

19 May 2006  
MR/E17/05



## UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

Office of Communications  
53-70, Jingumae 5-chome  
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925  
Japan

Tel.: +81-3-3499-2811  
Fax: +81-3-3499-2828  
E-mail: [media@unu.edu](mailto:media@unu.edu)  
Website: <http://www.unu.edu/>

For use of the media –  
not an official record

# UNU Rector to Sign Agreement Establishing New UNU Research and Training Centre in Malaysia

## *United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH) Will Be Located in Kuala Lumpur*

- Event:** Official Signing Ceremony for Establishment of UNU-IIGH  
**Date/Time:** Friday, 26 May 2006 (11:30 AM – 12:00 noon)  
**Venue:** Capitol Tokyu Hotel\*, Kyoto Room (B2)  
**Signatories:** Prof. Hans van Ginkel, Rector of United Nations University  
Dato' Dr. Zulkefli A. Hassan, Secretary-General, Ministry of Higher Education,  
Malaysia

### Key Background Information

- UNU functions as a global network of Research and Training Centres/Programmes (RTC/Ps), administered and coordinated by UNU Centre in Tokyo. Currently, there are 12 UNU RTC/Ps, each focusing on a specific set of issues.
- In November 2000, the governing UNU Council identified public health delivery systems as a crucial issue for developing countries that could be the focus of a future UNU Research and Training Centre (RTC).
- Since 2002, the UNU Rectorate and the Director of UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS, Yokohama) have been in discussions with the Government of Malaysia regarding the establishment of such an RTC. In December 2005, the UNU Council formally adopted the statute establishing United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH), and approved the relevant legal instruments.
- On 17 May 2006, the Cabinet of the Government of Malaysia gave approval for signing of the final agreement, for which we are most grateful.

### About UNU International Institute for Global Health

- UNU-IIGH will be located at the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur.
- UNU-IIGH will undertake research, capacity development, and the dissemination of knowledge on key issues of human health; contribute to the development and strengthening of health services policy frameworks and management actions, particularly for people in developing countries; and support a preventive and promotive approach to health.
- The Government of Malaysia has pledged capital contributions of US\$40 million and operational contributions of US\$6.65 million during the Institute's first decade of operation.

Media representatives are cordially invited to attend the UNU-IIGH signing ceremony, which will follow the 12th U Thant Distinguished Lecture by Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi of Malaysia. Please contact Naoko Yano, UNU Office of Communications (tel: 03-5467-1311; e-mail: [media@unu.edu](mailto:media@unu.edu)) to confirm your attendance.

\* *The Capitol Tokyu Hotel is accessible from Tokyo Metro Tameike-Sanno Station (Ginza Line/Nanboku Line) or Kokkai-Gijidomae Station (Chiyoda Line/Marunouchi Line), Exit No. 5.*



United Nations University (UNU) is an autonomous organ of the UN General Assembly dedicated to generating and transferring knowledge and strengthening capacities relevant to global issues of human security, development, and welfare. The University, which opened in 1975, operates through a worldwide network of research and training centres and programmes coordinated by UNU Centre in Tokyo.

**MEDIA ADVISORY**