

**Right Attitude, Knowledge And Skills Key To Developing Strong Cross-Cultural Leadership - Rosmah
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By Niam Seet Wei**

SHANGHAI, Sept 6 (Bernama) -- The prime minister's wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor said the key to developing strong cross-cultural leadership was to focus on developing the right attitude, knowledge and skills.

"Experience in building global teams that transcend nationalities will develop and augment vital skills such as cross-cultural communication, conflict management and diplomacy.

"These experiences will give them the confidence to make important decisions for their career advancement," she said in her keynote address on "Women Leadership In A Cross Cultural Environment" at the Women in Leadership Forum (WIL) China, here, today.

Also present were Women, Family and Community Development Deputy Minister Datuk Heng Seai Kie, Malaysian ambassador to China Datuk Iskandar Sarudin, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Anifah Aman's wife Datin Seri Siti Rubiah Abdul Samad and Rosmah's youngest son, Nor Ashman.

Rosmah, who is the patron of the Women in Leadership Forum Asia urged women to work with governments to advocate quotas and targets, as well as inclusive policies to support gender diversity in senior executive positions.

She cited the Malaysian government's target of 30 per cent women in decision-making roles in both public and private sector organisations by 2015.

She also encouraged women leaders to work with non-governmental organisations and civil society to address society's attitude towards women's leadership.

"I have no doubt that the next generation of Asian women have the confidence, skills, attributes, talents, adaptability, right mindset and the strength to emerge as truly inspirational leaders of tomorrow," she said.

Asia Pacific Institute director, Patty Friedman Marcus said Rosmah understood the challenges that women were facing, and in order to succeed in businesses and organisations, women must be able to deal with that in a positive and realistic way.

Executive board member of the Abu Dhabi Businesswomen Council, Nashwa Abdullah Al Quabaisi said Rosmah's speech inspired women on how to lead in the near future.

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