

PACOM



**PACIFIC-ASIAN CONGRESS
OF MUNICIPALITIES**

(PACOM)

**12TH CONGRESS
KUALA LUMPUR**

14 - 19 SEPTEMBER 1991



Day of Presentation: 17th September 1991

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**"VISION OF THE 21ST CENTURY
URBAN CENTRES"**

by

***Y. B. Tan Sri Dato' Elyas Omar
Lord Mayor of Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia***



'KONVENSYEN NURI 1988'

(15 - 17 Julai 1988)



KUALA LUMPUR DALAM TAHUN 2000'AN
TINJAUAN MENGENAI KEHIDUPAN DI IBUKOTA

Perpustakaan
DEWAN BANDARAYA KUALA LUMPUR

21 JUL 1988

Dibentangkan oleh:

Yang Berbahagia Dato' Elyas bin Omar
Datuk Bandar Kuala Lumpur



INTRODUCTION

The title of my keynote address this morning is 'Vision of the 21st Century Urban Centres', a subject which I believe, should deserve our fullest attention as we journey towards the end of the 20th Century.

We cannot run away from the fact that our urban centres throughout the world will undergo dramatic changes due to rapid urbanisation process and advancement in the development of science and technology.

We'll soon be entering into the 21st Century environment with perhaps greater challenges and with more complex problems to be encountered than we have ever experienced before.

We have therefore to prepare ourselves to meet these new challenges so that our future generation of urban dwellers will not be made to suffer the consequences of ill-conceived planning and poor environmental management undertaken by their predecessors.

It is with this thought in mind that I feel that this conference of city mayors today is of utmost importance as a step forward in dealing with our current and future problems.

GROWTH OF URBAN CENTRES

Our cities and urban centres throughout the world will continue to grow and expand beyond their present boundaries as population and human activities continue to increase.

It is estimated that urban population in the world today has reached close to 2.0 billion. In the year 2000, this figure is likely to exceed 3.2 billion. It seems to me that no forces seem to have been able to stop this persistent trend of rural-urban migration involving large numbers of people entering the already congested urban centres.