

## **An official report of the 2016 World Environmental Health Day Observations in Malaysia**

On 23 September 2016, more than 1000 Environmental Health Officers and Practitioners from all over the country, including public officials, politicians and invited members of the local community gathered at the Multipurpose Hall of a school in Jementah, Segamat in the southern state of Johore to attend a Public Forum, Technical Seminar on Environmental Health and an Exhibition held in conjunction with the national level observance of World Environmental Health Day 2016.

The Exhibition was extended to One Segamat Shopping Mall over the weekend to create awareness on the role of Environmental Health Officers in the prevention and control of environmental factors likely to affect Public Health.

World Environmental Health Day bearing the theme, "Tobacco Control – A response to the Global Tobacco Pandemic" was officially declared and recognized by Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam, the Honorable Minister of Health, Malaysia as an International Day to be celebrated under the auspices of the Ministry of Health and listed under its Official Calendar of Events.

Environmental Health Practitioners all over Malaysia rejoiced following the official announcement which was anxiously anticipated since WEHD was first celebrated by Environmental Health Practitioners in 2012 in Malaysia.

Prior to this memorable event, Environmental Health Practitioners and Student EHOs participated in a community based project to obtain feedback from residents in a nearby Housing Estate, Taman Pelangi. The data obtained through the feedback was analyzed by University Technology MARA for academic environmental health risk assessment to be followed by appropriate community based interventions undertaken by the Environmental Health Practitioners employed at the Segamat District Council and District Health Office, respectively.

This year's event is perhaps one of the most outstanding event jointly organized by the Malaysian Association of Environmental Health, the Environmental Health Officers Association of Malaysia as well the Peninsular Malaysia Union of Health Inspectors.

On 26 September 2016, many events were individually and concurrently celebrated by Environment Health Practitioners under the combined membership of the three main Environmental Health organizations with a nationwide Earth-Hour like, "Stay Fit by Cycling for Environmental Health and "No To Tobacco" activities participated by Environmental Health Practitioners in Malaysia.

The Malaysian Association of Environmental Health also successfully organized an Academic Seminar and Technical Exhibition in conjunction with WEHD 2016 with the College of Allied Health Sciences at Sungai Buloh, Selangor where a symbolic gesture of saying "No To Tobacco" by breaking a mock cigarette each was carried out by the Director of the college and the President of MAEH.

Following the resounding success of organizing and hosting World Environmental Health Day 2016 the Malaysian Association of Environmental Health will continue to organize and host events related to this timely and appropriate theme demanding a greater role for Environmental Health Practitioners in this scourge, which threatens to derail efforts towards achieving the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals.

As one of the Permanent Council Members of the Malaysian Council for Tobacco Control (MCTC), the Malaysian Association of Environmental Health has pledged to support and advocate anti-tobacco measures to curb this global pandemic from affecting the health, safety and wellbeing of our children who are our future by providing the legal and moral protection they need from the threat to health and environment posed by tobacco abuse in this country.

Reported by Mr. Tee Eng Ong  
President, Malaysian Association of Environmental Health (MAEH)  
Organizing Chairman WEHD (Malaysia) 2016

# WEHD 2016 MALAYSIA

Sambutan  
**HARI KESIHATAN PERSEKITARAN  
SEDUNIA  
PERINGKAT KEBANGSAAN  
TAHUN 2016**

“ **TOBACCO CONTROL  
A RESPONSE TO THE GLOBAL TOBACCO  
PANDEMIC** ”

*Ditasmikan Oleh:*  
**YB. Datuk Seri Dr.S.Subramaniam**  
Menteri Kesihatan Malaysia

**TARIKH: 23 SEPT 2016**  
**TEMPAT: DEWAN SERBAGUNA, SJK (C) JEMENTAH  
SEGAMAT**

ANJURAN BERSAMA:

**WORLD ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH DAY 2016**

**MALAYSIAN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

Symbolic Gesture of Saying No  
to Tobacco by Breaking of Mock  
Cigarettes

Exhibition during WEHD 2016 at  
College of Allied Health Sciences



Exhibition at One Segamat Mall  
Exhibition at One Segamat Mall



Participants at WEHD 2016  
Jementah, Segamat



No to Tobacco by AEHO trainees  
at Field Training Centre, Rembau  
celebrating WEHD 2016





Students at the Putra University Malaysia celebrating WEHD 2016