

OPENING REMARKS
BY
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SEA TRANSPORTATION
AT
THE 12TH CO-OPERATION FORUM

Semarang, 30 November 2019

Excellencies,
Distinguished Heads of Delegation of the Littoral States,
Distinguished Delegates from user states and other related
stakeholders,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Very Good morning,

First of all, let us thank God the Almighty for His blessing and mercy so that we could gather here for the 12th Cooperation Forum. Personally and as the Head of Delegation of host country, I would like to welcome you all to Semarang, the smiling city. Hope you can explore the city and find more smiling experience here.

I would also like to convey gratitude and sincere appreciation to delegates of littoral States, to Madam Quah Ley Hoon and other Singaporean delegates and to Dato' Baharin bin Dato Abdul Hamid and other Malaysian delegates. My gratitude and sincere appreciation also goes to other delegates from Users Straits and stakeholders that I cannot mention one by one. In the busy schedule you have, you still allocate your time to participate in this Forum.

In this earlier morning, we witnessed the awarding of token appreciation to the Malacca Strait Council (MSC), Japan. I believe that such kind of continuous support to the Littoral States through activities and joint works for 50 years now is something we should highly appreciated. I would like to thank MSC for that and look forward to working closely in the future.

**Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

As you may have known that this Forum is the main avenue for user States, the shipping industry and other stakeholders to meet and hold open discussion with the littoral States of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, Straits recognized as one of the most significant shipping routes in the world. Through this platform, we can promote general dialogue and exchange of views on issues of common interest in the Straits.

Furthermore, when I see the material to be tabled and all delegates present here, I'm sure that many challenges before us, in terms of keeping the Straits safe, open and clean to international shipping, can be sorted out. E-navigation, implementation of TSS in Lombok Strait and Sunda Strait, sulphur cap 2020, marine plastic debris, are some issues for us to discuss further.

My sincere hope that through this meeting, where we share experience, views and best practices, we may come up with insightful and beneficial way forward to the safe and eco-friendly sustainability of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore as an international straits.

May God bless our efforts. Thank you.

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SEA TRANSPORTATION

AGUS R. PURNOMO