

THE ROLE OF THE
NATIONAL VOCATIONAL
TRAINING COUNCIL IN
THE MANAGEMENT OF
VOCATIONAL TRAINING
IN MALAYSIA : A CRITICAL
EVALUATION

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Cetakan Pertama 2003
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Pengatur Huruf : Mohd Asmadi Misbah
Muka Taip Teks : Times New Roman
Saiz Taip Teks : 11 / Auto Pt

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia
Data Pengkatalogan - dalam - Penerbitan

Ahmad Othman
The Role Of The National Vocational Training Council In The
Management Of Vocational Training In Malaysia : A Critical Evaluation
Bibliografi : hlm 161-172
Mengandungi Indeks.
ISBN 983-2963-02-8

Dicetak Oleh
Unit Percetakan KUiTTTHO
Johor

*“Pendidikan ibarat benih yang baik,
Jatuh ke laut menjadi pulau*

*Education is like good seedling,
Should it fall into the sea it would grow to become an island”*

Malay saying

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Preface

In Malaysia the responsibility to produce skilled manpower has rested heavily on the government. This can be seen by the increasing number of public training institutions in almost every five-year development plan. Malaysia, has achieved much in producing skilled manpower through this effort. However, despite the significant increase in terms of training capacities and output over the years, Malaysia is still critically short of skilled manpower. In searching for the answer, this book tries to focus on the role of the National Vocational Training Council (NVTC). Its central premise is that the internal efficiency of the NVTC and its relationship with other organisations within the Malaysian vocational training system address distinct but equally important needs towards organisational effectiveness. The study seeks to answer the following main question : How effective has the NVTC been in playing its role as an intermediary agency in the vocational training system of Malaysia? In carrying out this research, a number of different methods of data collection were employed, such as questionnaire, interview, document review, and participant observation. Subjects of this study include the NVTC staff (67), representatives of the public and private organisations who sit on the various working committees of the NVTC (228), and representatives of the public and private organisations who sit on the Council Committee (23). The results show that availability of staff, communication, coordination and cooperation between and within divisions or sections of the NVTC, as well as leadership capabilities are crucial in ensuring the effectiveness of the NVTC in playing its role as coordinating agency in the management of vocational training in Malaysia.