towards consumer protection and food safety in general as well as deepening and broadening interests in halal area.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

In Brunei Darussalam, we thank Allah s.w.t. for the resources with which we are blessed. At the same time, however, we recognize that these blessings call for duties, not only to our own people, but to the wider Muslim *Ummah*. It is in this spirit of a *Fardhu Kifayah* (a collective responsibility) that we are engaged in the development of Halal food and non-food industries and also the wider Halal markets.

This is why, over the last few years, Brunei Darussalam's economic diversification programme has included the development of key elements in the conduct of Islamic business such as halal food production, Islamic banking

and finance, business services, eco-tourism and hospitality.

All this complements our “Brunei Halal Agenda and Strategy”. They are also consistent with our National Vision 2035, aims to make Brunei Darussalam a dynamic and sustainable economy with income per capita within the top 10 countries in the world.

As part of these efforts, government agencies in Brunei Darussalam are exploring advanced areas in the Halal market, such as developing Guidelines for Manufacturing and Handling of Halal Cosmetic Products. The Guidelines is developed to address the requirements for the manufacturing and handling of halal cosmetic products to fulfill the religious duty of collective obligation by making available halal cosmetic products and also with purpose of enhancing trade and business in Brunei Darussalam.

To date, we had published and launched the PBD 24:2007 on Standard for Halal Food and GD24:2010 on the Brunei Darussalam Guidelines for Manufacturing and Handling of Halal Medicinal Products, Traditional Medicines and Health Supplements. As well as this, we are also drafting Brunei Darussalam Standard for Halal Logistics.

These contributions mark our commitment to Halal products and services of uncompromising quality and strong Islamic values that consistently meet international standards for health and safety as well as international best practices. They represent, Insyah Allah, the underlying spirit of Brunei Halal Certification.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Beyond the Halal Standards and Guidelines, allow me to update you all the Brunei Darussalam's efforts towards developing and strengthening capabilities in Halal Science and Innovation.

Firstly, to pursue matters pertinent to Halal science and technology, we are working closely with Ministry of Religious Affairs, Ministry of Health and University Brunei Darussalam towards the setting up of **Brunei Darussalam Halal Science Centre**, which Insya Allah this year, the Centre will be fully operated with the completion of the renovation of the Centre's building and equipping the laboratories with the modern and advanced analytical equipments and machineries. With the fully operation of this Centre, our capabilities on Halal science and technology, which among others include Halal authentication, detection, innovation and research and development will be further developed and strengthened. It would also complement Brunei Darussalam's efforts to establish the Centre as the Halal global reference Centre in Halal analysis, science and innovation.

Secondly, to further developed and strengthened the Brunei Darussalam Halal Science Centre capabilities in Halal science and technology, last year in 2013, we had



signed Memorandum of Understanding with three international institutions and one foreign company. The main purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to engage in cooperation on the technical training and academic research collaboration focusing on:

- immunochemical detection of hidden blood protein in dietary products and jointly develop methods for food analysis, with the Florida State University of the United States of America,
- development of advanced analytical laboratory method including development of bio-sensors for rapid and easy field tests for testing food and beverage products, with the Graduate School of Engineering Osaka University from Japan and
- technology of food and beverage analysis and undertake a collaborative research project on the food or beverage ingredients such as color or flavor, with the Japan Food Research Laboratories from Japan.

- promoting and strengthening technical cooperation and research collaborations in Halal products development, with Bioleaders, Corporation South Korea.

The involvement of these international institutions and company will certainly further developed and strengthened the Brunei Darussalam Halal Centre capabilities in Halal science and technology, as well as further enhance the Halal products research and development particularly in the areas of formulation, processing and packaging.

It is important for Brunei Darussalam to build and strengthen its human capacity and technical capability so that it can compete in the international halal arena and grab the vast opportunities available in the global halal industry worth more than US\$2 trillion, via the application of science and technology developed in the Brunei Darussalam Halal Science Centre.

Another important initiative was the signing of the Collaboration Agreement between Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources and Neptune Bio-Innovations (Brunei) Sdn Bhd, in December 2013. One of the three projects included in the agreement is development of Halal rennet sourced from local plant extracts suitable for cheese and yoghurt manufacturing.

Hopefully through this strategic collaboration and cooperation with Neptune Bio-Innovations, would contribute in the creation of new industries in Brunei Darussalam, especially in high skilled Halal industries based on biotechnology.

And thirdly, last year, in 2013, we had completed the infrastructure development phase 1 project of the Bio Innovation Corridor (BIC). For the phase 1 project, about 50 hectares had been developed and Brunei welcomes investment to these developed sites, not only in manufacturing and support service industries, including Halal logistics, but also in research and development

activities. The mission of the Bio Innovation Corridor (BIC) is to be an innovative venue for Halal sectors through the acquisition of innovative investors and to ensure supportive mechanisms for the development of advanced technologies and organizational services and cooperation with science. The development of the park is also part of our strategies to diversify the economy and to contribute to the creation of jobs for the local community.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Before I end my keynote address, let me once again express my appreciation to the Organizing Committee for inviting me to this symposium and deliver a keynote address. To our international speakers, let me wish you a pleasant stay and take some time to discover our unexpected treasures in Brunei Darussalam. Lastly, I wish the organizer every success for the symposium and all of you a fruitful discussion.

With the kalimah '***Bismillah Hirahmaneer Raheem***', it is my pleasure to declare open the Second International Symposium on Halal Science and Innovative Product Development.

Thank you for your attention.

*Wabillahit Taufeq Wal-Hidayah Wassalamu 'Alaikum  
Waramahtullahi Wabarakaatuh*