

WELCOME SPEECH BY MISS EDIOLA PASHOLLARI,
ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

AT THE LAUNCH OF THE BOOK:
“YOUTH AND DRUG ABUSE”

26th June 2009

Seri Bendahara, Melaka, Malaysia

Rt. Hon. Datuk Seri Mod Ali bin Mohd Rustam

Datuk Datuk, Datin Datin,

Distinguished guests,

MIYD participants,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Firstly I would like welcome you to this gathering – the launching of the book ‘Youth and Drug Abuse’, authored by our Right Honorable Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam, President of the World Assembly of Youth and Chief Minister of Melaka.

I want to thank Datuk Seri Ali personally for his leadership in WAY and for spearheading this book project. I would like to thank also the many agencies that had come alongside to help in providing the needed information and statistics .

Today is a very special day for not only do we come together to honor Datuk Seri Ali, his leadership in WAY and the launching of his book. It is also the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

All over the world leaders are taking time to look at the drug abuse problem and are addressing the matter. We may not be gathering in one place but we are definitely in one spirit.

The need to bring awareness to the danger of drugs to the youths is so vital. Datuk Seri Ali has clearly brought forth the urgency for us to come together and help stop the chaos and violence of the illegal drug trade and to end the bondage of mass incarceration suffered by many youths around the world.

Types of drugs and their danger are clearly laid out for you to share with young people and concerned citizens. It is an informative book that is so vital and crucial for us to have in our hands as youth leaders.

There are varieties of ideas that have been given in the book for us to utilize and implement in all our programs. Indeed, the concern for our youths is in the mind of Datuk Seri Ali. He sees the youth as our present and future leaders and that we must break the cycle of drug abuses in their lives.

We have many delegates from different parts of the world gathered here today on this auspicious day as we celebrate the launching of this book on the danger of drug abuse. You are going home with a great tool to fight this battle against drug abuse and its danger to our youth.

The purpose of this book is clearly defined. The youth themselves need to read this book and realize their predicament. It is truly the desire of Datuk Seri Ali to see lives changed from reading this book.

We want to celebrate our youth and we want to celebrate their lives and future. So, as we launch this book today, take the time to digest its content and do make it applicable to your organization and associations.

Once again, thank you for your support and encouragement and to Datuk Seri Ali Rustam our heartfelt thanks for all his efforts and dedication.

Thank you!