

# **The First Tree Planting for the MH17 National Monument**

## **Speech by Tan Sri Md. Nor Yusof, Chairman Malaysia Airlines**

March 18th, 2017 - Vijfhuizen

"The Honourable Minister Bert Koenders, Minister of Foreign Affairs  
His Excellency Mr Brett Mason, Ambassador of Australia  
His Excellency Dato Ahmad Nazri Yusof, Ambassador of Malaysia  
Mr Arnold Jansen, from the National Forest Fund  
Mr Evert van Zijtveld, Chairman of MH17 NOK Foundation

Ladies and Gentlemen

A very good morning to you all

Allow me to begin by expressing our sincere thanks for the very kind invitation to participate in this very memorable and most touching occasion. We are here today to dedicate a special place to remember the needless loss of 298 innocent souls to reasons so unspeakable to account.

Malaysia Airlines lost 15 precious crew members. Until today our hearts remain heavy for the family and friends of those we lost. We knew these fine men and women as friends and hard working colleagues. To their families they are remembered as mothers and fathers; sons and daughters; sisters and brothers.

With respect please allow me to remember to this gathering the names of our crew members of that ill fated MH17;

They were;

Wan Amran Wan Hussin  
Eugene Choo Jin Leon  
Ahmad Hakimi Hanapi  
Muhamad Firdaus Abd Rahim  
Mohd Ghafar Abu Bakar  
Dora Shahila Kassim  
Azrina Yakob  
Lee Hui Pin  
Mastura Mustafa  
Chong Yee Pheng  
Shaikh Mohd Noor Mahmood  
Sanjid Singh Sandhu  
Hamfazlin Sham Mohamed Arifin  
Nur Shazana Mohamed Salleh  
Angeline Premila Rajandran

May their soul rest in peace. Please offer them your prayer.

Despite all the sorrow and despair somehow we can take comfort and reaffirm our belief that humanity prevails. In this regard I would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere gratitude to the Dutch people for their extraordinary kindness to the Malaysia Airlines family. You have shown us great compassion, love and kindness. Your search for justice has given us hope. Your care has truly made you part of Malaysia Airlines standing shoulder to shoulder with us.

This Forest Park Memorial and Monument is clearly a beautiful idea. Anyone viewing the perspectives of the plan will be deeply touched. Congratulations and commendations to the originators and all who have made it possible.

Our special thanks to the National Forest Fund, the MH17 NOK Foundation and the Dutch Government.

The 298 trees, each specially dedicated to the 298 who perished will stand tall as they honour the memories of the loved for years to come.

Thank you."



Tan Sri Mohamad Nor Yusof placing the nameplate by the first tree planted for the deceased captain of flight MH17, Wan Amran Bin Wan Hussin. Photo by Philip P. Kruijer.