

WELCOME REMARKS

Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Awang Haji

Ali bin Haji Apong,

Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism,

Brunei Darussalam

as Chairman of the PRYNSA Steering

Committee

on the Occasion of

PRYNSA 18

Songket Hall, Rizqun International Hotel Gadong, Brunei Darussalam

Bismillahir Rahmannir Rahim

Alhamdulillahi Rabbil 'Aalameen, Wassalatu Wassalamu 'Alaa Asyrafil Mursaleen, Sayyidina Muhhammadin, Wa 'Alaa Aalihie Wasahbihie Ajma'een

1. Mengadap Kehadapan Majlis Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah binti Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

2. Terlebih dahulu hamba Tuanku dengan rendah diri menyembahkan setinggi-tinggi menjunjung kasih kehadapan Majlis Tuanku kerana sudi berangkat ke Majlis Pengurniaan Anugerah 'Princess Rashidah Young Nature Scientist Award' yakni PRYNSA kali ke 18 pada petang ini.

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3. Keberangkatan Tuanku adalah abis hamba Tuanku amat alu-alukan dan nanti-nantikan kerana ia merupakan peluang keemasan bagi Kementerian Sumber-Sumber Utama dan Pelancongan untuk mengetengahkan dan menekankan betapa pentingnya alam sekitar Negara ini untuk sentiasa dipelihara demi kesejahteraan rakyat dan penduduk Negara Brunei Darussalam, serta, betapa pentingnya penglibatan generasi muda dalam usaha-usaha memelihara alam sekitar ini.

4. Beribu ampun, izinkan hamba Tuanku menyampaikan ucapan hamba Tuanku ini seterusnya kepada para hadirin dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Her Royal Highness, Your Excellencies; The Honourable Panel of Judges; Distinguished Guests; Teachers; Students; Ladies and Gentlemen, Assalamualaikum Warramattullahi Wabarakatuh, and a very good afternoon to all of you.

5. On behalf of the PRYNSA Steering Committee and the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, I am pleased to welcome you all to the awarding ceremony of the 18th Princess Rashidah Young Nature Scientist Award.

6. It is of great pleasure to acknowledge the presence of our Royal Patron, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah in today's awarding ceremony. Your Royal Highness, we are delighted with your presence and your continuous support to PRYNSA, which shows your strong commitment towards creating and generating awareness among our students, teachers, professionals, and our society, as a whole on the importance of protecting and conserving our environment – the forest resources and its biodiversity. 7. PRYNSA 18 theme's "Biodiversity Research for National Youth Development" is very timely as we now face the global challenges of biodiversity loss. Understanding biodiversity through research provides a baseline information for the formulation of effective policies that would guide our actions towards sustainable forest management. The involvement of our youth in biodiversity researches is a key measure to prepare them in natural resource management and eventually become our competent leaders in shaping the future of the country's social well-being, environmental stability and economic growth. I would say, that our biodiversity and our youth are among the most important treasures of our country and it is worth highlighting them in PRYNSA.

Your Royal Highness; Excellencies; Ladies and Gentlemen,

8. The forestry sector of Brunei Darussalam is focusing on increasing forestry contribution to the gross domestic products. There is a need for us to further the sustainable production of forest goods and services, and the improvement of resources understanding and management capacities of all forestry stakeholders. We have to revisit the policies in order to provide new opportunities for community livelihood, carbon trading, Payment for Ecosystem Services. biological prospecting, and ecological tourism development. It is imperative for us to optimize the utilization of forests goods and services considering the important role of the forests as natural buffer to the aggressive industrial initiatives of our country towards economic diversification.

Your Royal Highness; Excellencies; Ladies and Gentlemen,

9. PRYNSA proactively respond to our national vision for 2035. Our initiative directly addresses our Wawasan Vision of an educated, highly skilled and accomplished people. The interconnectivity of our PRYNSA initiatives and our Wawasan 2035 aims towards the improvement of our quality of life through environmental researches, advocacy, and quality education.

10. In line with the global trend, PRYNSA aims to contribute to the creation of a knowledge-based economy as provided for by Wawasan 2035. We intend to develop our youth's discipline and ethics toward selfreliance, entrepreneurship, and patriotism as we seek for academic excellence, social, and spiritual development. We also support Brunei's science and technology development we pursue as our research and development programs and human resources development.

11. In a few moments, we will be given the opportunity to witness the presentation from our PRYNSA finalists and I hope these young scientists will take their PRYNSA experiences as a guide to their success and personal achievements. Be proud of being one among the finest young scientist of this country.

12. Our warm appreciations are also extended to our generous donors, Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd. Your contributions have brought us a long way towards the attainment of PRYNSA objectives. We are hoping that you will continue providing your assistance to PRYNSA including its planned extension in the future.

13. To the parents, teachers and students, this awarding ceremony is all yours. We thank you for your cooperation and good performance during the PRYNSA implementation. And to all the people who has being working behind the scene, our panel of judges, our

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organizing and working committees, and to all people who performed their respective roles and responsibilities to realize the successful implementation of PRYNSA 18, thank you very much. Your support and cooperation to PRYNSA is highly appreciated.

14. Beribu Ampun, sebelum hamba Tuanku berundur diri, sekali lagi hamba Tuanku menyembahkan setinggitinggi menjunjung kasih ke atas keberangkatan Tuanku ke Majlis ini.

Hamba Tuanku juga ingin menyembahkan menjunjung kasih keatas keberangkatan adinda Tuanku,

Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah binti Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah; dan ke Majlis ini. Abis hamba Tuanku berdoa semoga keberangkatan Tuanku dan Kerabat Diraja akan mendapat ganjaran dari Allah Subahannallah Wa Ta'ala jua.

Sekian, Wabillahit taufiq wal-hidayah wassalamu 'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.

Menjunjung anugeraha.