

**By : DATO' SRI MOHD NAJIB BIN TUN HAJI ABDUL RAZAK
PERDANA MENTERI MALAYSIA**

Venue : Sentral Vista, Brickfield, Kuala Lumpur

Date : 18/06/2014

**Title : THE OPENING OF THE WORLD SCOUT BUREAU KUALA LUMPUR
OFFICE**

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh, salam sejahtera dan Salam
1Malaysia.

The Honourable Mr. Simon Hang-Bock Rhee,

World Scout Committee,

The Honourable Mr. Scott Teare,

World Scout Bureau Secretary General,

The Honourable Cabinet Ministers of Malaysia,

Yang Berbahagia Dato' Seri Dr. Shafie Bin Mohd Salleh,

Chief Scout of Malaysia,

His/ Her Excellencies Ambassador and High Commissioners,

The World Scout Committee,

Board Members of the World Scout Foundation,

The World Scout Bureau,

Malaysian Scout Leaders and Dignitaries,

Brother and Sister Scout Leaders.

1. I would like to express my appreciation to the World Scout Committee Chairman, The Honourable Simon Hang-Bock Rhee, and the Secretary General of The World Scout Bureau, The Honourable Mr. Scott Teare, for

inviting me to take part in this occasion. As the President of the Malaysian Scouting Association, I take particular pleasure in being here to witness the opening of the World Scout Bureau Headquarters.

2. It is wonderful to see so many Scout Leaders and Members from all over the world. Thank you for making the effort to come to Malaysia, and I hope that you all will have time to explore our country and enjoy some of what it has to offer.

3. I am delighted that The World Scout Bureau has chosen to relocate their Headquarters to Kuala Lumpur. On behalf of the government and people of Malaysia, I would like to wish each and every one SELAMAT DATANG and a very warm welcome.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. The late Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." But every child is not afforded a proper education. And even those that are do not always learn the appropriate skills to compete in an increasingly globalised world. According to the World Economic Forum, some 358 million youths were not in education, employment or training in 2010. And 75 million young people worldwide were unemployed in 2012. The world faces many challenges, but surely one of the most important is equipping our young people with the skills and tools necessary to thrive in today's world.

5. In Malaysia, we are always looking to improve youth education. Through the Ministry of Youth and Sports, we have implemented a comprehensive and integrated programme that continuously provides formal and non-

formal education programmes. These programmes build intellectual capital and use innovative and creative ideas that focus on Knowledge and Skills, Entrepreneurship, Moderation, Volunteerism, Patriotism and Spiritual Development. Encouraging more Malaysians to join the Scouting Movement is part of our strategy.

6. The Scouts is an important voluntary and non-political youth movement, with more than 40 million members in 162 countries. It operates regardless of gender, origin, race or creed. The very mission of scouting is to contribute to the education of young people – to develop their full emotional, intellectual, physical, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

7. When we think of being a Scout, we often think of camp fires, jack knives, and learning to tie a reef knot. But scouting also offers an educational experience that maximizes potential, unlocks opportunity and affects change. It is a movement that is dedicated to bringing out the best in people - helping young people develop ethics, values, leadership, and civic awareness.

8. Around the world, the Scout Movement is making a difference in peoples' lives – not just to Scouts themselves, but also to those they help. For example, Scouts are working to help thousands of Syrian refugees in Lebanon. And Scouts in the Philippines are supporting victims of typhoon Haiyan. Scouting effects change, today and tomorrow – by equipping young people with the skills they need to maximize their potential.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

9. I would like to thank Persekutuan Pengakap Malaysia, led by Yang Berbahagia Dato' Seri Paduka Dr. Shafie Bin Mohd Salleh, Chief Scout of Malaysia. And I would also like to thank the task force for their tireless work in successfully relocating the World Scout Bureau Office to Kuala Lumpur.

10. My deepest gratitude also goes to all the National Scout Organizations for their continuous faith, trust and support, which has made this relocation possible.

11. I would also like to convey my heartfelt appreciation to His Excellency Jejomar C. Binay, the former head of the Asia-Pacific Regional Scout Committee; along with his successor Dr. Chao Shou Po. Together, they provided strong support to Persekutuan Pengakap Malaysia.

12. On the same note, I would like to encourage all National Scout Organisations to support Malaysia in its effort to host the upcoming 41st World Scout Conference, and the 13th World Scout Youth Forum in 2017. I hope that the vote, which will take place in Slovenia later this year, will favour Malaysia's bid.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

13. In the name of Allah the Most Beneficent and the Most Merciful, it is an honour and privilege to declare the World Scout Bureau Kuala Lumpur Office open.

Wabillahi Taufik Walhidayah Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi
Wabarakatuh. Thank you.

