

TEKS UCAPAN

NIK NAZMI NIK AHMAD MENTERI SUMBER ASLI DAN KELESTARIAN ALAM (DIBACAKAN OLEH YBHG. DATO' ABDUL KADIR BIN ABU HASHIM, KETUA PENGARAH JABATAN PERHILITAN)

SEMPENA

7TH SOCIETY FOR WILDLIFE FORENSIC SCIENCE 2024 CONFERENCE AND MEETING

24 JUN 2024 (ISNIN)

ROYALE CHULAN HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR Terima Kasih Saudara dan Saudari Pengacara Majlis.

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh, Salam Sejahtera dan Salam Malaysia Madani

YANG BERBAHAGIA TAN SRI RAZARUDIN BIN HUSAIN Inspector General of the Royal Malaysia Police

YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO' ANIS RIZANA BINTI MOHD ZAINUDIN @ MOHD ZAINUDDIN Director General, Royal Malaysian Customs Department

MADAM TASHA BAUMAN Acting President, Society for Wildlife Forensic Science

DR. ROB OGDEN

Programme Director TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network

Dif-dif jemputan

Yang Berbahagia Datuk/ Dato'/ Tuan-Tuan/Puan-Puan yang saya hormati sekalian,

PENGENALAN

- Alhamdulillah, syukur ke hadrat Allah SWT kerana dengan izin-Nya kita dapat berada dalam Majlis Perasmian the 7th Society for Wildlife Forensic Science 2024 Conference and Meeting.
- 2. Sukacita saya menyampaikan salam Yang Berhormat Menteri Sumber Asli dan Kelestarian Alam kerana tidak dapat hadir ke persidangan dan mesyuarat ini yang menjadi platform penting untuk berkongsi idea dan amalan terbaik dalam menangani isu-isu jenayah hidupan liar.
- Seterusnya, saya akan meneruskan ucapan saya dalam Bahasa Inggeris memandangkan persidangan dan mesyuarat yang bermula pada hari ini hingga 26 Jun 2024 turut dihadiri oleh lebih 100 orang peserta dari 27 buah negara.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. First and foremost, the Honourable Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability extends his warmest regards, and expresses regret for not being able to attend in person today due to an equally important commitment. It is also an honour for me to represent the Honourable Minister at this conference and meeting.

- 5. On behalf of the Government of Malaysia, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our speakers and participants from abroad, or 'Selamat Datang' to Malaysia, one of the world's 17 richest biodiversity and 'biodiversity superpower', which holds at least 60 to 70% of the earth's species.
- I would also like to extend our deepest appreciation to SWFS for the honour of co-hosting the 7th Society for Wildlife Science Conference and Meeting 2024.
- 7. The gathering of such a distinguished group of researchers, investigators, and conservationists signifies the growing importance of forensic science in our fight to protect our planet's incredible biodiversity. I was informed that this is the inaugural SWFS Conference in Asia. The privilege given to Malaysia as the host for the SWFS Conference is a recognition of PERHILITAN and this country's involvement and contribution in the field of wildlife forensics at an international level.
- 8. PERHILITAN has established the National Wildlife Forensic Laboratory (NWFL) for over a decade. It is Southeast Asia's first dedicated wildlife forensic laboratory, and it has greatly assisted other countries in technical aspects and forensic analysis services. I am also pleased to know that NWFL has collaborated with SWFS to establish wildlife forensic standards.

Ladies and gentlemen,

- 9. The illegal wildlife trade is a nefarious enterprise. It threatens the survival of countless species, disrupts ecosystems, and fuels criminal networks. The poachers and wildlife traffickers who orchestrate this trade operate with a chilling disregard for the law and the natural world. This is where wildlife forensics steps in, acting as a powerful weapon in our arsenal. By harnessing the power of science, dedicated professionals in this field like you are providing crucial evidence to dismantle these criminal operations. DNA analysis, isotope profiling, and other techniques are helping us identify the origin of seized wildlife products, pinpoint trafficking routes, and ultimately, bring perpetrators to justice.
- 10. The impact of your work extends far beyond individual cases. Wildlife forensics is not just about solving crimes; it is about deterrence. Knowing that sophisticated forensic techniques are in use sends a powerful message to poachers and traffickers – that they cannot operate in secrecy and their crimes will face exposure.
- 11. However, the fight against wildlife crime is complex and requires a multifaceted approach; and collaboration is key. I believe this conference serves as a vital platform for knowledge sharing and fostering stronger partnerships between scientists, law enforcement agencies, policymakers, conservation and organisations across borders.

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- 12. By working together, we can leverage the power of wildlife forensics to its fullest potential. We can develop standardised protocols, share best practices, and ensure that this critical tool is accessible to all who need it.
- 13. I am confident that the discussions held over the next few days will be fruitful and lead to significant advancements in wildlife forensics. Let us use this opportunity to refine our strategies, strengthen our resolve, and emerge from this conference even more united in our fight to protect our precious wildlife heritage.

Ladies and gentlemen,

14. Henceforth, there is much to deliberate and implement. Therefore, on this note, and with *Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*, it gives me great pleasure to declare the '7th Society for Wildlife Forensic Science Conference and Meeting' officially open. Thank you and have a productive conference and meeting ahead.