

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS/SPEECH BY PRESIDENT, FA OF
MALAYSIA (FAM), YH DATO' HAJI HAMIDIN MOHD AMIN,
IN CONJUNCTION WITH FAM'S 54TH CONGRESS ON JULY
14, 2018**

BISMILLAHIRRAHMANNIRRAHIM,

**HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS MEJAR JENERAL TUNKU ISMAIL
IBNI SULTAN IBRAHIM, TUNKU MAHKOTA JOHOR –
DISTINGUISHED GUEST OF HONOUR AND CHAIRMAN OF
MALAYSIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE (MFL),**

AMPUN TUANKU,

**PLEASE ALLOW PATIK TO DELIVER THIS SPEECH IN
CONJUNCTION WITH FAM'S 54TH CONGRESS TODAY.**

**YBHG DATUK WIRA MOHD YUSOFF BIN HAJI MAHADI,
DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF FAM,**

**YBHG DATO' SRI SUBAHAN BIN KAMAL, DEPUTY
PRESIDENT OF FAM,**

**VICE-PRESIDENTS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
FOR THE TERM 2017-2021,**

DELEGATES FROM FAM AFFILIATES,

**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS OF HONOUR, PARTICULARLY
THOSE FROM FIFA, AFC, AFF**

**GUESTS FROM THE OLYMPIC COUNCIL OF MALAYSIA
(OCM),**

**YBHG SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE YOUTH AND
SPORTS MINISTRY,**

**YBHG DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NATIONAL SPORTS
COUNCIL,**

YBHG SPORTS COMMISSIONER,

**YBHG CHAIRMAN OF NATIONAL SPORTS INSTITUTE
(ISN),**

**REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR PARTNERS AND
SPONSORS, TELEKOM MALAYSIA, 100 PLUS, BANK
ISLAM, NIKE, YAKULT AND BANK RAKYAT,**

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA,

OBSERVERS,

MEMBERS OF THE FAM SECRETARIAT,

DATO'-DATO',

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

ASSALAMUALAIKUM WBT,

A VERY GOOD MORNING AND A WARM WELCOME,

- 1. ALL PRAISE AND THANKS BE TO ALLAH
SUBHANALLAHU TAALA FOR UPON HIS BLESSINGS
AND GRACE, THE CONGRESS HAS GONE DOWN
SMOOTHLY AND SUCCESSFULLY. I WISH TO
EXPRESS MY HIGHEST GRATITUDE TO ALL FAM
AFFILIATES AND THE DELEGATES FOR HAVING THE
FAITH IN ME TO PRESIDE OVER FAM UNTIL THE END
OF THE TERM IN 2021.**
- 2. INTERESTINGLY, THE PROCESS WAS DONE IN A
SMOOTH MANNER, FREE FROM THE SHACKLES OF
THE USUAL POLITICS AND AFFILIATION. HOWEVER I
TAKE THIS RESPONSIBILITY WITH MIXED
EMOTIONS. ON ONE HAND, I FEEL MY
APPOINTMENT AS THE SUCCESSOR TO HIS ROYAL**

HIGHNESS MEJAR JENERAL TUNKU ISMAIL IBNI SULTAN IBRAHIM AS A HUGE HONOUR BUT ON THE OTHER, IT IS A MASSIVE RESPONSIBILITY ON MY SHOULDERS.ON BEHALF OF FAM, I WISH TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS MEJAR JENERAL TUNKU MAHKOTA JOHOR, AS EX PRESIDENT OF FAM, FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION AND SERVICES THROUGHOUT HIS HIGHNESS' TERM. I ALSO WISH TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE JDT AND HIS HIGHNESS TUNKU MAHKOTA AS OWNER OF THE TEAM FOR WINNING THE SUPER LEAGUE FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE TIME. HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS, TUANKU.

- 3. IT HAS BEEN MORE THAN SEVEN DECADES SINCE TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL HAJ WAS INSTALLED AS THE FIRST MALAYSIAN PRESIDENT OF FAM, TAKING OVER FROM DR. C.P. RAWSON WHO WAS AT THAT TIME THE CHIEF SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER OF THE FEDERATION OF MALAYA IN 1951.**
- 4. LOOKING AT THE LIST OF FORMER PRESIDENTS, I FEEL INTIMIDATED WHEN I REALISE I WOULD BE THE FIRST PRESIDENT AMONG THE COMMON MEN, EITHER PRE OR POST WORLD WAR 2, TO BE HOLDING THE POSITION WITHOUT HAVING ANY POLITICAL INFLUENCE.**
- 5. HISTORY SUGGESTS MALAYSIA WERE ONCE A RESPECTED FOOTBALLING NATION – FROM THE**

1950s RIGHT UP TO THE 1980s, WHERE MALAYSIA BAGGED THE BRONZE MEDAL IN THE 1962 AND 1974 ASIAN GAMES, AND QUALIFIED ON MERIT FOR THE ASIAN AFC CUP ON TWO OCCASIONS – 1976 AND 1980. IN ORDER TO MAKE THE MOVE FORWARD, IT DOES US NO HARM IN TAKING A RETROSPECTIVE LOOK.

6. BASED ON THE PRESENT SCENARIO, A HUGE TASK AWAITS ME FOR THE TERM 2018-2021. EVEN BEFORE I ASSUME THIS POST, CYNICS SUGGEST I AM MERELY WARMING THE SEAT, OR A PUPPET IN THE SCHEME OF THINGS. THEY SAY I AM MERELY DANCING TO THE TUNE OF THE PUPPETMASTER.DATO'-DATO', LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,REST ASSURED I DO NOT WISH TO BE A PAWN IN ANYONE'S GAME. HOWEVER DO PRAY THAT I AM GIVEN THE STRENGTH TO THINK AND WORK FOR FAM FOR THE SAKE OF FOOTBALL AND TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE STAKEHOLDERS.

7. DEAR COLLEAGUES AND FELLOW FOOTBALL PRACTITIONERS, MALAYSIAN FOOTBALL HAS BEEN PLAGUED BY VARIOUS ISSUES AND WHENEVER FAM IS INVOLVED, IT USUALLY COMES WITH ALL SORTS OF PERCEPTIONS AND PREJUDICES. ASSUMPTIONS MADE BY FANS, PRACTITIONERS, WHETHER OR NOT THEY WERE MADE ON SOCIAL MEDIA OR ANY OTHER PLATFORMS, HAVE TO BE TAKEN IN OUR STRIDE. THEIR CRITICISM STEMS OUT OF THEIR CONCERN, BECAUSE THEY CARE. THEY CARE OF THE FUTURE OF MALAYSIAN FOOTBALL.

- 8. AS I HAVE OUTLINED IN MY HOPE AND ASPIRATION, FIVE CORE SUBJECTS DIVIDED INTO 30 SEPARATE ELEMENTS WILL BE THE THRUST OF MY PRESIDENCY. WHILE FOOTBALL HAS SEEN A SERIES OF REFORMS ON A GLOBAL SCALE, FAM MUST UNDERGO THE SAME PROCESS. I PLEDGE TO IMPLEMENT STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN FAM OPERATIONS AIMED AT GOOD GOVERNANCE AND TRANSPARENCY, AS PER MY ELABORATION UNDER THE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION COMPONENT WHICH IS TO IMBUE EIGHT ELEMENTS INTO THE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF FAM.**
- 9. AMONG THE CHANGES WHICH I BELIEVE WILL ALTER FAM'S DIRECTION IS THE CLEAR SEPARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY BETWEEN THE POLICYMAKERS OR EXCO AND A PERMANENT COMMITTEE AT EXECUTORS' LEVEL WHICH IS THE SECRETARIAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BEST PRACTICES OF FIFA AND AFC. THE PRINCIPLE OF SEPARATION OF POWERS NEEDS TO BE UPHELD AND RESPECTED.**
- 10. THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE DOMESTIC GAME HAS TO BE EXTENDED AND THE IDEA OF A BALANCED AND FAIR FAM, THROUGH ITS EXCO, REQUIRES IMPLEMENTATION, RATHER THAN MERE LIP SERVICE. THEREFORE A REVIEW OF THE FAM STATUTE HAS TO BE EXPEDITED. ALSO I WISH TO MAKE THE NEW FAM HEADQUARTERS AND NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE IN PUTRAJAYA AS A KEY INITIATIVE.**

- 11. SPEAKING OF INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES AND DEVELOPMENT, THE GAME ITSELF MUST REMAIN AS OUR TOP PRIORITY. THE DREAM OF REDISCOVERING PAST GLORIES HAS TO BE REALISED. A COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED PLAN HAS TO BE DRAFTED AND I HAVE INSTRUCTED OUR TECHNICAL DIRECTOR TO COME UP WITH SEVERAL MEASURES UP TO 2030. NOW IS THE TIME TO SET THE BAR HIGH AND BE PREPARED FOR ITS CONSEQUENCES. TO REMAIN IN A COMFORT ZONE IS NO LONGER AN OPTION, AFTER ALL THERE ARE NO GAINS WITHOUT PAINS.**
- 12. SUCCESS AT AFF SUZUKI CUP AND SEA GAMES CAN NO LONGER BE THE BENCHMARK, BUT INSTEAD QUALIFYING FOR THE ASIAN AFC CUP, THE OLYMPIC GAMES AND BE AMONG THE TOP EIGHT NATIONS IN THE ASIAN GAMES AS WELL AS ADVANCING TO THE FIFA AGE GROUP TOURNAMENTS SHALL BE THE ULTIMATE MISSION. ALL THESE SHALL BE OUTLINED IN THE ROAD MAP OR VISION AND MISSION WHICH WILL BE DECLARED BY THE YEAR END. IT WILL BE DOCUMENTED AND PUBLISHED ONCE THE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR AND RELEVANT COMMITTEE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS OF OUR STAKEHOLDERS.**
- 13. I PERSONALLY WILL MAKE SURE THAT THE VIEWS OF OUR STAKEHOLDERS ARE SOUGHT. I ALSO WISH TO LOOK INTO OTHER DEVELOPMENT COMPONENTS, INCLUDING CAPACITY BUILDING.**

14. OF LATE WE HAVE SEEN INTENSE DEBATE ON THE STANDARD OF REFEREEING. ISSUES SURROUNDING THEIR DECISION-MAKING ON THE PITCH HAVE AFFECTED FAM. IN FACT THE STANDARD OF REFEREEING HAS ALWAYS BEEN DISCUSSED AT EXCO LEVEL. TO THIS END WE SHALL EXPEDITE THE LAUNCHING OF THE PROFESSIONAL REFEREES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, WHEREBY EIGHT TOP REFEREES WOULD BE RECRUITED FOR A START IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. A COMPLETE SYLLABUS ON THE BASIC EDUCATION OF A PROFESSIONAL REFEREE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BEST PRACTICES OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WILL BE INTRODUCED.

15. DEAR FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES AND FELLOW FOOTBALL ENTHUSIASTS, WE SHALL ACCEPT THE FACT EXPERTISE AND KNOW-HOW ARE CRUCIAL IN FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT. KNOWLEDGE AND KNOW-HOW IN MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION PARTICULARLY AT STATE AND AFFILIATE LEVEL ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF A COMPETENT NATIONAL BODY. HISTORY HAS SHOWN FAM AS THE PROGENITOR OF A POOL OF FOOTBALL ADMINISTRATORS OF GREAT REPUTE, SUCH AS DATO' PETER VELAPPAN, THE LATE DATO' PAUL MONY SAMUEL, DATO' DELL AKHBAR KHAN, DATO' ALEX SOOSAY AND DATO' WINDSOR JOHN WHO WERE NURTURED THROUGH THE FAM SYSTEM. IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN THIS PROUD TRADITION AND CULTURE, CAPACITY BUILDING

SHALL BE EXPANDED TO ALL LEVELS BY A SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT WILL BE DRAFTED BY FAM WITH THE COLLABORATION OF FIFA AND AFC. IT IS MY DREAM TO CREATE A BIGGER POOL OF ADMINISTRATORS, COMPETITION MANAGERS, FINANCE MANAGERS, MATCH COMMISSIONERS AND ET CETERA AS ANOTHER AVENUE IN ENHANCING THE COUNTRY'S IMAGE.

16. BUT THAT SHOULD NOT BE OUR ONLY SOURCE OF PRIDE. ULTIMATELY FAM WILL BE JUDGED BY THE PERFORMANCE OF THE NATIONAL TEAM. WE CANNOT ESCAPE FROM TOUCHING ON THE BEST DEVELOPMENT ASPECTS WHICH REQUIRE A SUSTAINABLE, SYSTEMATIC AND INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. FOCUS ON GRASSROOTS INVOLVING MALAYSIANS BELOW 12 YEARS OF AGE WILL BE OUR PRIORITY THROUGH THE VARIOUS PROGRAMS UNDER THE NEW FAM GRASSROOT CHARTER. THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE YOUTH AND SPORTS MINISTRY THROUGH THE NFDP WILL BE FURTHER ENHANCED, AS WELL AS THE EXISTING COLLABORATION WITH THE EDUCATION MINISTRY.

17. DEAR COLLEAGUES, WE ARE STILL GRIPPED BY WORLD CUP FEVER. AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE FINAL BETWEEN FRANCE AND CROATIA TOMORROW NIGHT, WE SALUTE THE PERFORMANCE OF OUR FELLOW ASIANS – JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA, IRAN, SAUDI ARABIA AND AUSTRALIA – AS THE FIVE REPRESENTATIVES FROM ASIA TO RUSSIA 2018. WE REALISE

COACHING EDUCATION IS KEY TO EXPOSE OUR KIDS TO THE RIGHT BASICS OF THE GAME. AS OF NOW, WE HAVE 12 PRO LICENSE COACHES, 81 A LICENCE COACHES, 373 WHO POSSESS B LICENCE AND 1,177 C LICENSE HOLDERS. THE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR WILL CONDUCT A BRAINSTORMING SESSION WITH STAKEHOLDERS SUCH AS THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION IN IDENTIFYING THE BEST WAY OF RAISING THE STANDARD OF COACHING, INCLUDING IMPOSING A STRICTER GUIDELINES TO OUT COACHES SO THAT OUR KIDS AS YOUNG AS THREE-YEAR OLDS ARE EXPOSED TO THE RIGHT COACHING CULTURE. WE ARE FULLY AWARE THAT FRANCE AND CROATIA AS WELL AS THE ASIAN GIANTS HAVE A MYRIAD OF RECIPES IN DEVELOPING GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL THAT CAN BE MADE AS A POINT OF REFERENCE.

18. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AS WE MOVE FORWARD, WE CONTINUE TO BE PLAGUED BY ISSUES SURROUNDING THE WELFARE OF OUR PLAYERS. UNPAID SALARIES CONTINUE TO BE THE BANE OF OUR GAME. DO REMEMBER, WITHOUT THE PLAYERS, WE ARE NOTHING. TO THIS END, I WISH TO HAVE A STRATEGIC CO-OPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AS WELL AS IMPOSING A MUCH STRICTER SET OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS BEFORE A NEW TEAM IS ACCEPTED TO PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL COMPETITIONS.

19. BEFORE I END THIS SPEECH, ALLOW ME TO REITERATE THE THREE ELEMENTS THAT WILL BE

**MY IMMEDIATE FOCUS AND PRIORITY AS
PRESIDENT.**

**i) THE PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS OF THE
NATIONAL TEAM**

**ii) GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING NFDP AND
PROGRAMS WITH THE EDUCATION MINISTRY**

**iii) GENERATING A STABLE SOURCE OF INCOME IN
CREATING FINANCIAL STABILITY IN ORDER TO MAKE
THAT LEAP.**

**FOOTBALL HAS GLOBAL REACH AND MAGNITUDE,
THUS, WE MUST DO OUR UTMOST TO ENSURE THAT
THE SPORT AND THE INDUSTRY ARE ALWAYS SEEN
IN A POSITIVE LIGHT. IF WE WERE TO REMAIN ON
THE CENTRESTAGE, I URGE ALL OF US TO ASSUME
RESPONSIBILITY AND ROLE AS A TEAM WITH
DILIGENCE, PASSION AND COMMON RESPECT. LET
TODAY REGISTER ANOTHER POSITIVE CHAPTER IN
THE LONG HISTORY OF OUR BELOVED SPORT!**

**20. WABILLAHİ TAUFİQ WAL-HİDAYAH
WASSALAMUALAIKUM WARAHMATULLAHİ
WABARAKATUH**