



Welcome Remarks

The 86th CCOP Steering Committee Meeting, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam, 6th -9th April 2026

Delivered by

**Yang Mulia Ir. Norazmi bin Othman, Act. Director General,
Public Works Department (PWD)**

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

الحمد لله رب العالمين
وإصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلين
سيدنا محمد وعلى إله وصحبه أجمعين

**Honorable Haji Shaharuddin Khairul bin Haji Anuar, Deputy
Permanent Secretary (Infrastructure, Housing and Professional),
Ministry of Development, our Guest of Honor (GOH)**

**Honorable Dr. Shinsuke Nakao, Chairperson of the CCOP Steering
Committee**

**Honorable Mr. Yongzheng Ma, Director of the CCOP Technical
Secretariat**

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

and a very Good Morning to all.

It is my honour, as the **Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to CCOP**, to warmly welcome all delegates to the **86th CCOP Steering Committee Meeting**.

CCOP continues to play a vital role as a regional platform for geoscience cooperation across East and Southeast Asia. Over the years, it has brought together member countries to share knowledge, build technical capacity, and collaborate on addressing common challenges.

Today, the importance of this cooperation is even more evident. Our region is facing increasingly complex challenges from geohazards such as earthquakes, landslides, and flooding, to the need for sustainable groundwater management, as well as the growing demand for mineral and energy resources.

At the same time, we are entering a new phase where critical minerals and strategic resources are becoming central to economic development and the global energy transition. This places greater importance on scientific understanding, responsible resource management, and strong regional collaboration.

For Brunei Darussalam, participation in CCOP has proven to be both strategic and impactful.

Since joining in 2020, Brunei has actively participated in a wide range of CCOP programmes, including technical workshops, Steering Committee engagements, and capacity-building initiatives

conducted in collaboration with partners such as KIGAM and regional institutions.

In particular, our geoscientists have benefited from initiatives such as the **AKCF Workshops**, as well as specialised training programmes on groundwater, and geoscience data management.

These programmes have created meaningful opportunities, especially for our young geoscientists, to gain hands-on experience, exposure to international standards, and a broader understanding of regional geoscience challenges.

More importantly, the outcomes of these programmes are clearly **reflected in our national efforts**.

For example, knowledge gained from the **CCOP Annual Sessions** has strengthened our capabilities in landslide assessment, hazard mapping, and slope management.

In the field of mineral resources, exposure through AKCF workshops and regional collaboration has contributed to shaping Brunei's direction towards industrial minerals and critical resources. This has also supported our ongoing efforts in enhancing our capability in mineral exploration.

These are clear and practical examples of how CCOP programmes have translated into real applications and measurable progress.

We are truly grateful for the opportunities that CCOP has provided.

As we move forward, Brunei remains committed to contributing actively to CCOP's initiatives, whether through participation in regional programmes, sharing of experiences, or supporting collaborative efforts among member countries.

Meetings such as this Steering Committee are important not only for reviewing progress and planning future activities, but also for strengthening partnerships and aligning our collective direction as a region.

Because ultimately, CCOP is more than a platform, it is a community of countries working together, where cooperation leads to capability, and capability leads to progress.

I would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the **CCOP Technical Secretariat for their continued support and coordination in organising this meeting.**

Once again, welcome to Brunei Darussalam. We wish you a successful and meaningful meeting.

Thank you.

Wabillahi Taufiq wal Hidayah

Wassalamu'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh