

# Preface

## Message from Chairman of RCM5 & RCNRM5



On behalf of the Organizing Committee, it is my utmost pleasure to welcome all participants to the AUN/SEED-Net 5th Regional Conference on Materials Engineering (RCM5) and the 5th Regional Conference on Natural Resources and Materials (RCNRM5) 2013. It is indeed an honour to us at Universiti Sains Malaysia, as the Host Institution in the field of Materials Engineering, and as the Main Facilitating Institution in the interdisciplinary field of Natural Resources and Materials, to be accorded the honour to organize concurrently both conferences as the curtain finale to the Phase II activities of AUN/SEED-Net in both these fields.

During the last five years of this Phase, we have witnessed the close interplay between the two fields of engineering. As such, it was felt that the theme of the conference, “Innovating Towards the Frontiers of Materials & Minerals Engineering” echoes the tremendous potential that we can expect in the coming years of this AUN/SEED-Net programme. Both fields endeavour not only to spur manpower development and collaborative research in these disciplines but have shown signs of reaching out to industry and community as signalled by the range of participation to the Conference.

In our efforts to mobilize the full participation from the region, I am happy to acknowledge the participation from various universities and institutions, from Malaysia in particular. I hope the young researchers will take every opportunity to forge closer alliances with our fellow researchers from ASEAN and Japan. The compilation of selected papers from both conferences in Advanced Materials Research would substantially be of immense value and guidance for future work in both these important disciplines.

The success of RCM5 & RCNRM5 is a result of tremendous support and contributions from JICA, ASEAN Foundation, AUN-Seed Net, industrial and state sponsors, and of course, the enthusiastic response from all participants. It would be amiss if I do not take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the entire RCM5 & RCNRM5 organizing team, and the AUN/SEED-Net secretariat in Bangkok, for their magnificent hard work, sacrifices and commitment towards the success of RCM5 & RCNRM5 2013.

**Professor Radzali Othman**

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