



SPEECH TEXT
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OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY
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KSL ESPLANADE HOTEL
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APPROPRIATE SALUTATIONS...

1. All praise be to Allah SWT. It is by His grace and blessings that we are able to gather here today at the MARA International Education Conference 2026 (MIEC26), held in conjunction with the celebration of MARA's 60th Anniversary — a meaningful journey in nation-building and empowering Malaysia through excellence in education.
2. Six decades ago, MARA began with a clear vision. Upholding the trust of the masses, MARA has always remained people-centred, working tirelessly for the future of our nation's children. Today, MARA has grown into a key pillar of the national education ecosystem, and we have

witnessed thousands of success stories. Behind every success stand committed educators, dedicated administrators, and an education system that continues to evolve in line with the demands of the times.

3. First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the MARA Secondary Education Division for the successful organisation of this conference, involving more than 400 participants comprising MRSM educators, IPMa, Badan Permuafakatan MARA Malaysia (MUAFAKAT), ANSARA, as well as participants from other MARA divisions (BSM, BPT, BKT, AKM & BPS). Thank you to everyone for your continuous support and cooperation in ensuring the success of this programme, while simultaneously strengthening and future-proofing our education system.

4. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate 7,636 candidates from 57 Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) who successfully maintained their excellent performance in the 2025 SPM examination, with 100 percent candidates qualifying for the examination certificate, achieving an overall average grade of 2.067.
5. Even more commendable this year, MRSM Tun Ghafar Baba, Jasin emerged as the best MRSM and school in the examination with a Gred Purata Maktab (GPM) of 1.139, followed by MRSM Gemencheh (1.195), MRSM Taiping (1.224), MRSM Pengkalan Chepa (1.254), and MRSM Kuala Kubu Bharu (1.284). A total of **80** students achieved 'Cemerlang Tertinggi' by obtaining A+ in all subjects — an increase from 69 students the previous year. 19 MRSM

recorded a GPM below 2.000, while 47 MRSM achieved the target set by the Secondary Education Division with a GPM below 2.500. MRSM students also produced excellent results in science subjects. These achievements are not only a source of pride for the students themselves, but also elevate the reputation of MRSM and MARA as a whole.

6. I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the teachers who work tirelessly to ensure their students' success. Without their dedication, achievements of this calibre would not have been possible. My gratitude also goes to MARA and in particular the Secondary Education Division for continuously planning and implementing initiatives to ensure educational excellence. I also extend my sincere thanks to MUAFAKAT MRSM for always being ready to

provide support and for playing an active role in ensuring our student success. We take pride in the collective commitment shown in realising the government's aspiration to produce an outstanding generation of human capital, which is a key enabler in our journey towards becoming a developed nation.

7. The quality of MRSM students is evident not only academically, but also in soft skills development and the internalisation of noble values. This is clearly proven by the success of the Ulul Albab Programme, through which 4,548 students have successfully memorised all 30 juzuk of the Holy Quran since its introduction in 2009 up to 2025.

OBJECTIVES OF MIEC26

8. The initiative behind MIEC26 represents a highly commendable effort aimed at generating new ideas in curriculum development, particularly for MRSM. It also provides exposure to educators on the latest discoveries and developments in education, while creating opportunities for professional networking among educators, both locally and internationally. It is hoped that future editions of this conference will attract greater international participation.
9. This year's conference features international presenters from Korea and the United States and includes a total of 105 parallel presentation topics involving IPMa, Fully Residential Schools (SBP), higher education institutions, and MRSM educators. This time around, 44 exhibition

booths showcasing best practices were presented, alongside keynote sessions by distinguished speakers sharing impactful research findings and valuable experiences. My sincere appreciation to all presenters and exhibitors for their knowledge sharing.

10. Aligned with current demands, it is essential that our education system nurtures high-quality human capital. The theme of MIEC26, “**Digital Transformation for Quality and Inclusive Education,**” is timely and relevant, reflecting the urgent need for transformation in education to nurture holistic, high-achieving students. Ladies and gentlemen, we are the backbone in supporting this aspiration, particularly in strengthening global competencies and positioning MARA institutions as leaders in

educational excellence, in line with Pillar 1 of the MARA Strategic Plan (2026–2030).

11. Digital transformation is no longer an option, but a necessity. In education, it opens vast opportunities to enhance learning quality while ensuring equitable and inclusive access. Digital technologies have transformed how we teach, learn, and interact - through online learning platforms, artificial intelligence, and data analytics — enabling everyone especially students to access information anytime and anywhere.

12. I am confident that the programmes implemented in MRSM — including Ulul Albab and the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) - complement academic excellence by expanding knowledge

and assessing students' abilities beyond conventional public examinations. Such transformation and innovation will enable us to develop a progressive, world-class education system.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AS CATALYSTS FOR EFFECTIVE EDUCATION

13. Programmes such as this conference serve as platforms to enhance scholarly engagement among education practitioners and to drive human capital development. It also strengthens collaboration between MRSM, MARA, and the Ministry of Education Malaysia, especially Fully Residential Schools. These professional networks enable researchers to present findings, exchange expertise, and generate new knowledge.

14. Drawing from the presentation at this conference, I would like to emphasise on the importance of research and innovation in education. Educators are encouraged to conduct research, self-reflection, and continuous improvement initiatives to enhance teaching and learning effectiveness. Educators should be researchers who generate new knowledge, innovate, and cultivate creativity to create learning environments that nurture students' full potential.

EDUCATIONAL CHALLENGES IN THE 4th INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION AND THE 21ST CENTURY

15. The 4th Industrial Revolution (IR4.0) is closely linked to digital revolution, emphasising smarter and more systematic technological

development. Educational innovation is essential in producing highly skilled, innovative students who meet workforce demands. To support this, the government introduced the Digital Education Policy to ensure digital fluency among students, in line with national agendas such as the MADANI framework – Membangun Negara MADANI and Dasar Revolusi Perindustrian Keempat (4IR), while preparing for the Fifth Industrial Revolution (5IR).

16.21st-century pedagogy focuses on information, media, and technology literacy, requiring collaborative learning environments that encourage communication and teamwork. MARA continues to support efforts to ensure MRSM's competitiveness at the global level, in line with its vision to become a world-class centre of educational excellence.

EDUCATIONAL TRANSFORMATION FOR THE FUTURE

17. Educators must prepare students with digital skills, technological proficiency, and modern teaching approaches to remain industry-relevant. MARA has provided technological infrastructure to support educators, including the integration of artificial intelligence, which is increasingly shaping global life. AI applications — from search engines to e-commerce, navigation tools, and translation platforms — can be leveraged to personalise learning and enhance educational delivery, including in TVET education.

18. Through initiatives such as Professional Learning Communities (PLC), Coaching and Mentoring, and specialised modules, MARA continues to

enhance educators' competencies and academic performance. MARA also actively promotes STEM education, further strengthening AI and TVET development in the country.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND GLOBAL RECOGNITION

19. Our students have accomplished several remarkable achievements on the international stage. At the International Robotic Olympiad held in Gold Coast, Australia (17–21 December 2025), MARA Robotics Teams from MRSM Parit won Silver and Bronze medals, MRSM Tun Ghafar Baba bagged a Gold medal, MRSM Bentong brought home Technical Award, and MRSM Gemencheh secured a Bronze medal, marking a resounding success all the way from the land of the Kangaroo to Malaysia.

20. Another proud achievement was recorded by the MARESMAF Wind Orchestra (MAWO) from MRSM Ulul Albab FELDA Trolak, which won the prestigious 'Golden Diploma Award' in the middle-class category, outperforming 7 orchestras from 6 countries. This recognition affirms the effectiveness of MARA's holistic education approach in producing world-class talent.

21. There are countless success stories among educators and students nurtured by MARA. Congratulations to all who have contributed to these achievements. May we continue to excel and produce more all-round outstanding students.

CLOSING

22. In conclusion, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all educators who contributed research papers and innovation presentations at this conference. May your findings serve as valuable references for the education community.

23. My sincere congratulations and thanks to the MARA Secondary Education Division, strategic partners such as Bank Simpanan Nasional, MUAFAKAT, ANSARA, the organising committee, and all parties involved in making MIEC26 a success. Congratulations to the entire MARA community for your unwavering commitment. May conferences such as this one continue in the future, and may MARA, in celebrating its 60th anniversary, continue to empower future

generations to stand tall and compete confidently on the global stage.

24. With 'Bismillahirrahmanirrahim', I hereby declare the official closing of the MARA International Education Conference 2026.

Thank you.