



FORUM: *The Enterprising Career and Performances – ‘Unusual Administrator’*

Panelist 2



Datuk Ir (Dr) Ahmad Zaidee bin Laidin

Datuk Ir (Dr) Ahmad Zaidee bin Laidin had his early education at Victoria Institution (VI) in Kuala Lumpur. He later pursued his studies in the United Kingdom as a scholar of the National Electricity Board (NEB). In 1966, he graduated in Electrical Engineering from Brighton Polytechnic, England. He holds a Master of Science in Technological Economics (Management & Industrial Science), conferred to him by the University of Stirling in Scotland, United Kingdom, in 1974.

Datuk Ahmad Zaidee started his career in 1967 as Distribution Engineer (11/33kV) with the national electricity outfit – which was a precursor of Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB). He later served as NEB's Construction Engineer (33-275kV) in 1971. He also led the transformation team which drove the formation of Tenaga Nasional Bhd – from its inception through to TNB's transformed and successful set-up in 1990. His final position in TNB was as Deputy General Manager Corporate Services (Management Development Services) in 1993.

Datuk Ahmad Zaidee acquired his Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) status in 1971, and is a registered Professional Engineer with the Board of Engineers Malaysia. He is also Fellow and Council Member of the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia,

and he currently holds the post of Vice President as well as Fellow at the Academy of Sciences Malaysia. A few years into the end of his career in the public sector in 1994, Datuk Ahmad Zaidee was tasked with the duty of leading Institut Teknologi MARA – a responsibility he undertook for seven years, initially as Director, then as ITM's first and only Rector, and ultimately as UiTM's founding Vice Chancellor, when the status of this sole bumiputera higher learning institution was elevated to that of a university in 1999. Indeed, it has been his leadership that has made it possible for ITM to fully embrace the transformation and to be fully accepted as a full-fledged university.

His illustrious service to the country continues even after his retirement from the civil service. He was appointed Chairman of SIRIM Bhd from 2001 to 2004. This was followed by an appointment as Chairman of Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO), from 2005 to 2007, under the auspices of the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Affairs. He was simultaneously providing valuable know-how and expertise in the corporate sector through appointments in MMC Berhad (2002-2007), EON Berhad (2002-2009), Malakoff Berhad (2002-2005), and as Chairman of MMC Oil & Gas Engineering Sdn Bhd (2005-2009).