

OFFICIATING SPEECH

Yang Berbahagia
Professor Datuk Dr Hajah Roziah Mohd Janor
Vice-Chancellor
Universiti Teknologi MARA

**The 6th ISM International Statistical Conference
(ISM-6 2023)**

19 September 2023

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Eminent guests:

Associate Professor Dr Arief Gusnanto
University of Leeds, United Kingdom

Professor Dr Hizir Sofyan
Universitas Syiah Kuala, Banda Aceh, Indonesia

Yang Berbahagia
Professor Dr Habsah Midi
President of Malaysian Institute of Statistics (ISMy)

Yang Berbahagia
Professor Ts. Dr Haryani Haron
Assistant Vice-Chancellor
College of Computing, Informatics, and Mathematics
(CCIM) UiTM

Yang Berbahagia

**Prof Madya Ts. Dr Ahmad Zia Ul-Saufie Mohamad
Japeri**

Head of Study for the Centre of Mathematical Sciences,
College of Computing, Informatics, and Mathematics
(CCIM) UiTM

Yang Berusaha

Dr Norshahida Shaadan

Chair of the 6th ISM International Statistical Conference

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Salutations

(To be confirmed by the organiser on the day of the event)

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Salam Sejahtera. Good morning to everyone.

1. Alhamdulillah, praise be to Allah S.W.T, the Most Gracious and Most Merciful, for His blessings which have made it possible for us to gather at this memorable event.
2. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our distinguished local and international speakers,

participants, and guests to the **6th ISM International Statistical Conference (ISM-6 2023)**, hosted by **Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM)** and co-organised by the **Malaysian Institute of Statistics (ISMy)**.

3. Congratulations all around for the successful coordination and organisation of this conference. Your diligence and dedication are truly commendable.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. The ISM International Statistical Conference is a flagship event of the Malaysian Institute of Statistics (ISMy), hosted alternately by Malaysia's public and private universities every two years.
5. The first ISM international conference – **ISM-1** – was conducted in **2012** at **Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)** while other **ISMy** meetings were previously hosted by **Universiti Malaysia Pahang**

(UMP), Universiti Malaya (UM), and Sunway University.

6. This year, the 6th statistical conference makes its way to Shah Alam, where Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) plays host to this prestigious event.
7. With the theme "**Empowering Statistical Science and Analytics Through Research and Innovation**", the conference assembles academics comprising established and new researchers from all over the world to disseminate current research on various statistical topics.
8. **ISM-6 2023** will serve as a platform to foster meaningful statistical discussions among researchers and practitioners, **establishing a strong global network within the statistical community** and **enhancing statistical literacy** to address emerging challenges in data-related new norm scenarios for individuals and decision-makers.

Ladies and gentlemen,

9. Amidst the growing demand for skilled professionals in data-driven projects, the term "**data scientist**" has gained prominence.
10. Consequently, universities must prioritise fostering adept data scientists proficient in efficient, inter-operable tools for data analysis and organisation.
11. This necessitates transforming statistics and data science courses to prioritise practical applications over theory.
12. Graduates should accordingly gain hands-on experience through capstone projects and programming skills.
13. Alongside technical proficiency, a well-rounded education should encompass communication, curiosity, business acumen, and teamwork which ensure graduates excel in data science and statistics.

14. In this context, **ISM-6 2023** acts as a catalyst, spurring innovative approaches to big data and statistical applications through idea exchange, propelling ground-breaking advancements.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

15. The conference promises a plethora of enriching ideas and insightful exchanges, fostering a collaborative environment where we can learn abundantly from each other.

16. Hence, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the numerous experts who generously shared their knowledge during this conference, shedding light on pivotal and captivating subjects like **Big Data and Analytics, Statistical Modelling, and Applied Statistics.**

17. I also would like to thank all our sponsors, the **Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM),** and

SAS Malaysia for their kind consideration and cooperation in making the ISM-6 conference a success.

18. I believe that the successful outcome of a conference also hinges greatly upon the exceptional papers presented by our distinguished keynote and plenary speakers. Thus, we convey our deepest gratitude to all authors for their significant and invaluable contributions.
19. Lastly, I extend my sincere appreciation to the dedicated and enthusiastic committee members and everyone else who has contributed to the making of this event. May Allah S.W.T bestow abundant rewards upon you for your persistent efforts.
20. My best wishes to everyone and may you have a delightful and worthwhile experience at **ISM-6**.

**On that note, and in the name of Allah,
the Most Beneficent and Most Merciful,**

**I hereby officiate,
The 6th ISM International Statistical Conference
2023.**

Thank you.

**Wabillahi Taufiq Walhidayah Wassalamualaikum
Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.**