

PROF. DATO' DR. KAMARUZZAMAN SOPIAN

RECIPIENT OF THE 2012 WORLD RENEWABLE ENERGY NETWORK (WREN) PIONEER AWARD

The World Renewable Energy Network (WREN) a major non-profit organization registered in the United Kingdom recognises outstanding contributions of individuals to the development of renewable energy. The WREN Pioneer Awards are selected from individuals with outstanding contributions to renewable energy over many years and their devotion to use of renewable energy in their own daily life. The pioneers will receive their awards at the biennial World Renewable Energy Congress organized by WREN since 2002.

WREN is one of the world most effective organizations in supporting and enhancing the utilisation and implementation of renewable energy sources that are both environmentally safe and economically sustainable. This is done through a worldwide network of agencies, laboratories, institutions, companies and individuals, all working together towards the international diffusion of renewable energy technologies and applications. Representing most countries in the world, it aims to promote the communication and technical education of scientists, engineers, technicians and managers in this field and to address itself to the energy needs of both developing and developed countries.

This year the WREN Pioneer Awards were given during a special dinner in conjunction with the World Renewable Energy Forum (WREF) at the Hyatt Regency in the city of Denver, Colorado, May 14, 2012. The World Renewable Energy Forum (WREF) 2012 held on the 13 -17 May was organized by the World Renewable Energy Network (WREN), the American Solar Energy Society (ASES), the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the Colorado Renewable Energy Society (CRES) and the International Solar Energy Society (ISES).

WREN bestowed the Pioneer Awards to nine distinguished individuals and scientists from all over the world namely Dr Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, Director General of Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISESCO), Professor Monica Oliphant, Past President of the International Solar Energy Society (ISES), Professor AbuBakr S Bahaj, Director, Sustainable Energy Research Group University of Southampton, United Kingdom, Dr A Kaabi-Nejadian, Chairman of Iranian Solar Energy Society, Professor Wasim Saman, Director of the Sustainable Energy Centre and Director of Research of the Institute for Sustainable systems and Technologies University of South Australia, Ms Gail Karlsson, J.D., ENERGIA Advisor (an international network of experts on gender and sustainable

energy) USA, Prof Donald Swift-Hook, Chairman of the British Wind Energy Association, Dr. Keith Emery, Device Performance Team Leader, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, USA, and Professor Kamaruzzaman Sopian, Professor of Renewable Energy and Director of the Solar Energy Research Institute (SERI) , Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.