



OPENING ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE NETHERLANDS

Ladies and gentlemen,
Members of the Malaysian Association of the Netherlands,

A warm welcome to all of you on this 4TH Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Association of the Netherlands and a very Happy New Year 2010.

The establishment of Malaysian Association of the Netherlands acronym MA-NL was initiated by the Embassy of Malaysia in The Hague. It is non-governmental, non-political, and a non-profit organization with the basic objectives of bringing together Malaysians through educational, social, cultural and economic activities and to promote the interests of its members and foster Malaysia-Netherlands understanding and cooperation.

It was initially a merger of the "Persatuan Anak Anak Melayu Malaysia -Singapore" which was established in 1992 in Rotterdam and the "Malaysian Friendship Club of the Netherlands" established in 1999 and active in Amsterdam area. Their members were appointed by Mr. Zulkifli Adnan, Counsellor/Head of Chancery of The Embassy of Malaysia, on behalf of the Ambassador of Malaysia to form the Protem Executive Committee of the Malaysian Association of the Netherlands.

It is indeed an honour for me to preside over the Association since its launching with the protem Committee Members in December 2001. I would like to thank you all for your contributions to the success of the Association and I would particularly like to thank the Executive Committee members for your kind support and their assistance. Each one in the Committee has made their share of sacrifices and shown enormous dedication.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Embassy of Malaysia, The Ladies Association of the Embassy (PERWAKILAN), MATRADE, Malaysia Airlines, Malaysia Tourist Promotion Board, PETRONAS and all Malaysian agencies and businesses in the Netherlands for their generous contribution and support with all our activities these past years. I hope that we will receive a continuing support for the coming years. Of course I would be failing in our duty if I did not mention the strong support that we receive from all Members of the MA-NL, as well as the Malaysian Community.

It has been my pleasure serving all the members of our Association over the past years. However I would not want to be endorsed as President for another term. The aging process has me firmly in its grasp and I would like to spend more time in Malaysia in the near future. Today it is time to elect a new President who can lead MA-NL to a successful term.

After the Secretary's Report, the Treasurer will then present the financial accounts of the Association. Then we will have the election to fill up the posts in the Executive Committee. We hope to have new faces in the Executive Committee, and we welcome you all to come forward and play a role in ensuring the success of the Association.

On this note, I would like to thank you once again for your presence and participation in this 4th Annual General Meeting.

Mohammed Bin Mohd Taib
President MA-NL 2006- 2009