SPEECH

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VIRTUAL SIGNING CEREMONY OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT COLLABORATION ON MANUFACTURING & COMMERCIALIZATION OF MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY FOR HAEMODIALYSIS, WATER & WASTEWATER TREATMENT

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

الحمد لله رب العالمين

والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلي

وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين.

Honourable Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad

Minister Of Higher Education

Honourable Dato' Dr. Ir. Ts. Hj. Mohd Abdul Karim bin Abdullah

Group Managing Director and CEO of Serba Dinamik Group Berhad

Honourable Prof. Dato' Dr Husaini bin Omar

Director General, Ministry of Higher Education

Honourable Dato' Haji Ismail bin Karim

Member of UTM Board of Directors

Senior Officers and Management Representatives from Serba Dinamik Group Berhad and UTM,

Members of the Media, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Alhamdulillah, let us together express our deepest gratitude to Allah SWT because with His blessings and permission, we are able to attend the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) Signing Ceremony between Serba Dinamik Group Berhad (SDGB) and Membrane Technology (M) Sdn Bhd (MTMSB) in today's event even virtually with the new Norms & SOP.

2. It is a great honour for me to be here with you on this occasion of the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on "Development and Manufacturing of Hemodialysis for Blood Purification and Development and Manufacturing of Membrane Technology for Water and Wastewater Treatment". This MOA commits us to work together more closely towards our common goal, the pursuit of the membrane manufacturing and commercialization. At this moment of celebration, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to everyone whose dedication and efforts have contributed to the finalisation of this MOA.

3. In particular, I would like to thank YBhg. Dato Ir. Ts. Dr. Mohd Abdul Karim bin Abdullah, Serba Dinamik Group Berhad (SDGB) Managing Director and Group CeO and his many colleagues. Their vision, insights, trust, goodwill and cooperation have made this MOA signatory a reality. This can be found in the Serba Dinamik motto “Think Globally, Act Locally”.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

4. For your information, the collaboration between both parties started in late 2018 during the meeting and visit by YBhg. Dato Ir. Ts. Dr. Mohd Abdul Karim bin Abdullah and team to Advanced Membrane Technology Research Centre (AMTEC) UTM. Throughout the visit, the SDGB expressed its intention to collaborate in further developing industrial-scale membrane manufacturing and development technology for hemodialysis membranes, water treatment and wastewater treatment. To be honest, the market demand potential of these 2 products is huge especially globally. Treated and clean water have always been the earth's most valuable resources. All ecosystems

and every field of human activity depend on water. The world's supply of fresh water is becoming limited. Already one person out of five has no access to safe drinking water. The human race, and the other species which share the planet, cannot expect an infinite supply. Restricted resources of fresh water are always considered inadequate in the future due to population increase as well as expansion of urban and industrial developments.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

5. Membrane Technology (M) Sdn. Bhd. (MTMSB) was established in 2010 at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia under the UTM-MTDC Symbiosis Program. MTMSB was formed to carry out new technology commercialization activities and manufacturing in membrane technology for water & waste water treatment.

6. Currently, MTMSB has successfully developed and supplied 68 units of Mobile Integrated Water Purification System for natural disaster areas and school in the

remote area in Sarawak, Sabah, Pahang, Kelantan & Perak. For your information, there are about 650 schools in Malaysia that have problem with the treated clean water supply in total. The project is carried out in phases. The next phase for 100 schools will be carried out in 2022 and 2023.

7. MTMSB has also successfully developed the first Malaysian Seawater Desalination Treatment System in Bachok Kelantan. We also successfully developed and supplied Pilot Scale Seawater Desalination for Army Base in Pulau Berhala Sabah. Both systems are using seawater as water sources. This shows that we cannot be too dependent on rivers and dams as the water sources for treated water supply consumption.

8. MTMSB also has been appointed as the technical consultant on the Minimum Functional Specification (MFS) by MALAKOFF Corporation for the proposed Desalination Plant using Membrane Technology in Tanjung Bin Power Plant. MALAKOFF intends to use a

membrane desalination system with a capacity of 2880m3/day for daily use.

Ladies & Gentlemen,

9. Did you know that in 10 years of growth, the number of patients for kidney failure disease has increased rapidly from 15,080 in 2006 to 38,157 in 2016. The recent statistics from the National Kidney Foundation Malaysia reveals worrying figures where kidney failure disease in the country is increasing at an alarming rate with over 4,000 Malaysians being diagnosed every year. The potential for this situation to increase next year for high demand for better haemodialysis treatment in terms of high flux and short time needed for the process of haemodialysis is possible.

10. In Malaysia, all hospitals and haemodialysis centres obtain the supply of haemodialysers from different locally authorised distributors. Usually, the hemodialysers are imported from Germany and Japan, where famous brands like Fresenius and Nipro are the favourites among

other brands endorsed by the Ministry of Health Malaysia. To date, we have no local manufacturer or supplier for haemodialyser. Therefore, we have started our research on developing membrane for hemodialysis in 2015 and to date based on our bench work data, the fabricated novel hollow fibre membrane possessed excellent separation and antifouling properties with reference to the commercial membranes and has a bright potential to be featured in haemodialysis treatment.

11. In closing, I would like to say that I am confident that through our efforts and commitment, we will be able to achieve more and to be able to continue to develop even stronger relationships and friendships between SDGB & MTMSB in our future endeavour. In Sya Allah.

Thank you for your support.

وبِالله التوفيقُ والهداية،

والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته