

ISIS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Mohammed Jawhar Hassan
Chairman & CEO

On this day 25 years ago ISIS Malaysia was established by the Government to be an independent policy think-tank to work in all areas of strategic importance to the well-being of the nation. We were small then, and we were the first in the country. From that humble beginning we have grown into the premier think-tank of the country. Other think-tanks have been established and a few are perhaps doing well. But none can compare with ISIS, and I say this with all humility.

Over the last quarter century ISIS has contributed much of significance to the peace, prosperity and welfare of the people and the nation. We have also played an important role in initiatives and institutions in Southeast Asia, East Asia, the Asia Pacific, West Asia and beyond. It has therefore been an immensely productive 25 years.

For this I have to thank each and every one, past and present this morning, whose services ISIS has been privileged to benefit from. Without you and without them, we would not have been able to come this far. I also have to thank the members of the Board, the previous Chairmen of ISIS, and the Government of Malaysia, without whose support and confidence in us we could not have achieved this much.

I think we must remember, and we must thank in particular the Chairmen and CEO before me, the late Tan Sri Noordin Sopiee. For 22 of ISIS's 25 years he gave his heart and soul, his love and commitment, to this Institute. He was not only a part of the story of ISIS; he wrote much of it.

I am confident that ISIS will continue to flourish for the next 25 years and well, well thereafter. There are institutions that have retained their aura, and indeed added to their luster, for centuries. I believe ISIS, can be one of them.

But it will take much hard work, much renewal of intellect and much sustained dynamism. I believe that if we serve selflessly and constantly replenish our resources with the best, we will continue to be the nation's No. 1 think-tank. We will continue to carve out our name in the region and beyond.

For those of us present at this important anniversary, it is time to re-dedicate ourselves to this Institute and the nation we love. Time to think of the journey ahead, and the story we want to write.