

Closing Speech by

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Secretariat
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Father Lambertus Somar, Founder and Chairman of KMF,

1. On this last day, it is important for us to reflect on what we have gained from this symposium. First of all, I want to emphasize that drug addiction is a treatable disease. I hope that these last three days, you have attained a form of catharsis when you go through the very basics to get on the road to recovery.
2. According to Maslow's needs, food, clothing and shelter are the essential needs. However, another essential need for a person is 'self-esteem', particularly of recovering persons. In order to fulfill this need, drug treatment and rehabilitation should include assistance in providing the recovering persons with some income generating abilities.
3. I must pay tribute to the National Narcotics Board (BNN) and Kasih Mulia Foundation (KMF) for their excellent cooperation and support in organizing this 5th ARS so successfully. I would also like to acknowledge the leadership of Pak Gories Mere and Father Lambertus Somar for leading their respective organizations so capably in this event.
4. We have visited the centre of Kasih Mulia on 7 December 2010. I was taken by the words of Mr. John H. Hennen, President of the World Federation of Therapeutic Communities who said at the opening of this centre on 20 August 2005, "Let this centre be a model and inspiration to those who enter this door". Therefore, it is important that both the software and hardware of rehabilitation be taken care of. This ARS has endeavoured to provide the software in the form of recovering skills including life skills.

5. In the recovery journey of returning to basics, it is import to heal both the body and the soul. That is the reason why we have a faith-based approach session as one of the concurrent workshops where awareness on the need for a higher power is reaffirmed.
6. As Lucifer was the biggest angel that fell from grace, there is a very thin dividing line between angels and demons. Therefore, I would like to stress that all of us must do the right thing. Nothing that is morally wrong can be right. It is up to you to apply your God-given ingenuity and creativity into good channels as quoted by Mr. Shariff.
7. It has been highlighted during the workshops that recovering persons are susceptible to co-occurring disorders such as depression, bipolar disorder, psychotic states and anti-social personality. Here, I would like to say a few words for counsellors. Counsellors are the front line workers for drug recovery. Sometimes they over compensate and become emotionally involved. Thus, they are also susceptible to such co-occurring disorders. I have learned in one of the sessions that the best counsellors are those who are somewhat passive and perceived as unthreatening.
8. As I conclude, I would like to add that all your comments and recommendations will be taken into the next ARS. I would like to highlight that for the Colombo Plan, business will not be as usual. With this, I would like to once again express my sincere appreciation to BNN and Kasih Mulia Foundation as well as the Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) for the funding support.

Thank you.