



## **WELCOMING SPEECH**

**DATUK HAJAH HAKIMAH BINTI MOHD YUSOFF  
DIRECTOR GENERAL  
DEPARTMENT OF ISLAM DEVELOPMENT MALAYSIA**

**AT WELCOMING DINNER  
13<sup>TH</sup> HALAL CERTIFICATION BODIES CONVENTION  
IN CONJUNCTION WITH  
GLOBAL HALAL SUMMIT 2023 (GHaS 2023)**

**10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 (SUNDAY)  
8.15 PM**

**PULLMAN KUALA LUMPUR CITY CENTER**

---

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh,  
and *Salam Malaysia Madani*.

Honourable Senator Dato' Setia Dr. Haji Mohd Na'im Bin  
Haji Mokhtar, Minister in The Prime Minister's Department  
(Religious Affairs),

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen, Brothers and Sisters,

1. Alhamdulillah, let us all extend our gratitude to Allah SWT for His Mercy and His Blessings, giving all of us the opportunity and time to join the 13<sup>th</sup> Halal Certification Bodies Convention.
2. It is my honour and privilege to extend the warmest welcome to the Honourable Senator Dato' Setia Dr. Haji Mohd Na'im Bin Haji Mokhtar, Minister in The Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affairs), Terima Kasih Dato' for

gracing us with your presence at this dinner to officiate the 13<sup>th</sup> Halal Certification Bodies Convention.

3. Selamat Datang to all guests and convention attendees present at this event, which JAKIM has been organising exclusively for representatives of halal authorities and certification bodies since 2006. I would especially like to extend a warm greeting to those who are attending this annual event for the first time, including Badan Penyelenggara Jaminan Produk Halal, Kementerian Agama Republik Indonesia (BPJPH), Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA), Standard and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), GCC Accreditation Centre (GAC), Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology (MoIAT), UAE and Halal Accreditation Agency (HAK), Turkiye.

4. As mentioned earlier, this convention has a long history; it first began in 2006 with a meeting room as a venue to discuss emerging issues related to Halal Certification, attended by approximately 70 participants from 30 countries. Alhamdulillah, it has continued to this day, being held at a ballroom with 125 participants from 34 countries. Jazakumullah khairan katheera, my utmost appreciation to all of you for your continuous support, and most of all, your engaging participation and interaction, which making this event valuable and priceless throughout these years. Your insights, feedback and suggestions truly contribute towards thought leadership, which, from today's sessions, is one of the goals all of us aim for, i.e. to put Islam in continuous good standing worldwide.
5. Alhamdulillah, I feel very much blessed, and I believe the organising teams too feel the same, that every time we hold the convention, it can draw people of the most outstanding and remarkable calibre from around the world.

6. Tonight, participants are invited to dress in their respective home countries' traditional costumes, so that we can witness the distinctive cultural diversities. Let's take this wonderful opportunity to learn about, and celebrate, each other's unique cultures as encouraged by Allah S.W.T. and our beloved Prophet Muhammad S.A.W. We are genuinely united as a "big family" at this event despite the cultural differences. Indeed, Halal is undoubtedly bridging the global divide, transcending borders.
7. Let's embrace and show to the world the spirit of one religion as explicitly stated in surah al-Mu'minun, verse 52:

وَإِنَّ هَذِهِ أُمَّتُكُمْ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً وَأَنَا رَبُّكُمْ فَاتَّقُونِ.

Meaning:

"And in truth this religion, Islam, - is your religion - the religion with one basic fundamental - and I am your Lord; remain, then, conscious of Me" (al-Mu'minun: 52).

Ladies and gentlemen, brothers and sisters,

8. Let us pray that this convention and our initiatives receive His blessings and protection, and may this convention further serve its significant role in promoting the halal agenda worldwide, for the benefit of all. Let's give back to the community, which is one of the key criteria for acceptance as JAKIM's Recognised Foreign Halal Certification Bodies. However, we all know that in order for the deeds to be accepted as our *jariah*, our conduct must always be with utmost integrity, providing a trustworthy Halal certification along the whole supply and value chain within the Halal ecosystem. From now onwards, let's live up to the theme of this year's convention: "Enhancing Capabilities, Strengthening Integrity". May our deeds be accepted to be those which would increase our *mizan* to the right when it's most needed.

9. Thank you and congratulations to all paper presenters, participants and those who are involved to contribute in ensuring the success of the 13<sup>th</sup> Halal Certification Bodies Convention. Please enjoy your stay here, and don't miss the chance to explore Beautiful Malaysia and all our nation's great diversity offers.

*Wabillahitaufiq      Walhidayah,      Wassalamualaikum  
Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.*