

**CLOSING REMARKS BY
YAB DATO' SERI ABDULLAH BIN HAJI AHMAD BADAWI
AT THE CLOSING DINNER OF LANGKAWI INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE 2007
AT LANGKAWI, KEDAH
7 AUGUST 2007**

EXCELLENCIES,

DISTINGUISHED DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS,

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

AS THIS LANGKAWI INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE 2007 DRAWS TO A CLOSE, I MUST SAY THAT IT HAS BEEN A FRUITFUL DIALOGUE AND A WORTHWHILE UNDERTAKING*

2. WE HAD THREE LEADERS PARTICIPATING FOR THE FIRST TIME, NAMELY A SENIOR MINISTER FROM CAMBODIA, THE PRIME MINISTER OF THAILAND AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES* MOST IMPORTANTLY, IT REFLECTS THE GROWING INTEREST OF THESE COUNTRIES TO BE PART OF US IN THIS SMART PARTNERSHIP MOVEMENT, TOGETHER WITH MANY FRIENDS OF THE SOUTH, WHO HAVE COME TOGETHER FOR A COMMON CAUSE UNDER THE BANNER OF THE L.I.D.*

3. THIS TIME IN LANGKAWI, WE HAVE FOCUSED UPON COMBATING POVERTY AND ADOPTED A PLAN OF ACTION AS THE WAY FORWARD* WE HAVE RESOLVED TO ENHANCE HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING IN OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES* I AM VERY PLEASED WITH THE SHOW OF COMMITMENT BY ALL PARTICIPANTS JUDGING FROM THE FERVOR DISPLAYED DURING THE LAST THREE DAYS OF INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS*

4. INDEED, MALAYSIA AS HOST COUNTRY IS DELIGHTED WITH THE PRESENCE HERE IN LANGKAWI OF SO MANY HEADS OF STATE AND HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, CORPORATE LEADERS, SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ACADEMIA, LABOUR AND CIVIL SOCIETY* I MUST ALSO THANK MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THIS ENTERPRISE* I THINK WE HAVE ALSO ACHIEVED A NEW LEVEL OF CAMARADERIE AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS IN A DELIGHTFUL ATMOSPHERE WHICH CUTS ACROSS STATUS AS WELL AS POLITICAL AND IDEOLOGICAL BOUNDARIES*

5. I AM PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGED BY YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SHARE AND OPENLY DISCUSS EXPERIENCES, ACTIONS AND CHALLENGES* THE CORDIAL AND FRANK MANNER IN WHICH THIS DIALOGUE HAD PROCEEDED SPEAKS WELL FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR COOPERATION*

6. I WOULD LIKE TO REITERATE MY THANKS TO YOUR EXCELLENCIES AND THE DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS FOR THE VALUABLE INPUTS, CONTRIBUTIONS OF IDEAS AND FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN MAKING THIS DIALOGUE A SUCCESSFUL ONE*

7. GIVEN THE REALITIES PRESENT IN THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM, IT IS CLEAR THAT NATIONAL EFFORTS TO ERADICATE POVERTY NEED TO BE COMPLEMENTED BY INTERNATIONAL ACTION* PART OF THIS INTERNATIONAL ACTION IS THE PROCESS OF SELF HELP AND SMART PARTNERSHIPS WHICH WE HAVE DEDICATED OURSELVES TO PROMOTING THROUGH THE L.I.D AND SIMILAR PROCESSES IN AFRICA*

8. I DO BELIEVE OUR DIALOGUE HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE INVIGORATION OF THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND WILLINGNESS TO SHARE THE OPPORTUNITIES OF UPLIFTING THE LIVES OF OUR PEOPLES* THIS WE CAN DO ESPECIALLY THROUGH THE PARTNERSHIP OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE SECTORS NOT ONLY IN OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES BUT ALSO ACROSS NATIONAL BORDERS*

9. AS WE ARE WELL AWARE, ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS* SO AS WE LEAVE THIS BEAUTIFUL ISLAND OF LANGKAWI, LET US RESOLVE, EACH OF US, TO DO OUR BIT AND PLAY OUR PART TO GIVE PRACTICAL MEANING AND ENSURE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION THAT WE HAVE JUST ADOPTED HERE* AS THEY SAY IN POPULAR JARGON, LET US WALK THE TALK*

10. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE OF L.I.D 2007, WHO IS ALSO THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF MALAYSIA, THE MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, THE C.P.T.M AND ALL OTHERS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS DIALOGUE* THIS INCLUDES ALL THOSE WHO HAVE VIGILANTLY LOOKED AFTER OUR PERSONAL SECURITY AND THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF OUR CONFERENCE*

11. I NOW DECLARE THE 2007 LANGKAWI INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE CLOSED*

THANK YOU*