



Welcome Remarks

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

Delivered by

Haji Shaharuddin Khairul bin Haji Anuar, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Infrastructure, Housing and Professional), Ministry of Development

[Guest of Honor (GOH)]

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

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

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

Honorable Ir. Norazmi bin Othman, Act. Director General of Public Works Department, Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to the CCOP

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

and a very Good Morning to all.

On behalf of the Ministry of Development, Brunei Darussalam, it is my great honour and privilege to warmly welcome all of you to **Bandar Seri Begawan for the 86th CCOP Steering Committee Meeting.**

It is especially meaningful for us to host this meeting.

Brunei Darussalam **officially joined CCOP in 2020**. Today, after **six years as a member**, we are proud to host the Steering Committee Meeting for the very first time. This is not only a **milestone for our country**, but also a reflection of our growing commitment to regional geoscience cooperation.

We see this opportunity not simply as a responsibility but as a statement. A statement that Brunei Darussalam is ready to contribute more actively, to collaborate more closely, and to stand alongside all member countries in advancing the shared goals of CCOP.

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen

While Brunei may be small in size, we believe that our strength lies in our willingness to work together, to learn from one another, and to contribute meaningfully to regional progress.

As we gather here over the next few days, we are reminded that the challenges we face, whether in natural hazards, sustainable development, or resource management, do not recognise national boundaries. They require collective understanding, shared knowledge, and coordinated action.

And this is precisely where CCOP continues to play a **vital role** as a platform that brings us together, strengthens trust, and translates science into meaningful outcomes for our region.

At the same time, we hope that your experience in Brunei will extend beyond the discussions in this hall.

We are honoured to host you here at The Empire Brunei, and we have arranged programmes including field visits and cultural experiences such as Kampong Ayer. We hope these will give you a deeper appreciation of our country, our environment, and our people.

We warmly invite you to experience Brunei, not only as a meeting venue, but as a partner, a friend, and a member of this regional community.

Because ultimately, the strength of CCOP is not only in its programmes or reports but in the relationships, we build, the trust we share, and the common purpose that brings us together.

And it is through these shared efforts that we move forward not as individual countries, but as a region, united in resilience and progress.

With that, I once again extend my warmest welcome to all delegates. We wish you a productive meeting, a meaningful exchange of ideas, and a memorable stay in Brunei Darussalam.

Thank you.

Wabillahi Taufiq wal Hidayah

Wassalamu'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh