



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

I congratulate everyone involved with the formation of the Commonwealth Association of Leadership Malaysia, and I am delighted to hear of your work and this progress since my last visit to Malaysia.

In Malaysia and elsewhere, I have observed that in opportunity or crisis there is one element that makes the difference to any organisation or society, company or country. A single aspect that creates the platform for success or negates all efforts, and that is leadership.

My father knew this when he started the Commonwealth Study Conferences sixty years ago, and preparing young leaders for greater roles in their organisations or countries remains at the heart of all CSC programmes. Learning to walk in each others' shoes, seeing the world through others' eyes and the critical skill of listening whilst also expanding networks and engaging with peers are traits that never lose their value.

In order to thrive, even the Commonwealth Study Conferences must evolve but it must always retain our core values, ethics and ethos. It is in this context that I am delighted to learn of the creation of the Commonwealth Association of Leadership Malaysia to spearhead with renewed enthusiasm and strong regional support, the message and the mission of the Commonwealth Study Conferences in Malaysia and the Region.

I am particularly pleased to hear that CSC Alumni from no less than eight countries have come to support the creation of this Malaysian initiative. Your colleagues from Canada, Australia, the UK, New Zealand and elsewhere including the Pacific, have much to share but also the experience and the expectation will enable everyone to learn from each other. This commitment to each other is a testament to the value and legacy of our unique conference format.

I equally look forward to hearing of the CSC Alumni plans for a global Alumni conference in 2020. Building on your commitment in London and involving all Alumni of the various programmes is a refreshing initiative and I encourage you to bring this bold commitment into reality, and once again congratulate everyone involved in these ongoing initiatives.