(7) QUALITY WORKMANSHIP CONTROL

In Sabah, there are insufficient skilled workers in the construction industry and are giving relatively poor workmanship to buildings.

Some of the plumbers, electricians, plasterers, carpenters, bar-benders, brick layers and so forth do not meet the required skills **to build quality houses.**

Manpower training for all levels of skills in the building industry has become very critical, due to many years of rapid development pace in the country. Although the Construction Industry Development Board Malaysia or **CIDB** has embarked on very ambitious programs to satisfy the needs of the quality housing industry, the effect has not been positively seen yet.

May we suggest:

i) **CIDB** should organise more training for the field workers in construction sites. Since **a levy payment of 0.125%** for construction project is made to **CIDB** under the Rules of Construction Industry (Levy Collection) 1996, they should in return provide trainings at the construction sites to create more skilled workers in the construction sector.

We ask **CIDB for more training for workers at the construction sites** instead of organizing "technical tours" to foreign countries.

Also, we appeal to CIDB to give some rebates for the training fee to the contractors who offer to give training to their construction workers.

ii) After training, **CIDB** should issue **qualified skilled workers with certificate or licence**, so the trained skilled workers themselves will be the one's to carry out the work at the construction site.

It would be a waste if after training, they are only known as "qualified skilled workers" but do not practice their skills.

In order to maintain a good quality workmanship control, strict enforcement of all qualified skilled workers should be carried out. **Enforcement to ensure that only the qualified skilled workers are doing the work** and that they should not "sub-sub-contract" the work to unskilled workers. More often than not, in Sabah, most of the construction workers are not qualified, especially foreign workers.

We suggest that CIDB should have good monitoring at the work place to ensure only those qualified are at work.

This is the main issue in achieving the quality housing.

With the announcement by the **Prime Minister, YAB Datuk Seri Mohd. Najib Tun Razak to waive 30% Bumiputra shareholding for listing of public companies,** this will attract more foreign direct investment (FDI) in the real estate development companies.

So, we really need good governance in achieving quality housing and services.

Last but not least, we in **SHAREDA** being a responsible organization, is offering the Government our practical experience in housing and property development in any roundtable discussions on this topic **"Good Governance Towards Quality Housing and Services."**

We want to share our expertise towards **nation building** with the Government of Sabah.

IT IS TIME TO TAKE STOCK AND WORK EFFECTIVELY TOGETHER.

Thank you.