



SPEECH

YB DATUK TS. MUSTAPHA SAKMUD
Deputy Minister of Higher Education

Launching Ceremony of 2024 Malaysia-China Youth Innovation Competition, Malaysia

Division Contest of China International College Students' Innovation Competition & Malaysia Division Contest of Chunhui Cup Competition

25 April 2024 (Thursday)
Xiamen University

Thank You Emcee's,

Assalamualaikum W.B.T and A Good
Morning!

Salam Malaysia Madani

Ni Hao!(Apa Khabar)

Zao Shang Hao! (Good Morning)

[SALUTATION]

1. It is a great honour to be invited to attend the 2024 Malaysia-China Youth Innovation Competition, Malaysia Division Contest of China International College Students' Innovation Competition and Malaysia Division Contest of Chunhui Cup Competition. Together, we witness this momentous occasion.
2. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and China. Malaysia regards China as one of the most important partners in higher education. In today's world, where

challenges are ever evolving, it's crucial to emphasize cooperation that transcends borders. We appreciate China's dedication to enhancing people-to-people exchanges and cooperation in higher education through bilateral efforts. Together, we must pool our resources and coordinate our endeavours in international education cooperation.

3. The founding of Xiamen University Malaysia (XMUM) marks a significant milestone in the friendship between Malaysia and China. As the first overseas branch campus from China,

XMUM strengthens educational cooperation and exchange between our nations. It provides students with a remarkable opportunity to understand the advancements in economics and technology happening in China firsthand. Currently, it has rapidly grown into an international educational hub, with an enrolment of over 7,500 students from 43 countries and regions. Among all, around 850 students are from countries other than Malaysia and China, and this number is expected to reach 2,000 by year 2026.

4. Not only focusing solely on teaching, XMUM has also achieved remarkable success in academic research. It was ranked 3rd among universities in Malaysia by the Nature Index in 2023. The rapid development and progress of XMUM reflect its ambition to become one of best universities in Malaysia, which not only produces high-quality talents with international competitiveness but also enriches Malaysia's tertiary education landscape. Currently, Malaysia hosts over 40,000 Chinese students. We are excited to open our doors wider and welcome even more outstanding

students from the Chinese Gaokao system to join Xiamen University Malaysia or other top-notch educational institutions in Malaysia. This will further contribute to the internationalization of higher education in Malaysia, a key thrust of the visionary roadmap for 2024 recently unveiled by the Minister of Higher Education.

5. The China-Malaysia Youth Innovation Competition, hosted by Xiamen University Malaysia, offers opportunities for youth around the globe to exchange ideas, collaborate

on innovative projects, and tap into their collective wisdom. Since its inception, it has attracted over 400 outstanding university students in Malaysia. These students have effectively integrated their academic knowledge with practical application, demonstrating their ambitions and skills. This synergy has led to the development of numerous exemplary projects leveraging cutting-edge technologies like mobile internet, cloud computing, big data, and artificial intelligence. These projects, born from the minds of our talented youth, hold the potential to shape industries,

transform communities, and inspire future generations.

6. Dear students, your ideas, your passion, and your determination are the driving forces behind a brighter and more prosperous future. I urge you to seize this opportunity, participate actively, collaborate fiercely, and dare to dream big.
7. I wish this competition great success, and I hope that all young participants achieve outstanding results.

Thank You! Xie Xie