SPEECH OF
YANG HORMAT PROFESSOR DATO’ DR. DAING NASIR IBRAHIM
VICE-CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PAHANG

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE
10th INTERNATIONAL ADVANCED SCHOOL ON WIND ENGINEERING

MONDAY, 10 FEBRUARY 2014, 9:00 AM;
HYATT REGENCY, KUANTAN

SALUTATION

My colleagues from UMP:

Yang HORMAT Professor Dato’ Dr Mortaza Mohamed,
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International);

Yang HORMAT Professor Dato’ Dr. Yuserrie Zainudin,
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni);

Professor Dr. Mashitah Mohd Yusuff,
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation);

Senior Officers, Deans, Directors and Heads of Departments;

Encik Fadzil Yahaya,
Dean, Faculty of Civil Engineering & Earth Resources;
Encik Noram Irwan Ramli,
Director, Tenth International Advanced School on Wind Engineering;

Our distinguished speakers;

Participants;

Ladies and gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh,

Salam 1Malaysia and a very good morning.

1. It is with great pleasure that I have the honour of welcoming our distinguished speakers and participants to the Tenth International Advanced School on Wind Engineering this morning.
2. It is indeed an honour for us in Universiti Malaysia Pahang to host this edition of the International Advanced School on Wind Engineering (IAS’10) that brings the world’s prominent scholars of wind engineering to enlighten the participants with their vast experience and knowledge in that field.

3. I am delighted that UMP, through its Faculty of Civil Engineering and Earth Resources is able to organize IAS’10 for the very first time. In this regard, I would like to dedicate my heartfelt thanks to Professor Yukio Tamura from Wind Engineering Research Centre of Tokyo Polytechnic University, Japan for his assistance in connecting the IAS’10 organising committee in UMP with the prominent speakers that are present with us this morning.
4. Therefore ladies and gentlemen, please join me in giving a big round of applause to these speakers as a friendly gesture to show them our warm welcome to IAS’10:

Professor Giovano Solari from Genoa University, Italy;

Professor Shuyang Cao from Tongji University, China;

Professor Teodore Stathopolus from Montreal University, Canada;

Professor Michale Schatzmann from Hamburg University, Germany; and

Professor Richard Flay from University of Auckland, New Zealand.

5. With their long research experience, reputation and renowned achievements in the respective disciplines, I believe that this group of experts will be able to provide scholarly input to the participants, effectively and interactively throughout IAS’10.
6. This golden opportunity is surely a moment not to be missed by the participants to enhance their understanding on the current issues and findings in relation to wind engineering.

7. In that regard, I am also pleased that three of our local experts are also able to make their time for IAS‘10. Thus, thank you Professor Dato’ Ar. Dr. Elias Salleh from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Professor Sr. Dr. Mazlan Hashim from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia and Associate Professor Dr. Taksiah from Universiti Sains Malaysia for sparing your time to join this event.

8. Ladies and gentlemen,

The collaboration between UMP and the Wind Engineering Research Centre at Tokyo Polytechnic University went way back in 2010, when two of our academic staff from the Faculty of Civil Engineering & Earth Resources joined a short-term programme at the Centre.

9. Their acquaintance with Professor Yukio Tamura during the short-term programme has turned to be a fruitful and strategic
one as far as UMP is concerned, for it has broadened our international connection in this field.

10. Wind engineering started to develop as a separate engineering field in the 1960’s and it is undeniably highly significant to us today. From the related cases, incidents and tragedies, the understanding of the complexity of harnessing the wind to blend well with architecture, structure and construction is needed, especially in localities with unique geographical or climatic pattern.

11. Through proper analysis of those natural patterns, the risks of wind disaster could be minimized and tragedies could be avoided. As far as the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia is concerned, the monsoon wind brings heavy rainfall to the states of Kelantan, Terengganu and Pahang between the months of November and March which eventually causes flood at low areas, including the town of Kuantan.

12. It is because of this significance and importance of wind engineering I believe, that the Pahang State Government also gives a very strong support to IAS’10, much to the kindness of
the Chief Minister, Yang Amat Berhormat Dato’ Sri Adnan Yaakob.

13. Ladies and gentlemen,

In conclusion, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation and congratulation to the organizing committee from the Faculty of Civil Engineering and Earth Resources for their relentless commitment and dedication to organize this event.

14. To our special guests – the speakers and participants alike, it is my hope that your participation in IAS’10 will be a meaningful and beneficial one, particularly in the context of knowledge enhancement and dessimination.

15. I wish you all a fruitful discourse, as well as a pleasant stay in Kuantan and with that, I hereby declare the Tenth International Advanced School on Wind Engineering officially open.

Thank you.