

NATIONAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM 5 NOVEMBER 2015

President of the General Conference
President of the Executive Board
Madame Director-General

Excellencies, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1) Brunei Darussalam strongly supports the Sustainable Development Goal 4 which is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Brunei Darussalam believes that full access to quality education at all levels is an essential condition for accelerating progress towards the achievement of other sustainable development goals. In other words, sustainable development begins with education and UNESCO plays a major role in the implementation of the SDG4.

In the context of Brunei Darussalam, our priority areas on education are contained in our national vision known as Brunei Vision 2035. By 2035, we wish to see Brunei Darussalam to be recognized everywhere for the accomplishments of its well-educated and highly skilled people. We will seek to build a first class education system that provides opportunities for every citizen and resident to meet the requirements of our changing economy, and to encourage life-long learning as well as achievements in the field of sport and the arts.

The current Ministry of Education Strategic Plan 2012-2017 which has been formulated in line with the objectives of Brunei Vision 2035 has identified seven (7) Grand Initiatives which amongst others are Brunei Technical Education Transformation, Teacher Quality and Professionalism and Integrated National Education Information System.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The establishment of the Institute of Brunei Technical Education is Brunei's effort towards upgrading the

Technical and Vocational Education (TVE) system. It is an expansion of the technical stream in line with the demand of the technological and economic development and responds to the various government and industry initiatives. It involves collaborations with government and private industries to create innovative teaching and learning in order to produce skilled and competitive workforce. Through this transformation, access and opportunities for absorption into the Technical and Vocational Education are widened for those who are not eligible to further their studies or for those who have dropped out of school.

In addition to this, our Ministry of Education and the Energy Department of the Prime Minister's Office have also been working very closely with the Ministry of Communication in the setting up of the Brunei Maritime Academy (BMA). The goal of the academy's establishment is to produce professional maritime workforce and seafarers accredited by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and to meet the country's need for workforce in the maritime industry.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Other initiatives which relate to the transformation of Technical Education in Brunei Darussalam include Expanding Apprenticeship Options and upgrading Training Environment through the development of infrastructure to support more students.

In August 2014, the Ministry of Education of Brunei Darussalam has launched the Brunei Teachers' Standard in order to raise education standards and help teachers do their jobs even more effectively. Teachers are now provided with standards to help them reflect on their teaching practices and aspire towards providing high quality teaching and learning experiences for their students.

Another initiatives is the Integrated National Education Information System, in short, INEIS™; a centralized & integrated system for school administration, to be used by all Government schools. It is a One System for All where information of the progression of a student can be seen across all levels. INEIS Integrates all school administration information for every student in the government such as attendance, discipline records and assessment. Through INEIS, information is stored centrally, and that it would be readily accessible by authorized personnel. It will provide more collaboration, transparency, efficiency, better coordination and improve foresight.

Thank you for your kind attention.