



**WELCOMING SPEECH  
VICE-CHANCELLOR  
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA  
PROF. DATUK TS. DR. AHMAD FAUZI ISMAIL**

**OPENING CEREMONY OF REGIONAL CONGRESS  
ON MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY 2020 AND  
REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL  
ENGINEERING  
(RCOM 2020 & RCEnvE 2020).**

**16-17<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021**

**VIRTUAL PLATFORM**

Assalamualaikum w.b.t. and a very good morning,

Alhamdulillah, with the grace of Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala, we are gathered here, albeit virtually, for the Regional Congress on Membrane Technology 2020 and the Regional Conference on Environmental Engineering (RCOM 2020 & RCEnvE 2020).

First, it is my pleasure to welcome all of you to join the virtual programme by UTM. Advanced Membrane Technology Research Center (AMTEC), UTM is delighted to host the Regional Congress on Membrane Technology 2020 and Regional Conference on Environmental Engineering (RCOM 2020 & RCEnvE 2020).

Congratulations from the bottom of my heart to the committee led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Juhana Jaafar and her team for organizing this event despite the COVID-19 pandemic that caused an unprecedented disruption to the teaching and learning. It is important that the building sustainability dialogue continues. The pandemic has revealed the need for an approach that goes beyond national borders to strengthen regional integration based on Science and Technology systems that are linked among countries.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

UTM is actively involved in R&D activities and is considered to be among the top universities in Malaysia, especially in the field of technology and engineering. We totally support and encourage the research and development activities. Therefore, I believe RCOM 2020 is an excellent effort by AMTEC in providing the important platform for discussions and knowledge sharing by all its attendees to enhance and develop our own research ideas.

RCOM 2020 & RCEnvE 2020 on the theme, “Enhancing Translational Research Towards Sustainable Environmental Technology” aims to spur innovative ideas in membrane science and technology for inclusive and sustainable development. The objectives of the conference reflect today’s environmental challenges and issues by focussing on the significance of research and innovations so that it can be realistically implemented.

I sincerely hope that this conference will bring together experts and technologists both locally and internationally to not only establish rapport and forge closer ties in your respective fields, but more importantly to share insights on the vast opportunities this technology has in store for all of us, just waiting to be further harnessed and enhanced. I wish participants could obtain great inputs from plenary sessions and joining in the discussion during the break out session.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the president of MyMembrane, I also would like to welcome you to join us in Malaysian Membrane Society to enrich knowledge and application in membrane technology. As part of the recognition to the efforts and outputs in research, development and innovation activities, the objective of this society is to promote activities in membrane science and technology in Malaysia. We have been actively involved in translational research that has a positive impact to the community. This is to ensure that the outcome of the research can be a solution to the national and global issues. I strongly believe that this contributes significantly not only to those involved in academia and research but also to industries and the general public who would be the ultimate end users.

I am confident that this conference will be an enriching experience for all of you. I would like to wish all delegates a fruitful and rewarding conference.

I wish the congress a complete success!

Thank you.