

MALAYSIAN NATURE SOCIETY (MNS)

REPORT FROM THE COUNCIL FOR 68TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Following last year's AGM, the newly elected Council Members, understanding the challenges in the Society they faced on taking office, attended a brainstorming session at the Nava's Retreat in Genting Sempah in early October 2014. Only the East Malaysian elected Council Members were unable to attend in person, but their contributions were sought and included in the final outcome.

Seven priority areas were identified for immediate action as well as the urgent need for more financing and the appointment of an Executive Director. As a consequence, an In-depth Operational Review was conducted of the whole of the Society by an independent body, which provided valuable pointers for the way forward.

A second brain-storming meeting was convened in the same location in April 2015 to review progress, fine tune key initiatives and plans for the Society. By then the Acting ED had been appointed and he was invited to join this meeting together with the Co-opted Members of the Council.

Four Council Meetings have been held during the year, where many diverse matters and issues were discussed in a constructive manner and solutions found. On each occasion, Branch Network Meetings have preceded the Council Meeting, enabling the Branch representatives to discuss more freely and at length the topics pertaining to their Members. The chairing of each Branch Network Meeting rotates amongst the Branches.

The Council formulated and organized its own fund raising campaign '**RM1 for Nature**' which was launched in the Kuala Lumpur Central Market in April 2015. Key Council Members participated in this campaign and at a second fund raising event in May at Genting Highlands. This second event combined the efforts of Council Members, Secretariat and Selangor members.

Looking forward, the Council will continue to work with all members of the Secretariat placing focus in the monitoring and control of key components within operations to ensure the Society is sustainable and viable.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the Council Members for their hard work and support and especially my fellow Officer Bearers for their time, commitment and dedication in maintaining the good name of MNS and promoting the conservation work we all aspire to.

Henry Goh
President