

**THE OPENING OF THE NEW CHANCERY BUILDING**  
PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA, 24 JULY 1998

I am delighted to be visiting South Africa again. It is a country that Malaysians feel considerable affinity for. It must be the friendly people, warm hospitality and the marvelous weather.

2. I am happy to note the great strides that have been achieved in a relatively short period since the birth of the new South Africa. Indeed South Africans have shown much fortitude and determination in building a new society free from the appalling legacies of the apartheid era.

3. The example demonstrated by President Mandela in his single-minded commitment to national reconciliation in a free and democratic South Africa, has been inspiring and certainly holds the key to South Africa's future.

4. I am proud that Malaysia's relations with South Africa continue to grow from strength to strength. I would like to give my assurance that we will always accord the highest priority to our relations with South Africa. This new High Commission building symbolises our commitment and friendship with South Africa.

5. On that note I have great pleasure in declaring open the new Chancery Building of the Malaysian High Commission.