We are pleased to announce that the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue, University of Malaya will convene an international conference on the theme, 'Youth Role in Managing Cultural Diversity: Towards Sustainability' from 15-16 August 2019, at University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

In celebration of the 23rd Anniversary of the Centre for Civilisational Dialogue and to highlight the continuous role of the centre to bring about dialogue among civilisations and cultures in this region and beyond, this international conference is held in recognition of cultural diversity and its dynamics. This conference is our way of recognizing the crucial importance of respect and mutual understanding in harmonising cultural diversity and ensuring sustainable coexistence of cultures for social cohesion and peace. Hence, we would like to invite interested researchers, scholars and individuals to participate in and share your valuable experiences at the conferences.

'Youth Role in Managing Cultural Diversity: Towards Sustainability' is our selected theme for this conference and paper submissions are welcome on the following sub-themes, but are not limited to the topics listed under each sub-theme:

**ABSTRACT**

Abilympics (originated from the phrase Olympics of Abilities) is a programme of working skills at the national and international levels for the special needs people. Malaysian delegates participated in the International Abilympics competition in 2016 at Bordeaux, France from 23rd to 27th March 2016. Besides that, it acts as a channel to exhibit the ability and the potential of these special needs people in the field of art and vocational, to the public. In addition, Abilympics support the inclusion of these special group into the society as high professional skills worker as well as promoting employment opportunities for a stable income generation. Hence, this proved that there is no barrier for any individual to create a name and gain success at the national and international levels. This working paper is a collective experience throughout the competition. One of the authors was the jury at the International Abilympics in Seoul, Korea 2011 and Bordeaux, France 2016. He was also the trainer for the local delegate in the Painting and Silk Painting category.

**Key words:** abilympics, special needs people, ability, potential, art and vocational.