



Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY YANG BERHORMAT PEHIN ORANG KAYA SERI UTAMA
DATO SERI SETIA AWANG HAJI YAHYA BIN BEGAWAN MUDIM DATO PADUKA HJ BAKAR
MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND PRIMARY RESOURCES, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

***Opening Ceremony of the International Seminar on Halal Science and Innovative Product Development,
The Grand Hall, The Empire Hotel and Country Club, Jerudong, Brunei Darussalam.
Tuesday 25 Safar 1434 / 8 January, 2013,***

BismillahHirahmaneerRaheem

Yang Mulia, Awang Haji Sabri Haji Mohd. Taha, Head of Halal Industry Innovation Centre as the Chairman of the Organising Committee;

Yang Mulia, Dayang Hajah Normah Suria Hayati bte Pehin Jawatan Dalam Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama (Dr.) Hj. Awg.Mohd.Jamil Al-Sufri, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources;

Yang Mulia, Dayang Hajah Hasnah bte Ibrahim, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Primary Resources Development), Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources;

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 Seminar, Ladies and Gentlemen.

AssalamualaikumWarramatulahiWabarakatuh and a very good morning to all.

May I begin by thanking the Organising Committee for '*International Seminar on Halal Science and Innovative Product Development*' for inviting me to be the Guest of Honour and to deliver a key note address at this Seminar. Let me also welcome our international speakers who have come from afar to Brunei Darussalam.

I am indeed honoured to join you all this morning as you will be discussing on a topic that is very essential towards fulfilling our obligations ('*FardhuKifayah*') to the Muslims ummah, that is to make Halal products and services readily available, safe and of high quality. I appreciate your presence here at this Seminar and I am sure everyone can share their knowledge and expertise.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The global growth pace of the Halal Industry has increased tremendously. In 2011, this industry was estimated at US\$2.1 trillion. Seventeen percent (17%) or US\$632 billion of this estimated value represents the entire global halal food industry. The world's 1.8 billion Muslims which represent 25% of the world's population has fuelled an increase in the global demand for Halal products and services. Thus, the convening of the International Seminar on Halal Science and Innovative Product Development held here in Brunei Darussalam is another platform to establish stronger interactions on the subject of Halal Science and Halal Businesses.

Twenty (20) international speakers including world-class experts from Australia, France, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, the Netherlands and the United States, representing both academia and industry, will be delivering their presentations at this two-days Seminar. I believe they will address the needs, principles, approaches, and technical details of the advanced technologies and methods they have successfully developed in regard to Halal science and product development. I also believe that they will share important findings from their studies on Muslim consumer protection and

food safety. I am sure this will contribute towards deepening and broadening our interests particularly in the area of Halal science and innovation.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Today, the food chain has become so long and people's lifestyles have changed significantly. This has resulted in the need to preserve and process, for example, meat into various meat products. With technological advances in the meat processing industry, the tendency to adulterate and cause fraud are increasing to get more business profits at the expense of consumers. This technological advancement is not only limited to meat products but also applied also to other products including health supplements and cosmetics. Among the Halal issues include:

- Blood-derived ingredients in food and dietary supplement products;
- Animal-derived gelatin in food and pharmaceutical products; and
- Animal-derived collagen-peptides in cosmetic and dietary supplement products.

Thus, 'addressing the unknown or the hidden ingredients' are some of the key challenges not only faced by the Halal authorities but also food safety agencies.

It is therefore pressing for us to strengthen and develop our technical capacity and technology advancement in the areas of Halal detection methods for food as well as non-food products.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Allow me to share Brunei Darussalam's efforts towards developing and strengthening capabilities in Halal Science and Innovation.

First, we are currently streamlining our capabilities in the field of analytical services with world-class technologies and experts. In particular, we are working towards collaborating with two internationally known universities, Osaka University from Japan and Florida State University from the United States as well as with Japan Food Research Laboratories from Japan for analytical testing. Through these collaborations, we hope that our capabilities in Halal science and technology innovation will be further developed and strengthened.

Secondly, 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 establishment of **Brunei Darussalam Halal Science Centre**. With the establishment 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.

And **thirdly**, to firm up decisions on Halal matters, we are also working towards the establishment of **Halal Product Academy** which consists of Shariah scholars, Halal scientists and Halal industry experts. This is very much relevant nowadays when food and non-food products are produced extensively, using wide variety of ingredients and scientifically labeled.

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 Seminar 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 organiser every success for the Seminar and all of you a fruitful discussion.

With the kalimah '**BismillahHirahmaneerRaheem**', it is my pleasure to declare open the International Seminar on Halal Science and Innovative Product Development.

Thank you for your attention.

WabillahitTaufeqWal-HidayahWassalamu 'AlaikumWaramahtullahiWabarakaatuh

