

**Remarks by H.E. Mr. KIYA Masahiko, Ambassador of Japan to ASEAN,
at the Graduation Ceremony of the AHA Centre Executive Leadership in
Emergency and Disaster Management for ASEAN Programme
(ACE LEDMP)**

- H.E. Ekkaphab Phanthavong, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community,
- H.E. Stuart Donald Cave Calman, Ambassador of New Zealand to ASEAN,
- Mr. Krishna Putra Tanaja, Deputy Executive Director of the AHA Centre,
- Distinguished participants, Ladies and gentlemen,

(Introduction)

Very good morning. A month and a half has passed since I met all the ACE Programme participants at the opening ceremony in October. I am happy to be able to meet and greet you again here today.

Today's graduation ceremony marks the end of ACE LEDMP - Executive Level course which consists of a three-month online training and a two-month onsite training here in Jakarta. I found that this training programme was very intensive and very effective in providing a lot of knowledge in a variety of areas which will guide you to be a leader in the field of disaster management.

This training programme also included a one-week study visit to Japan. During the visit, participants were not only briefed on and discussed various efforts for disaster management by the ministries and agencies in charge of disaster response in Japan, but also visiting Kobe City, where advanced disaster reduction measures have been taken after the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995, and where offices of international organizations related to disaster reduction such as UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), UNOCHA, WHO are concentrated.

I understand that the ACE LEDMP Executive Level competency framework was designed to sustain essential elements of the four ACE LEDMP Professional qualities and vertical development competencies.

More specifically, it is designed as a training development continuum, with long-term emphasis on building the four ACE LEDMP Professional Qualities, namely,

- (1) Humanitarian & Disaster Management Expert- the graduate is an expert in humanitarian and disaster management, both nationally and in the ASEAN region,
- (2) Collaboration builder- the graduate is committed to supporting the 'ASEAN's coordination mechanisms and operationalising One ASEAN One Response through the involvement of various relevant stakeholders,
- (3) Result-oriented- the graduate is a result-oriented person with consideration for both short and long-term aspects of resilience building, and
- (4) Effective Leader- the graduate demonstrates effective leadership in various settings of disaster management and humanitarian affairs.

We are confident that the ACE LEDMP Executive Level course, including the study visit to Japan, have greatly helped you to gain the said four core competencies.

Also, one of the Indicators to measure project achievements is “numbers of ACE-LEDMP graduates who are actively working/engaging in various aspects of disaster management for mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and others within their National Disaster Management Organizations (NDMOs)”.

We look forward to seeing you bring your experiences from this executive course back to your countries and lead your respective NDMOs. We also hope that the participants will return in the future as ACE middle-level course participants to further lead your countries in this field and help to advance the One ASEAN One Response.

Congratulations on your graduation and I wish you all the best and all the success.

Thank you for your attention.

(End)