WELCOME SPEECH

Yang Berbahagia Professor Datuk Dr Shahrin Sahib @ Sahibuddin, FASc Vice-Chancellor Universiti Teknologi MARA

Signing Ceremony Memorandum of Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding between Universiti Teknologi MARA and Salihin Academy (SA), The Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA), The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), and The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)

22 March 2024

لمرتبَّهِ آلرَّجْمَدِ الرَّحِ

Esteemed guests from Salihin Academy, MICPA, ACCA, and ICAEW:

Yang Berbahagia Dato Gan Ah Tee

President Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA)

Yang Berusaha

Dr Salihin Abang

Founder and Group Managing Partner of Salihin Academy

Yang Berusaha Encik Ang Wen How

Education Relationships Lead – ACCA Maritime Southeast Asia Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

Yang Berusaha Cik Shenola Gonzales

Head of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales (ICAEW), Malaysia

UiTM management and colleagues:

Yang Berusaha

Professor Dr Haslinda Yusoff

Dean of the Faculty of Accountancy

Faculty members

Distinguished guests, ladies, and gentlemen

Salutations (to be confirmed by the organiser on the day of the event)

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh. Salam Sejahtera. Good morning, everyone.

- Alhamdulillah, we thank Allah SWT for His grace and blessings, which have allowed us to assemble on this auspicious day to witness the beginning of an essential collaborative endeavour.
- 2. A very warm welcome and *Selamat Datang* to all eminent guests to the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) and the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) and Salihin Academy (SA), the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), the Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA), and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW).

 I am delighted and honoured to be here this morning to commemorate another important venture for UiTM and the opportunity to create more meaningful relationships with the industry.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- UiTM is cognisant of the stature and reputation of these four distinguished professional organisations with which we are poised to formalise an alliance today.
- Salihin Academy has a strong reputation as the largest and leading homegrown solution provider in Malaysia.
- Beginning as an audit firm with one partner, Salihin Academy has become a network of independent firms with more than 500 directors, consultants, and professionals across their local and international offices.

- 7. The Faculty of Accountancy UiTM is pleased with Salihin Academy's active engagement and support, as shown through its offering of internship opportunities and student ambassadorship programmes.
- 8. The alliance we establish today will also broaden the collaboration between UiTM and three professional bodies: **MICPA, ACCA, and ICAEW**.
- 9. This collaboration entails allowing UiTM to be recognised as a tuition provider to conduct professional programmes in UiTM Selangor and other campuses and allowing UiTM accounting students to enjoy the freedom to pursue their preferred professional programme.
- 10. Our longstanding relationships with these reputable entities and the alliance forged today will strengthen the existing strategic partnerships and lead to stronger connections.

- 11. These connections will provide students with valuable networking opportunities, insights into the latest trends and developments in the field, and enhanced production of professional accountants.
- 12. Correspondingly, UiTM has earned its place by providing the highest quality of education for Malaysians, many of whom now hold leadership roles locally and around the world.
- 13. As Malaysia's sole public university offering fullfledged professional programmes, UiTM has proven its capabilities to provide more comprehensive learning access towards producing globally competent Bumiputera professional accountants.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

 Future challenges cannot be addressed in isolation.
 Hence, UiTM must build cooperative and strategic partnerships with the industries as a dynamic higher learning institution that is steadfast in sustaining the quality of its academic programmes and graduates.

- 15. We also acknowledge the profound impact collaboration between industries and universities can have on society and the economy.
- 16. Thus, I am confident in this collaborative undertaking and look forward to its outcomes and benefits for the parties involved and society.
- 17. I anticipate the wonderful possibilities involving approximately 13,000 UiTM Accounting students nationwide to fulfil global market demands and, most importantly, ensure **Quality Education** and attain **Global Excellence.**
- 18. The event today establishes partnerships and creates a catalyst for progress and prosperity. So, let us continue to nurture and strengthen this alliance for the betterment of all.

- 19. Before ending my speech, I would like to thank all parties involved for initiating and working tirelessly toward this partnership.
- I am most grateful to our four esteemed partners,
 Salihin Academy, MICPA, ACCA, and ICAEW, for agreeing to join forces with UiTM.
- Congratulations and my best wishes to all embarking on this endeavour. I look forward to the successful implementation of the MoA and MoU.

Thank you.

Wabillahi Taufiq Walhidayah Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.