

**SPEECH FOR**  
**BRIG. GEN. DATO' PROF DR. KAMARUDIN HUSSIN**  
**UniMAP VICE CANCELLOR**  
**For**  
**MOU SIGNING CEREMONY**  
**UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PERLIS AND BENEVOLENT FUND FOR**  
**OUTSTANDING STUDENTS (BFOS)**  
**\*17<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2013\* LIBRARY AUDITORIUM\***

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and a very good morning to all my distinguished guests and students. Alhamdulillah, all praises to Allah, we are able to gather here this morning for the MOU signing ceremony between Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP) and Benevolent Fund For Outstanding Students (BFOS).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Intensive English Course (IEC) has been around since 2009. During its first intake, we only had students from China especially the Xinjiang district. The second intake witness an increase of students and around 30 students from Yemen have become the pioneer for students from the Middle East.

As time goes by, the students had increased to about 40 to 60 students per intake. We also were able to attract students from various countries around the world such as Thailand, Indonesia, Uzbekistan, Somalia, Saudi Arabia and many other countries. We also had representatives from Burkina Faso and Nigeria which were the finalist for the recent African Cup of Nations.

The number of students and countries that participated in the IEC program is increasing by year and currently we have 107 students which is the largest number of students in IEC history. Among them are 36 BFOS students making Yemen the leading country in terms of student number in IEC.

Ladies and Gentleman

IEC is a preparation course for international students pursuing undergraduate studies in UniMAP. Other than learning English, the students are also exposed with the Malay Language which is an essential language to be mastered in Malaysia.

We have provided both international and local staffs teaching IEC in order to create a conducive and effective learning environment for the students. Other than classes, the students were also involved in activities such as Educational Trip to Gua Kelam and Padang Besar

and The Welcoming IEC Dinner at Putra Palace Hotel. Some of the students were also involved in the International Soft Skills and Leadership Camp (ISOL) between UniMAP and NPRU (Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University). This has provided the students with opportunity to communicate using English in real life situations.

UniMAP values its relationship with BFOS by trying to give the best service possible to the 36 students from BFOS and also all of the international students under IEC. We hope that the next intake for IEC which consist of 35 students from BFOS will be able to enjoy a continuation of this good relationship.

It is hoped that the MOU signing ceremony between UniMAP and BFOS today will pave to a better and diverse relationship between UniMAP and BFOS for years to come.

Thank You.