

SPEECH BY
DATO SERI DATIN PADUKA
DR. SITI HASMAH BTE HJ. MOHD. ALI
AT THE FAREWELL LUNCH HOSTED BY THE WIFE
OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF MALAYSIA
AT THE PARKROYAL HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR
ON MONDAY, 23RD. OCTOBER, 1989
AT 1.00 P.M.

Distinguished Ladies and Friends,

I am here to perform a special duty entrusted upon me by Madame Kaunda of Zambia the most senior member amongst us. As you know, she left for home with her husband on Saturday night from Langkawi.

2. As host, Madame Kaunda felt that I should say something on her behalf, and that is, to extend her good wishes and warm affection to all of you and to bid you farewell, especially to Lady Lois Ramphal, who would not be with us in the capacity of the Secretary General's wife in future CHOGMs.

3. Many of us have known Lady Ramphal and her husband for many years in CHOGM as well as outside of CHOGM. We know her as a very gracious and charming personality, full of

life and full of wit. She has brought us together in friendship and understanding which is the keynote of CHOGM. We shall miss her presence in the future but we hope, as the Malay quotation says, "jauh di mata, di hati jangan" - "let us be far from your sight but not from your heart". We thank you for everything you have done for us in our meetings in CHOGM and wish you happiness and good health in your future endeavours.

Distinguished Ladies and Friends,

4. As a token of remembrance of Lady Ramphal's association with us, let me on behalf of the ladies, extend our warm wishes to her with a memento to remind her of the bond of friendship and close association existing between us and her. May I now present this gift to Lady Ramphal.

(PRESENTATION OF GIFTS)

5. This is also an opportunity for us to extend a very warm welcome to Madame Anyaoku, wife of the new Secretary General of the Commonwealth Secretariat and to express our congratulations to Mr. Anyaoku for being elected the new Secretary General. We shall extend to Madame Anyaoku the same hand of friendship and I am sure we shall benefit from her experience in CHOGM in the past. May I also take this opportunity to present a small welcoming gift to Madame Anyaoku.

(PRESENTATION OF GIFT)

6. On behalf of all Malaysians in this hall and on my own behalf, we would like to express our sincere gratitude again to all our foreign friends and guests for their presence in Malaysia and for their warm friendship. You will start to leave our shores from tomorrow. May you take along with you happy and fond memories of your stay in Malaysia. We also hope you will be able to return to Langkawi, Melaka and Kuala Lumpur soon with your families.

7. We bid you "Selamat Jalan" - farewell. We wish you all also a safe journey home.

8. Till we meet again, good luck, good health and may God bless you.
