

**17/10/2015 - Official Dinner Of The 7th Joint Seminar Programme and 38th Malaysia-Singapore Public Service Games For Malaysia And Singapore Public Sector Leaders 2015**

The Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan Bin Haji Satem,  
Chief Minister of Sarawak;

His Excellency Tan Sri Peter Ong,  
Head of Civil Service of the Government of Singapore;

Distinguished senior officials from Malaysia and Singapore;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good evening. Let me begin by thanking the Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan Bin Haji Satem, Chief Minister of Sarawak for making time to be with us this evening despite his busy schedule. After being here for more than a day, I think everyone here would agree that Kuching is a very friendly and welcoming city as we were greeted with smiles everywhere we went. Let me also congratulate all of you for the very eventful and successful day today.

2. We had a very productive and constructive discussion during our seminar this morning. And I believe the golfers and bowlers amongst us had also enjoyed a wonderful time this afternoon. I hope this will be a memorable event of friendship among colleagues, both new and old.

3. As the saying goes, "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". The seminar and games today has provided us with the opportunity to relax and enjoy the company of one another and at the same time, build a long lasting friendship between our two countries and public services.

4. I am certain that we have achieved the aim of the games and seminar, in fostering friendship and networking in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. The event today was indeed in concord with the traditions of friendship and understanding between our Public Services and the two countries. It was also held at a very opportune time when relations between both countries are at its best and in conjunction with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Malaysia-Singapore diplomatic relations.

5. Most importantly, today's event has demonstrated the dedication, commitment and openness that we uphold among us, which bodes well with the current excellent bilateral relations between our two nations. I am optimistic that the outcome of the 7<sup>th</sup> Joint Seminar and 38<sup>th</sup> Malaysia-Singapore Public Service Games for Malaysia and Singapore Public Sector Leaders will further nurture and strengthen our networking, engagement and cooperation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan Bin Haji Satem, Chief Minister of Sarawak for the generous assistance, and gracious hospitality in hosting this event in the beautiful city of Kuching, Sarawak. In fact, this is the first time that this programme is being held outside Kuala Lumpur or Putrajaya. My sincere appreciation also goes to the Secretariat and people behind the scenes, for ensuring smooth arrangements throughout our event.

7. I also would like to thank Tan Sri Peter Ong and all our colleagues from Malaysia and Singapore for making this annual event of ours a true success.

8. To Tan Sri Peter Ong and our colleagues from Singapore who will be heading home tomorrow evening after our visit to the Cultural Village, I wish all of you the best and a pleasant trip home. Please enjoy the rest of the evening and bring back warm memories of your short stay here.

Thank you.

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