



### TAN SRI SAMUDIN OSMAN, 1997 MALAYSIA

Chairman, Employees Provident Fund (EPF)

“I have pondered the questions, looked at all the notes I brought home from the fellowship and all the blue sheets, and the memories came flooding back.”

When asked about the greatest change his Eisenhower Fellowship brought about in him as a leader, Tan Sri Samsudin Osman pointed to his final report, highlighting, “The fellowship has indeed helped me understand my job and responsibilities better. It has bolstered my confidence in facing the challenges of my office. It has been an enriching learning experience. It is an important event in my life and career.” Looking back, he says, “Fifteen years after the fellowship I feel those words still ring true. The greatest change has to be in my level of confidence as a leader. The fellowship also instilled in me the moral courage in undertaking the leadership role. I would also like to add that this has given me a more positive view about life and people.”



*What had a lasting impact on me were the subway coaches in New York. The fellowship included a visit to an NGO in New York. My perception [of the city] completely changed. I had experienced first-hand the transformation of the city. It was all about leadership. By 1997, the good work of Mayor Giuliani had been widely publicized. He had turned New York into a safe city. [His leadership] left a lasting impression on me. Leadership has been a core competency for someone in my position, while I was in the civil service of Malaysia, up through today.*

Samsudin Osman believes that his Eisenhower Fellowship made him a more effective leader in every way. When asked about an outcome that directly resulted from his being an Eisenhower Fellow, Osman offered: “It certainly contributed a great deal to my career advancement. I was promoted as the Director General of the Public Service not long after the fellowship and later, as the Chief Secretary to the Government, and I attribute that to the inspiration I gained while on the Eisenhower Fellowship program.” As the top civil servant in Malaysia, Osman was well known for his strong principles and open communication. Osman also noted that being an Eisenhower Fellow equipped him to serve as the first president of the Putrajaya Corporation. Named in honor of Malaysia’s first Prime Minister YTM Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra al-Haj, this entity serves as the federal government administrative center. From 2006 – 2012, Osman managed this “intelligent city” where multimedia technologies facilitate communication and interaction between government offices, the business community, and the general public.

When asked about an outcome that directly resulted from his being a Fellow, Osman offered: “The fellowship was the pinnacle of all the training and instructions I had received in the course of my career in the civil service.”

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