

**WELCOMING DINNER SPEECH BY
PRESIDENT OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF
SEBERANG PERAI
LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS (LED)
TRAINING
SUNWAY HOTEL
14 DECEMBER 2016 (WEDNESDAY)**

Honorable Mr Chow Kon Yeow

Penang State Exco For Local Government,
Traffic Management And Flood Mitigation Committee

Councillors of Municipal Council of Seberang Perai

Sr Hj Rozali bin Hj Mohamud

Secretary of Municipal Council of SeberangPerai

Distinguished Speakers and Guests

Member of Media

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all distinguished guests and speakers of Local Economic Development (LED) for joining us in this event today.

It is always a great pleasure to welcome important guests like you from overseas and Malaysia. As the President of Municipal Council of Seberang Perai, I am particularly glad that you come and join us in the Local Economic Development (LED) training.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The objective of this training is to introduce the concept of Local Economic Development (LED) to Seberang Perai government officials as well as MALA members, as well as to share the lessons and inspiring experiences of city government on the efforts of its way forward in localizing SDGs. Not only that, but we have also organized site visit tomorrow, which is the last day of this training. I hope we will benefit from this training and build a foundation on local economic developments.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to inform our distinguished guest that on 10-11 May 2016, MPSP was invited as one of the speakers to Workshop on Inclusive Economies in Cities in South Asia that was held at Bangkok, Thailand. MPSP was invited to share our expertise on Governance Of Local Economic Development: Local Economic Development & Management Of The Informal Economy From The Perspective Of Local Governments.

During this workshop, we have presented our pilot project “Reallocation of Hawkers Plan”. We explained the concept that was used by MPSP for this project which is:

- Survey and data collection
- Cooperation with the stakeholder for external input
- Presentation to the top management for approval
- Presentation of the plan to the local hawkers
- Implementation of the project on site

During the group discussion of ‘Discussion of common positions and brainstorming of new tools and proposals that could be used by stakeholders involved in Local Economic Development’, representative from Local Authorities (Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand) NGOs and

private agencies that were also invited gave their opinion and approach that are practiced at their respective countries such as:

- Proposal on creating mobile clinic by the Local Government to approach community that are in the rural area and also those that are located far from this basic facilities
- Immunization at the level of Local Government for the less fortune community and that are having a high risk of contracting a disease
- Creating a education centre that will be a 'one stop centre' as a reference for the community in generating income

Distinguished guests, speakers, ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to take this opportunity to inform that MPSP was honored to participate as one of the speakers in The Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF) – Prepcom III at Surabaya, Indonesia on 25th-27th July 2016. However, we have learnt a few important principles from other countries that can be used as a guideline by MPSP. Example of these principles is:

- i. A city free of discrimination
- ii. A city of inclusive citizenship
- iii. A city with enhanced political participation
- iv. A city with quality public spaces
- v. A city of gender equality
- vi. A city fulfilling its social functions
- vii. A city with cultural diversity
- viii. A city with inclusive economies
- ix. A sustainable city

The cities that have practiced these basic principles with these components as above indirectly have implemented Sustainable Development Goals, as an example Ecuador. The following National Development Plan (2013-2015) refers more overtly to several elements related to the right to the city, such as land planning, environmental sustainability, risk management, democratic management of cities, access to public space, living together and citizen security. In which indirectly have a link with Local Economic Development (LED).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tonight we will be entertained with a variety of stage performance which are Malay, Indian and Chinese Cultural Dance and also 'Joget' performance.

Last but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors and supporting organizations for their efforts in making the Local Economic Development (LED) training happen. With that, I thank all of you for attending this welcoming dinner. Have a pleasant stay in Penang and enjoy our hospitality.

Thank you.