

# KSI REVIEW

KSI STRATEGIC INSTITUTE FOR ASIA PACIFIC

**KSI Three Strategic Thrusts:**  
Strategic advice,  
Curated Events and  
Executive Briefings

**January 2022**



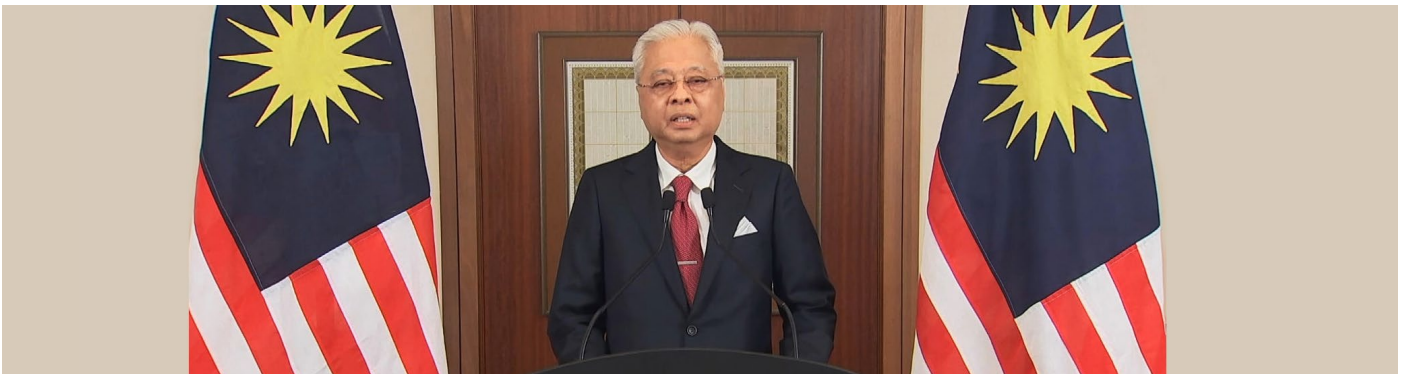
Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific calling on the Former Prime Minister, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin in Parliament House.



KSI President Tan Sri Michael Yeoh hosting dinner for President of Laos H.E. Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith.



KSI President Tan Sri Michael Yeoh presenting his book to the Governor of Penang, TYT Tun Ahmad Fuzi.



2021

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The Prime Minister, Dato Sri Ismail Sabri delivering the Opening Address of the Global Chinese Economic & Technology Summit 2022 via Zoom.



Tan Sri Majid Khan, Deputy Chairman of KSI presenting a memento to the Governor of Penang, TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak while KSI President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh; Patron & Founder, Global Chinese Economic & Technology Summit, Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew and Penang State Exco, YB Chong Eng look on after the Governor's Keynote Address at the Global Chinese Economic and Technology Summit 2021, held in 21 December 2021, Penang, Malaysia.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and Dato Jean Wong calling on the Governor of Melaka, TYT Tun Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam.



KSI Adviser, Datuk Seri Mohd Iqbal presenting a memento to Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economic), YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed while KSI President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh and Deputy Chairman, Tan Sri Majid Khan look on.



KSI Chairman, Tan Sri Barry Goh presenting a memento to the then Minister of Housing and Local Government, YB Puan Zuraida Kamaruddin while KSI Adviser, Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew and President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh look on.



## The 2021 Global Chinese Economic & Technology Summit

16 December 2021

Shangri-La Rasa Sayang, Penang, Malaysia

# Promoting Business, Cultural & Digital Economy Cooperation and Diplomacy



Tan Sri Majid Khan, KSI's Deputy Chairman presenting a memento to the Governor of Penang, TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak whilst KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh look on.



At the end of the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony after the conferment of the Global Chinese Business Excellent Lifetime Achievement Awards on some several distinguished Chinese Entrepreneurs.



TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak, Governor of Penang delivering the Keynote Address at the 2021 Global Chinese Economic & Technology Summit.



Founder & Patron, Global Chinese Economic & Technology Summit, Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew delivering his Welcome Speech.

In his opening address, YB Dato Sri Ismail Sabri, the prime minister said that rebuilding the economy is no easy feat, it is, therefore critical for Malaysians to remain united as the country navigates its way out of the economic downturn brought on by the pandemic. He said Malaysia's pro-business philosophy is evidenced by the government's commitment to the concept of a public-private partnership. He also called upon the private sector to be the catalyst for reform, to drive sustainability

and contribute to our collective goal of making Malaysia ever more resilient. The Prime Minister said Malaysia offers unparalleled advantages for investors not just as a gateway to ASEAN, but also to markets of the world, and several international organisations, in their latest reports, attest to the efficacy of the policies implemented by the government.

He said for instance, the IMD World Competitiveness Centre ranked Malaysia as

the 25th most competitive nation among 64 economies in 2021 and the World Economic Forum, on the Network Readiness Index 2016 ranked Malaysia sixth most digitally savvy government out of 139 economies.

However, the prime minister said in recognising China's economic potential, Malaysia pioneered diplomatic outreach to the republic and became the first ASEAN member state to formalise diplomatic relations with the



republic in 1974. He added that building upon this close and enduring friendship, Malaysia and China have continued to strengthen economic ties, even during the current crisis and China has been Malaysia's largest trading partner since 2009, accounted for 18.6 percent of Malaysia's total trade in 2020.

On investment, the Prime Minister said China emerged as the largest foreign investor in the manufacturing sector in Malaysia from 2016 to 2020. He said during these five years, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, through its agency, the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), approved 243 projects with a total investment of US\$14.91 billion, providing more than 50,000 jobs in Malaysia.

"Renowned Chinese companies such as Huawei, Longi Solar, Jinko Solar, Alliance Steel, Alibaba Group, Geely Auto Group, Xiamen University, and many others have made Malaysia their preferred investment destination. The presence of these world-renowned companies is a testament to Malaysia's business-friendly ecosystem," he said.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Ir Dr Wee Ka Siong who also delivered a pre-recorded speech at the event, said having Section C of the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) reverted to its original northern alignment will make the project economically competitive while reducing its social and environmental impacts.

"The ECRL is part of the Chinese government's Belt and Road Initiative, and it will be the land bridge that will link the peninsula's East and West coasts and spur

growth. It is meant to close the development and economic gaps between the East and West coasts.

The Minister also said the Transport Ministry had implemented several port clearing exercises during the Covid-19-triggered movement control order to ensure unhindered movement of goods from the country's ports, with adequate and uninterrupted movement of goods for conventional marketplaces and e-commerce activities. For example, the Port of Tanjung Pelepas had successfully achieved 10 million 20-foot equivalent units (TEUs) in container handling on Nov 23 this year which is an impressive achievement as it had not only exceeded last year's 9.85 million TEUs but exceeded it even before the year ended.

The Minister also added that the government is thankful that Port Klang has been recognised as having the most efficient operations among 22 of the world's biggest and most prominent ports, handling an average of 131 ships weekly and taking just 1.7 days to service each vessel, compared with 1.3 days in 2017 to 2019 before the pandemic occurred.

"This is quicker than our regional competitors at a time when 77% of ports are experiencing abnormally long turnaround times, according to a Bloomberg report," said Datuk Seri Ir Dr Wee to the audience that included the Yang di-Pertua Negri Tun Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak, KSI president cum organising chairman Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, and GCET Summit founder and patron, Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew.

China's Ambassador to Malaysia H E Ouyang Yujing said in a special address that China

will share many development opportunities with other countries. He spoke of how China and Malaysia are working together to achieve economic recovery and promote digital and green efforts and the importance of the contributions of the global Chinese diaspora.

China's Ambassador to Malaysia, H E Ouyang Yujing, also delivered a pre-recorded speech at the event, which saw Ahmad Fuzi presenting the World Chinese Excellent Entrepreneur Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of KSI to 13 recipients.

### The Recipients

#### Ms Esther Ng

Chief Content Officer, Star Media Group Bhd

#### Tan Sri Lim Keng Cheng

Non-Executive Chairman, Lim Seong Hai Capital Bhd

#### Datuk Seri Kenny Ong

Chairman, MTT Group of Companies

#### Datuk Dr. Jessie Tang

CEO & Founder, East West One Group

#### Datuk Andrew Lim Tatt Keong

Executive Chairman, Gama Sogo Group of Companies

#### Prof Datuk Dr Jayles Yeoh

Executive Education President & CEO, AIMS MET



Standing Left to Right: KSI's Deputy Chairman, Tan Sri Majid Khan; KSI's President & GCET Organizing Chairman, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh; Governor of Penang, TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak; GCET Founder & Patron, Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew; and YB Chong Eng, Penang State EXCO for Social Development and Non-Islamic Religious Affairs.



Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Dr. Wee Ka Siong, Minister of Transport, Malaysia, delivering a joint Special Address at the Opening Ceremony of the 2021 Global Chinese Economic and Technology Summit.



H.E. Ouyang Yujing, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Malaysia delivering his Special Address.



Mr. Zhang Xiaoliang, Executive Vice Chairman, China Centre for International Economic Exchanges and Former Vice Minister of National Development and Reform Commission delivering his Special Address via a pre recorded video.



Standing Left to Right: KSI's Deputy Chairman, Tan Sri Majid Khan; KSI's President & GCET Organizing Chairman, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh; Executive Chairman, Juwai-IQI, Mr. Georg Chmiel; the Governor of Penang, TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak; and Penang State EXCO, YB Chong Eng.



Posing together with the Governor of Penang, TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak are Founders of MACROKIOSK, Dato' Henry Goh (left) and Dato' Kenny Goh.

Other recipients include Revenue Group Bhd managing director and CEO, Datuk Eddie Ng Chee Siong; Kuala Lumpur International Healthcare Centre CEO, Jocelyn Sim Kok Fang; CBRE/WTW managing director, Foo Gee Jen; Leader Energy Holding Sdn Bhd CEO Gan Boon Hean; Innoprise Plantations Sdn Bhd managing director Tan Aik Kiong; Open Road Group of Companies founder and adviser, Datuk David Goh; and Bioplus Life Corp chairman, Datuk Dr Chin Yew Sin.

In the Summit, various sessions were held to discuss various topics of interests. One of the over-riding theme of the summit is that China and Southeast Asia should keep working together to strengthen regional integration in an effort to hasten the economic recovery from the pandemic, a forum heard on Thursday.

Senior officials, business leaders and experts at the Global Chinese Economic and Technology Summit discussed the need for nations to develop both physical and digital infrastructure and to invest more on renewable energy in line with global climate commitments.

H E Jusuf Kalla, former vice-president of Indonesia, said the global economy will recover with the cooperation and participation of all.

Noting that ASEAN is China's biggest trading partner, speakers said the RCEP, which takes effect on Jan 1, together with China-led initiatives like the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Belt and Road Initiative, will further strengthen diplomatic and economic ties between the two sides.

"Despite the pandemic and a slowdown in economic growth, the Chinese market has been becoming much more open for international investors and companies," Fan Gang, president of the China Development Institute and director of China's National Economic Research Institute, said via video.

Mr. Zhang Xiaoqiang, executive vice-chairman of the China Center for International Economic Exchanges and former vice-minister of China's National Development and Reform Commission, said the Chinese diaspora is an important element for the development of China's economy. ASEAN countries are home to some of the world's biggest ethnic Chinese communities.

"We are willing to work together with other Chinese (community) organizations to exchange our ideas and to strengthen our relationship and cooperation in this post-pandemic environment," Mr Zhang said in his video address.

Experts and business leaders also gathered online to talk about China's role in the world economy in a panel discussion.

Dr Chheang Vannarith, president of the Asia Vision Institute in Cambodia, highlighted ASEAN's move to develop clean energy and how China can help the region develop clean technologies and digital infrastructure.

The construction of huge projects in Cambodia and Laos has gone ahead even during the pandemic, said Dr Chheang Vannarith, citing the launch of the China-Laos Railway.

Sir Danny Alexander, vice-president for policy and strategy at the AIIB, said there is a "strong focus on the infrastructure that is needed to enable connectivity and to enable recovery to take place in a green way".

He added: "(We need to) recognize that the action that we take in this decade... is absolutely critical to achieving the financial flows that are necessary to the developing world."

Prof Dr Din Syamsuddin, chairman of the Centre for Dialogue and Cooperation Among Civilizations in Jakarta, said Indonesians are "delighted to see the two countries-Indonesia and China-be in a close relationship".

Dr Wang Huiyao, counselor to the China State Council and president of the Beijing-based Center for China and Globalization, and Felix Sutter, president of the Swiss Chinese Chamber of Commerce, were among the participants in the discussion, which was moderated by Mr Steve Howard, secretary-general of the Australia-based Global Foundation.

In other sessions, prominent academicians, and business leaders led the discussion on the state of the digital technology and digital economy post pandemic. Amongst them were Mr. Goh Peng Ooi, Founder & Chairman, Silverlake Group, Malaysia; Mr. Poo Ching Loong, Adviser, Max Solution (M) Sdn Bhd / CEO, Yes Boss Corporation, Malaysia; Mr. Pindar Wong, Chairman, VeriFi (Hong Kong)

Limited; Ms. Mei Lin Fung, Chair & Co-Founder, People-Centered Internet, California Professor Barbara Meynert, Senior Advisor, Fung Group, Hong Kong; Mr. Georg Chmiel, Chairman, Juwai-IQI Holdings, Malaysia; Mr. Matthew Chen, CEO, Sunline Holding; Hong Kong Mr. Chu Jenn Weng, Managing Director, President & CEO, ViTrox Corporation Berhad, Malaysia; Mr. CS Goh, Co-Founder & Chief Corporate Officer, MACROKIOSK, Malaysia and Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific / Digital Entrepreneurs & Angel Investor, Digital Way Ventures Ltd, Malaysia.

For session 3 on how can business embrace new opportunities in new growth areas, it discussed how new technologies and innovations will change the global business landscape after the global pandemic impacting on several economic sectors such as manufacturing, logistics, healthcare, education, agriculture and green energy. This panel consists of Mr. Guna Mahalingam, Founder & CEO, Strategic Swiss Partners AG, Zurich; Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder & Group Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK, Malaysia; Dr Eden Woon, President, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand; Professor Dr Xiang Bing, Founding Dean and Professor of China Business and Globalization, Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business (CKGSB), China; Professor Annie Koh, Professor Emeritus of Finance (Practice) and Senior Academic Advisor, Business Families Institute and International Trading Institute, Singapore Management University; Professor Dato' Sri Dr. Mike Chan, Co-Owner & Founder, European Wellness Biomedical Group, Germany; Professor Dato' Dr. Chin Yew Sin, JP, Advisor for Asia-Pacific Region, Global One Belt One Road Association, Malaysia and Dr Edward Tse, Founder and CEO, Gao Feng Advisory Group, China /Founding Governor, Hong Kong Institution for International Finance.

The summit also saw two parallel sessions happening. The first parallel session on the role of the global Chinese diaspora in global recovery and how their contributions have shaped their home communities and the global economy. This panel saw a diverse group of speakers - Dato' Seri Ooi Chean See, Conductor (Music) / Former Tourism Ambassador Malaysia to Germany; Dr Mabel Miao, Co-founder & Secretary General, Center for China and Globalization, China; Mr. Stanley Loh, CEO, World Capacity Builders Inc., Canada; Mr. Ch'ng Huck Theng, President,



CHT Network Sdn Bhd, Malaysia; Mr. Edmond Yeo, JP, Chair, Chinese Information and Advice Centre (CIAC) /former Councillor, London Borough of Ealing, United Kingdom; Professor Dr Kriengsak Chareonwongsak, President, Institute of Future Studies for Development / former Member of Parliament and Adviser to Prime Minister of Thailand and Professor James Chin, Professor of Asian Studies, University of Tasmania, Australia.

The other parallel session on women leaders networking roundtable on harnessing the power and potential of women leaders. This Roundtable able brings together Women Leaders in Government, Business, Education, Research and Civil Society to share ideas, thoughts and experiences on the challenges, issues and key trends facing women in the post pandemic new normal. It will also focus on how women leaders can made a difference in building a more sustainable and inclusive future. The panel included The Hon Madam Chong Eng, Penang State Minister (EXCO) for Social Development and Non- Islamic Religious Affairs /Chairperson, Penang Women's Development Corporation, Malaysia; Dr Selena Ng, Board Member, the Global Foundation, Australia; Mrs. Gulbakhor Makhkamova, Founder & Chairperson of the Management Board, National Association of Business Women of Tajikistan; Dato' Ng Wan Peng, President, Big Bad Wolf Ventures, Malaysia; Ms. Rina Neoh, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Ficus Venture Capital, Malaysia; Professor Dato' Dr. Jayles Yeoh, Founder & CEO, AIMSMET Group of Companies, Malaysia; Ms. Hadriani Uli Tiur Ida Silalahi, Chair of the Department of Economy and International Relations, Indonesian Women's Congress (KOWANI); Datin Yap Shin Siang, CEO, YYC Group, Malaysia and Dato'

Dr. Jessie Tang, Founder & CEO, East West One Group /Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific, Malaysia . At the closing ceremony, Tan Sri Lim Gait Tong, President, China ASEAN Business Association / Chairman, World Lim Association announced that the next edition of the Global Chinese Economic and Technology Summit 2022 will be held in Jinan, Shandong Province, China.

**The Summit was supported by Silverlake Axis Group (Main Sponsor); Kuok Brothers Sdn Berhad (Strategic Partner); Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad; Chmiel.my and Juwai IQI; MACROKIOSK, AIMSMET Group of Companies, CBRE | WTW and European Wellness Group.**

The Summit saw the participation of 180 participants attending onsite and some 250 attending online.

Prior to the GCET held on 16 December 2021 in Penang, a rebranding and relaunched ceremony was held on 10 December 2021 at the Mines Resort and Golf Club on 10 December 2021.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs YB Dato' Sri Saifuddin Abdullah launched the Global Chinese Economic & Technology Summit (previously known as the World Chinese Economic Summit) which was founded by Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew and Tan Sri Michael Yeoh in 2009. The WCES was first held in the Palace of the Golden Horses 13 years ago and hosted by its Founder and Patron Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew.

Following the global pandemic and with the focus on global recovery and the urgent need for global cooperation and global partnership

it is timely to rebrand and rename the World Chinese Economic Summit into the Global Chinese Economic & Technology Summit.

The focus on technology is also important for sustainable global recovery as technology is a key game changer and will play a major role in the new global economy. Not only is digital economy important but also green technology, health technology and agro technology as well.

The Founder and Patron Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, said, "From the beginning I have always emphasized on the role of the Global Chinese and connecting the Global Chinese Diaspora". Hence this rebranding is in line with my original vision and objective. "I have also emphasized the importance of learning from East and West, whereby GCETS will provide a global stage for countries and corporates to learn from one another and co-create a stronger global economy," added Tan Sri Lee. ■



KSI's Senior Executive Director, Dato' Wei Chuan Beng presenting a memento to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dato' Seri Saifuddin Abdullah at the end of the launching ceremony. Looking on is Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Founder and Patron of the Global Chinese Economic & Technology Summit.



Dr. Jonathan Choi, Chairman, Sunwah Group of Hong Kong speaking at the session on the Rise of Dragon - China's Role in Post Pandemic World Economy.



Distinguished speakers at the session on the Digital Technology and Digital Economy. Left to Right: Mr. Poo Ching Loong, Adviser, Max Solution; KSI's Senior Executive Director, Dato' Wei Chuan Beng; Chairman, Juwai-IQI Holdings, Mr. Georg Chmiel; and CEO, ViTrox Corporation Bhd, Mr. Chu Jenn Weng.



Panel speakers joining on Zoom on the session on How Can Business Embrace New Opportunities in the New Growth Areas. From Top Left to Right: Dato' Henry Goh, Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK; Prof. Dr. Xiang Bing, Founding Dean and Prof. of China Business and Globalization, Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business; Mr. Guna Mahalingam, CEO, Strategic Swiss Partners AG, Zurich. From Bottom Left to Right: Dr. Edward Tse, CEO, Gao Feng Advisory Group (moderator); Dr. Eden Woon, President, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand; and Prof. Annie Koh, Prof. Emeritus of Finance (Practice), Singapore Management University.



Panel Speakers joining on Zoom at the session on the Rise of Dragon - China's Role in Post Pandemic World Economy. From Left to Right: Mr. Steve Howard, Secretary General, The Global Foundation, Australia (Moderator); Dr. Wang Huiyao, Counsellor to State Council China & President, Center for China and Globalization; Sir Danny Alexander, Vice President for Policy and Strategy, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, China; From Bottom Left to Right: Prof. Dr. Din Syamsuddin, Chairman, Center for Dialogue and Cooperation among Civilization, Indonesia; Dr. Yan Lijin, Chairman, Silk Road International Foundation, China; and Mr. Felix Sutter, President, Swiss Chinese Chamber of Commerce.



Distinguished Speakers from the Session of the Digital Technology and Digital Economy. Top Left to Right: Mr. Goh Peng Ooi, Executive Chairman, Silverlake Group; Ms. Fung Mei Lin, Chair & Co-Founder, People-Centered Internet, California; and Mr. Pindar Wong, Chairman, VeriFi (Hong Kong) Ltd. Bottom Left to Right: Prof. Barbara Meynert, Senior Adviser, Fung Group; Mr. Matthew Chen, CEO, Sunline Holding; and Mr. CS Goh, Chief Corporate Officer, MACROKIOSK.



## The National Recovery Summit

9 September 2021, Virtual Summit

# Winning the War against COVID – The Road to Recovery

Jointly organized by the National Recovery Council, The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL) and the KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific



9 SEPTEMBER 2021  
VIRTUAL SUMMIT



YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul bin Tengku Abdul Aziz, The Coordinating Minister of the NRP and Minister of Finance delivered the Opening Keynote Address at the National Recovery Summit 2021 virtually. On the right Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific.

The National Recovery Plan is a four-phase road map charting the way forward to return the nation to normalcy after the recent health and economic crisis caused by COVID-19. Its successful implementation depends on a whole of nation and whole of society approach. The National Recovery Summit aims to provide further information and clarification in the NRP and gathers support from business, civil society, Think Tanks, experts, and academicians. The Summit will allow the National Recovery Council to obtain feedback. The meeting of minds at the Summit will help ensure the success of the NRP by increasing buy-in from all segments of Malaysian society.

In his opening address, the Minister of Finance said the government's Budget 2022 plans will be based on boosting the economy and strengthening public healthcare as Malaysia shifts into living with Covid-19 as an endemic disease.

He added that the government will be rolling out five major public health initiatives under the National Recovery Plan, which will also be part of next year's budget. The new measures include setting up a dedicated call centre to offer immediate assistance in managing Covid-19; whole genome sequencing conducted by the Institute of Medical Research to detect the presence and spread of new variants in Malaysia; studying better means to Find, Test, Trace, Isolate and Support (FTTIS) Covid-19 patients; and managing patients suffering long Covid-19.

Booster shots or a multi-year vaccination programme will also be included as part of the public healthcare protocol, he added. Moving forward, the government will progressively update the National Recovery Plan to prepare Malaysia for the next normal of living with Covid-19 as an endemic disease.

The Minister of Finance said that without a doubt, Covid-19 has shown that public healthcare is an important foundation to enable other sectors to operate. As such, we will not compromise on what is required to place our public healthcare on a stronger footing, through the NRP, and later through Budget 2022," he said in his speech at the National Recovery Summit 2021 here.

Tengku Zafrul said the public healthcare system will be shored up to prepare for future pandemics as well as the challenges of an ageing population and non-communicable diseases. New polices will focus on developing systems and partnerships that can be activated rapidly in a pandemic as well as the detection of infectious diseases and stopping transmissions at an early stage. The public healthcare system will be strengthened to handle surges in future infections while maintaining essential services.

He added that the government will also develop an integrated epidemic-prevention agenda.

Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, ECKL's Advisory Council Chairman said in his opening address that there is a pressing need to address the

current foreign labour issue in Malaysia which is currently affecting global companies' investment sentiments on businesses based in Malaysia. Allegations of forced labour and modern slavery, currently affecting some plantation companies and rubber gloves manufacturing companies which are related to the bonding of the foreign workers by recruitment agents in their country of origin, because of the huge debt that had to incur before they come to Malaysia. This a major pressing issue that needs to be addressed by the government in two years.

He suggested that the government should look into the aspect of engaging with the US government to secure the upliftment of the Withhold Release Order (WRO) by the US Customs and Border Protection, issued currently to four million companies. In addition the government should also addressed the policy on the appointment of foreign recruitment agents, which charge very high fees on foreign workers. Unless we address this urgently, the WRO, and also the categorisation of Malaysia as a Tier Three country under the Trafficking in Persons Report will cause untold damage to the Malaysian economy.

This is because in line with global commitments towards sustainability and ESG, many global businesses will exclude companies that are accused of engaging in forced labour practices and modern slavery from the supply chain. And if this spreads to the E&E sector, the damage will be irreparable.

In the Closing Address, former Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, speaking in his capacity as the Recovery Council (NRC) chairman, said the government's strategy has been very clear from the beginning. It is also expected that next year would be a recovery year for the country's economy but the path to recovery can be prolonged and a painful process.

In charting the recovery process, the NRC Charman aid the government through the NRC will build on and explore several themes, such as strengthening Malaysia's public healthcare system and related industries to enhance preparedness to exit the pandemic into the endemic stage and preparing for potential future pandemics.

In addition, he said there is the need to identify economic sectors that require the utmost attention with a focus on tourism, education and the small and medium enterprises in the short to medium term while identifying and properly incentivizing businesses which have good growth potentials in the medium to long term; as well as creating a conducive and sustainable ecosystem for inclusive growth which will enable a robust recovery.

Other themes include enhancing the adoption of digitalization in businesses and government services and providing the necessary infrastructure that will encourage the adoption of digital technologies.

He added that the government need to ensure that the growth nurtured through the recovery process is distributed evenly, to avoid widening of income gaps and worsening fault lines in our society. As with any crisis



management situation, the NRC chairman raised the point that speed is of the essence, noting the recent Delta Covid-19 variant, which spreads faster and is far deadlier, is the culprit behind the spike in cases not just in Malaysia but everywhere else in the world.

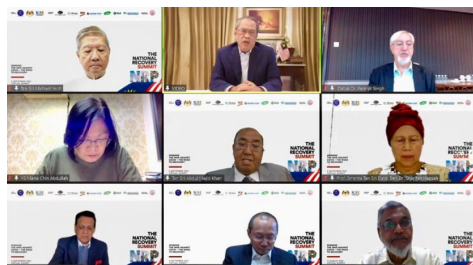
Therefore, we must never let our guard down and we must be vigilant against the constantly evolving threats the virus poses to our nation. We must constantly improve our Covid-19 pandemic management, especially in infusing new technologies and consistently upgrading our physical and digital response capacity in testing, tracing, and isolating. There is a lot of work ahead of us. Therefore, he strongly urge all Malaysians to be united and be resolute in our conviction that we can win this war on Covid-19 and rebuild our country.

He further said that all must put aside all differences whether in politics, business, society or family to combine our collective might in this fight against Covid-19. We must come together to heal lives, heal the economy, and heal the nation. Malaysia needs all her sons and daughters to come forward to restore her glory.

Other speakers in the summit for Session One on Working Together to Achieve the NRP included Datuk Dr. Hishamshah Bin Mohd Ibrahim, Deputy Director General of Health (Research and Technical Support); Tan Sri Dato' Soh Thian Lai, President, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers; Datuk Dr. Kuljit Singh, President, Association of Private Hospitals of Malaysia; Ms. Nadiah Wan,



Group Photograph from Left to Right (First Row): YB Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul bin Tengku Abdul Aziz, The Coordinating Minister of the NRP and Minister of Finance; Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur; and Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman Advisory Council of ECKL. (Second Row): Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific; Tan Sri Majid Khan, Deputy Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific & Executive Chairman, Jaycorp Berhad; and Tan Sri Dato' Soh Thian Lai, President, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers.



Group Photograph from Left to Right (First Row): Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific; YB Tan Sri Dato' Haji Muhyiddin bin Haji Mohd Yassin, Chairman, National Recovery Council (NRC); and Datuk Dr. Parmjit Singh, President, Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities (MAPCU) and President, Asia Pacific University. (Second Row): YB Maria Chin Abdullah, Vice Chairman, All Party Parliamentary Group on SDGs / Member of Parliament for Petaling Jaya; Tan Sri Majid Khan, Deputy Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific & Executive Chairman, Jaycorp Berhad; and Prof. Emerita Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Sharifah Hapsah, President, National Council of Women's Organisation (NCWO). (Third Row): Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur; Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman, Advisory Council of ECKL; and Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Co-Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance.

Chief Executive Officer, Thomson Hospital Kota Damansara & Group Chief Executive Officer, TMC Life Sciences Berhad; Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur For Session Two on Building Back Better – Rebuilding and Resetting Business and the Economy, the speakers are Datuk Mohammed Nageeb Wahab, Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Palm Oil Association (MPOA); Dato' Azlin Ahmad Shaharbi, Chairman, National Federation of Women Entrepreneurs Association Malaysia; Mr. Abrar A. Anwar, Chairman, British Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (BMCC) / Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered Malaysia; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and former Chairman, Young President Organization (YPO Malaysia) & PIKOM; Mr. Stan Singh, Secretary-General, Malaysia Retail Chain Association (MRCA) and Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific

In Session Three on Overcoming Community and Social Issues – A Whole of Society Approach, the panel of speakers are Prof. Emerita Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Sharifah Hapsah, President, National Council of Women's Organisation (NCWO); YB Maria Chin Abdullah, Vice Chairman, All Party Parliamentary Group on SDGs / Member of Parliament for Petaling Jaya; Datuk Dr. Parmjit Singh, President, Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities & President, Asia Pacific University; YB Dr. Kelvin Yii, Member of Parliament for Bandar Kuching and Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Co-Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance

Tan Sri Abdul Majid Khan, Deputy Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific & Executive Chairman, Jaycorp Berhad delivered the concluding and thank you remarks on behalf of the organizers.

Arising from the proceedings of the summit, several recommendations were put forward.

#### Key Recommendations:

- Allegations of forced labour and modern slavery that are affecting plantation and rubber glove manufacturing companies must be addressed through engagement with the United States government to uplift the withhold release orders and reviewing policies on the appointment of foreign recruitment agents.
- A standardised and uniformed SOPs should be implemented for all economic sectors to reopen during the recovery phase. Approval letters should be phased out once vaccination rates are high and depend instead on digital vaccination certificates.
- A concept of corporate accountability towards healthcare on an individual and firm-level should be promoted. Companies should invest in better ventilation systems and consistently take precautionary steps including the provision of indoor air quality report assessments of their factories and offices.
- Covid test kits should be produced domestically and supplied at lower cost to make them affordable for the public. Moreover, the government should enhance

- the monitoring of disease transmission through automation and data collection.
- The introduction of ceiling prices on medical services has held back the transfer of many complex medical cases from public hospitals to the private hospital creating inefficiencies in the healthcare system. The government should re-examine the reimbursement on selected cases to encourage the private sectors to take up more difficult and costly medical cases.
- The Malaysian government is urged to unfreeze the recruitment of foreign workers to allow the palm oil industry to optimise production as profits from the industry can be shared with the nation and help in recovery efforts. The archaic tax structure for the palm oil industry should be reviewed as it is currently the most heavily taxed sector in the country that comes in the form of windfall taxes, levies, and cess.
- The government is urged to work closely with industries, NGOs, and entrepreneurs in charting a business outlook for Malaysia in the post-pandemic, to look into the needs of various SME segments and match specific programmes to these SMEs to allow them to build back better in the fastest time possible.
- The entire supply chain ecosystem must be allowed to operate as many companies are part of the global supply chain without making distinctions between essential and non-essential businesses, which has caused much confusion.
- A COVID-19 Liberation Policy should be adopted for the next two years that involves the government suspending regulatory barriers which are constraining businesses in the digital space and the development of digital talent. Regulations should also be relaxed to facilitate investment.
- Enabling grants, such as those encouraging businesses to undergo digitalisation, can be given in tranches to spread out financial burdens on public coffers.
- Women need to be involved in conversations and decision-making processes in the COVID-19 recovery plan as diversity in ideas is vital for innovative solutions.
- Identity and populist politics must be left behind in Malaysia's transition into recovery.
- Tertiary education needs to be made more accessible to Malaysians by providing an enabling ecosystem that allows for decisions to be made without the constraints of unrelenting bureaucratic processes.
- It is crucial that a community-centric approach is taken in gearing towards a recovery plan. This requires every person to be involved in empowering community champions on the ground, which in turn will allow Malaysia to deal with issues more effectively, specifically and sustainably, while being culturally sensitive at the same time.

The Summit was supported by Kuok Brothers Sdn Berhad, EcoWorld, FGV Holdings, Jaycorp Berhad, George Kent (Malaysia) Berhad, Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad and Westports Holdings. ■



## The Malaysian Economic Summit 2021

13 July 2021, Virtual Summit

# Spurring Malaysia's Productivity and Growth After the COVID-19 Pandemic



YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Senior Minister and Minister of International Trade & Industry (MITI) delivered Opening Keynote Address at the Malaysian Economic Summit 2021 held virtually on 13 July 2021. His speech was read by MITI Deputy Minister YB Senator Lim Ban Hong.

The Malaysian Economic Summit (MES) 2021 was jointly organised by KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL) on 13th July 2021 which was held virtually with the theme "Spurring Malaysia's Productivity and Growth After the COVID-19 Pandemic".

Malaysia is the 4th largest economy of South East Asia and has continued to perform strongly in recent years, due to a strong global demand for electronics, increased demand for commodities, such as oil and gas, an improving labour market, a pro-cyclical budget and ample infrastructure spending. However, the government's declining expenditure as well as lower public and private investments already reduced economic growth to 4.3% in 2019. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the growth has been sharply reversed to -6% in 2020. Nevertheless, the IMF's October 2020 forecast is expecting a strong rebound at 7.8% in 2021 and a stabilisation at 6% in 2022, subject to the post-pandemic global economic recovery. In its most recent January 2021 update of the World Economic Outlook, the IMF has revised its GDP growth projections for Malaysia to 7% in 2021 and 6% in 2022 (representing a difference from October 2020 WEO projections of -0.8% in 2021).

Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman, ECKL Advisory Council and Chairman of Bursa Malaysia Berhad said there was a need for further customisation of policies to support sectors and economic regions that are more affected by the Covid-19 pandemic than others in his Welcome Address at the Summit.

In his speech, Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar also lauded Malaysia's rising Covid-19 vaccination rate, taking cue from the progress in the UK where death rate stands at single digits despite elevated daily cases, with nearly 90% and 66% of its population having received first and second jabs respectively.

The Chairman said that the theme of the Malaysian Economic Summit "Spurring Malaysia's Productivity and Growth After the COVID-19 Pandemic" were timely organised and the topics to be discussed are all relevant to the current times and imperative as the community look towards new approaches in navigating the strained economy, along the path of robust and sustainable, inclusive economy and he also pointed to the increasing importance of adopting environment, social and governance (ESG) practices for businesses as the market environment remains volatile and challenging.

Malaysia's economy is now on the path to recovery and is projected to chart better growth this year, said YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Senior Minister and Minister of International Trade & Industry (MITI) in his Opening Keynote Address. The Minister also said that the brighter economic prospect was attributable to rising global demand, increased public and private sector spending, as well as continued policy support. "This (brighter prospect) will also be reflected in the recovery in labour market conditions and higher production in the manufacturing sector, particularly in the electrical and electronics (E&E) and the oil and gas facilities. His speech was read by MITI Deputy Minister Y.B. Senator Datuk Lim Ban Hong.



The Welcome Address delivered by Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman, ECKL Advisory Council / Chairman, Bursa Malaysia Berhad at the Malaysian Economic Summit 2021.

The first session of the MES discussed on "Will Productivity and Growth Return After the COVID-19 Pandemic? How to Strengthen the Competitiveness of the Malaysian Economy in the New Normal?". Speaking in this panel moderated by Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL), were Prof Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Noor Azlan Ghazali, Professor of Economics, UKM-Graduate School of Business, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) / Member of the Economic Action Council (EAC) and Executive Director of the Secretariat of EAC, Tan Sri Yong Poh Kon, Chairman of Royal Selangor International Sdn. Bhd / Member of the ECKL Advisory Council, Dr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Senior Adviser, Khazanah Research Institute (KRI), Prof. Dr. Evelyn S. Devadason, Professor, Faculty of Economics & Administration, University of Malaya and Mr. Andrew Khoo, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, The MUI Group.

Prof Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Noor Azlan Ghazali said that the shortage of high-skilled talents must be addressed as soon as possible to meet the needs of local industries. We have to recognise that part of the severity (of the problems) that we are facing now is not due to Covid-19, it was already there before Covid-19. If you are talking about productivity and growth, it is already an issue for all of us, that is, our inability to push for growth and inability to push for strong transformation towards more high-skilled jobs.

Tan Sri Yong Poh Kon, Chairman of Royal Selangor International Sdn. Bhd and Member of the ECKL Advisory Council, urged the government to review the categorisation of essential and non-essential services as it has partly contributed to Malaysia's economic slowdown. He also suggested that we need to have a new description on what is essential and non-essential as there are so many supply chains in the country.

The government should be bold in its fiscal policy and not be held hostage to credit rating agencies said Dr Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Senior Adviser of Khazanah Research Institute (KRI).

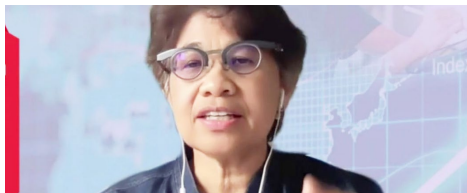
Dr. Jomo also said the government should stop relying on a top-down approach in the pandemic management as it is not applicable for all situations. He stressed that the country should also stop looking at stay-at-home lockdown as the only option. "We in Malaysia hesitate, and quite understandably, because we have a situation where giving more money to such a government may be a licence for disaster, for increasing corruption and abuse. "So, people understandably hesitate in Malaysia, but we have to recognise that countercyclical fiscal policies are what is contributing to economic performance recovery in the West, besides vaccinations," Dr Jomo explained.

The MUI Group chairman and CEO, Mr. Andrew Khoo said it was recently reported that German, Dutch and Japanese trade groups in Malaysia have expressed concern over the government's Covid-19 response and also hinting those businesses are rethinking their long-term investment decisions. We need collective leadership, both public and private sectors. Strong, purposeful, clear leadership devoid of self-interest but rather, with the right intention of improving society by making a positive impact. He said the government needs to improve the national competitiveness, in terms of foreign direct investment by introducing more investor-friendly policies and incentives. Mr. Andrew also suggested the government to speed up the implementation of the National Fibreisation and Connectivity Plan which aims to improve the country's digital connectivity by rolling out the 5G network.

The second session of the MES focused on "Economic Recovery: Toward a Green, Resilient and Inclusive Future". The Panel distinguished role-players in this session included Datuk Muhamad Umar Swift, Chief Executive Officer, Bursa Malaysia Berhad, Datuk K.Yogeeswaran, Former Deputy Director-General (Macro), Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department, Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder & Group Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK, Prof Dato' Rajah Rasiah, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya and was moderated by Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila Ramli Head of Monitoring & Evaluation, All



Mr. Andrew Khoo, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, The MUI Group, panelist in Session One on Will Productivity and Growth Return After the Covid-19 Pandemic? How to Strengthen the Competitiveness of the Malaysia Economy in the New Normal?



Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila Ramli, Head of Monitoring & Evaluation, All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) / Principal Fellow Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), UKM moderated the Session Two on Economic Recovery: Toward a Green, Resilient and Inclusive Future.



Prof. Dato' Rajah Rasiah, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya, speak in Session Two on "Economic Recovery: Toward a Green, Resilient and Inclusive Future."

Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) / Principal Fellow Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), UKM.

The Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, Malaysia, YB Dato Sri Alexander Nanta Linggi delivered the Special Address on "Strengthening the Domestic Economy, Building Resilience" in the afternoon.

The Minister stated that Malaysia has the responsibility to build a reserve of knowledge, finance and industrial capital in the country, which will enable us to survive and even prosper in the next few years. He believes that Malaysia can no longer become a country

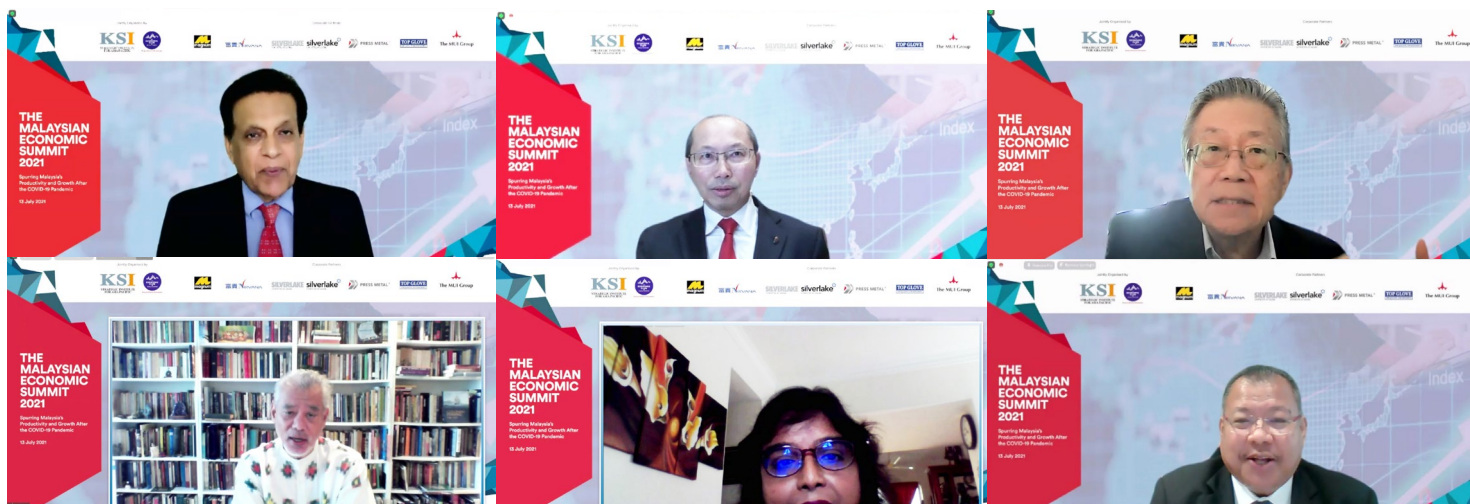
that is completely dependent on agricultural exports and cheap manufacturing. Country must also continue to reshape the economy because to build a sustainable and resilient economy, change is the only constant. Industry 4.0 and the digital economy have enabled Malaysian companies in various forms to join the digital trend and take advantage of the advancements brought about by technological developments to gain a place in the market.

YB Dato Sri Alexander Nanta Linggi also pointed out that the epidemic has greatly changed consumption patterns and economic trends. As countries-imposed lockdowns and borders closed, consumers switched to online platform consumption, and Malaysia is no exception.

Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob, Board of Trustee, Yayasan MEA moderated the session three on "Changing Drivers of Economic Growth - The Case for Malaysia". The Panellists in this session included Mr. Muhammad Azmi Zulkifli, Chief Executive Officer, InvestKL, Ms. Dzuleira Abu Bakar, Chief Executive Officer, Technology Park Malaysia (TPM), Pn. Shareen Dato' Abdul Ghani, Co-Founder & CEO, Sorga Innovation Sdn Bhd / The creators of gigxglobal.com and Datuk Hj Shamsuddin bin Bardan, Executive Director, Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF).

The final session discussed on "MSMEs - Customizing Restructuring Solutions for Smaller Firms" was moderated by Mr. Wayne Lim, Group Chief Executive Officer / Group Chief Editor, MALAYSIA SME® Media Group (MSME). Mr. LL Koong, Chairman, SMEs Committee, ACCCIM / Managing Partner, Reanda LLKG International, Dato' Azlin Ahmad Shaharbi, Chairman, National Federation of Women Entrepreneur Associations Malaysia and Associate Prof Dr Sohail Ahmed, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Business Management (FBM) - University Technology MARA (UiTM) were amongst the panellists in this last session.

We are also grateful to our Corporate Partners, Silverlake, Magnum, Nirvana, Press Metal, Top Glove and The MUI Group for their contributions and support. ■



Group Photograph from Left to Right (First Row): Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL); Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman, ECKL Advisory Council / Chairman, Bursa Malaysia Berhad; and Tan Sri Yong Poh Kon, Chairman of Royal Selangor International Sdn. Bhd / Member of the ECKL Advisory Council. (Second Row): Dr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Senior Adviser, Khazanah Research Institute (KRI); Prof. Dr. Evelyn Devadason, Professor, Faculty of Economics & Administration, University of Malaya; and Prof. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali, Professor of Economics, UKM-Graduate School of Business, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) / Member of the Economic Action Council (EAC) and Executive Director of the Secretariat of EAC.



## The 2021 National Education & Learning Summit

23 March 2021

Berjaya Times Square Hotel Kuala Lumpur

# A Future Ready, Pandemic-Proof Education



Group Photograph from Left to Right: Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific; YB Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad, Minister of Higher Education, Malaysia; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific; Datuk Parmjit Singh, President, Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities (MAPCU); and Mr. Kuna Senathirajah, Group Managing Director, QI Group.

KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific in collaboration with the Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities (MAPCU) and the National Association of Private Educational Institutions (NAPEI) organised a one-day 2021 National Education & Learning Summit with an impressive line-up of panellists and interesting topics on 23rd March 2021 at the Berjaya Times Square Hotel Kuala Lumpur with the theme "A Future Ready, Pandemic-Proof Education".

The summit brought together educationalists, policymakers, leaders of industry and experts in the area of education to discuss key emerging themes to pave the way forward in an attempt to transform Malaysian education to one of world-class quality.

A meeting of great minds to discuss the critical issues and major challenges facing Malaysian education and a dialogue to pave the way forward. Experts will deliberate on the challenges faced and the opportunities ahead in preparing our young to meet the demands of the post-COVID-19 market. The Summit began with Welcome Addresses were given by Tan Sri Dr. Michael Yeoh, President of KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific followed by Datuk Parmjit Singh, President of the Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities (MAPCU), and Assoc. Prof. Elajsolan Mohan, President of the National Association of Private Educational Institutions (NAPEI).

Tan Sri Dr. Michael Yeoh said there are three important challenges that must be addressed urgently, namely the digitalisation of education; diversity in education to ensure



Minister of Higher Education Malaysia, YB Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad with Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI and Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director of KSI in the VIP holding room at the 2021 National Education & Learning Summit.



Special Address by YB Senator Dato' Dr. Mah Hang Soon, Deputy Minister of Education Malaysia via a recorded video at the 2021 National Education & Learning Summit.

women empowerment as well as ethnic and geographical diversity and distinction in education to ensure excellence, standards and quality in policies and delivery.

Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities (MAPCU) President, Datuk Parmjit Singh said there must be a change



Dr. Ahmad Rafee bin Che Kassim, Deputy Director General of Education Malaysia (Teachers Professional Development), Minister of Education Malaysia delivering his view virtually at session on Eureka Moments - New Ways of Teaching in a Pandemic Future" at the 2021 National Education & Learning Summit.

of mindset within the education regulatory framework due to the changes in the younger generation's approach to digitalisation. Parmjit added that even businesses had to reinvent as consumer behaviour has changed as a result of the pandemic, in the same way the expectations of the younger generation had on their education system. Datuk Parmjit also



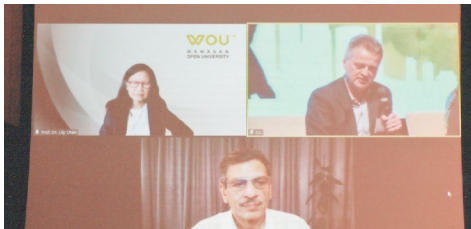
Mr. Tay Kay Luan, Vice-Chancellor, International University of Malaya-Wales (IUMW) delivering his views. On his right is Prof. Zita Mohd. Fahmi, Vice-Chancellor, Quest International University Perak.



YB Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad, Minister of Higher Education Malaysia presenting a memento to our Corporate Sponsor i-graduate represented by Mr. Guy Perring, Regional Director - Asia at the 2021 National Education & Learning Summit. Looking on is KSI President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh.



Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Mohd. Hamdi Abd Shukor, Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaya speaking at the Session One on The University of the Future. Looking on is Mr. Guy Perring, Regional Director-Asia, i-graduate; Moderator for this session.



Prof. Dr. Lily Chan, Chief Executive & Vice Chancellor, Wawasan Open University and Prof. Mushtak Al-Atabi, Provost & CEO, Heriot-Watt University, Malaysia panellists at the Session one on The University of the Future and chaired by Mr. Guy Perring, Regional Director-Asia, i-graduate.



Datuk Parmjit Singh, President, Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities (Center) moderator for the Session Three on Preparing for Jobs of the Future. The panellists joined him physically are Puan Junnaina Binti Husin Chua, Director, Planning and Research Division, Manpower Department, Ministry of Human Resources (left) and Dr. Vincent Kwok Liang Chian, Director, Fairview International School Group (right). Also joining them virtually was Mr. Shaun Edward Cheah, Executive Director, Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MICCI) and Prof. David Whitford, President & CEO, RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus (RUMC).



Dato' Shahira Ahmed Bazari, Managing Director, Yayasan Hasanah moderating the Session Four on Improving Quality Education - Beginning with the Educationalist and Polishing the System. From Left to Right: Datin Noor Azimah Abdul Rahim, Chairman, Parent Action Group for Education Malaysia; Dato' Satinah Syed Saleh, Director, Melewar Learning Resources / President, Malaysian Association for Education (MAE) / Former Member, National Education Advisory Council (2018-2020); Ms. Nina Adlan Disney, Executive Director, Strategic Impact, LeapEd Service Sdn Bhd; and Ms. Jazreel Goh, Country Director, British Council Malaysia.

said that the government must make better policies and improve its implementation into the public and private higher education sectors to address issues of unemployment and underemployment among youths.

The Summit was officiated by the Minister of Higher Education Malaysia, YB Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad. In her Keynote Address, the Minister said digital knowledge must be enhanced to provide quality education to students and ensure that the goals of education digitalisation can be achieved.

The Minister also applauded the efforts undertaken by the organisers to bring together experts, policy makers and industry players to chart the way forward for education, especially under these trying times. "To plan for the future of higher education, open discussions through this platform are crucial in keeping one another informed on the current higher education landscape".

YB Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad said the Ministry, under the Data Plan and Device Packages Initiative to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), had distributed around 200,000 data plans and 4,000 devices to students from the B40 group to ensure that they have access and connectivity to virtual learning session during the lockdown. Since March 2020, we have faced many challenges. Higher education institutions from both the public and private sectors have to abruptly change teaching and learning methods and evolve from classroom to online learning and move forward towards digitalisation due to the pandemic.

Session one "The University of the Future" discussed how higher education institutions (HEIs) can adapt to remain effective and relevant in a pandemic environment and beyond in the foreseeable future. This session

was moderated by Mr. Guy Perring, Regional Director- Asia, i-graduate. The panellists in this session were Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Mohd. Hamdi Abd. Shukor, Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Malaya, Prof. Zita Mohd. Fahmi, Vice-Chancellor, Quest International University Perak, Prof. Dr. Lily Chan, Chief Executive & Vice Chancellor, Wawasan Open University, Mr. Tay Kay Luan, Vice-Chancellor, International University of Malaya-Wales (IUMW) and Prof. Mushtak Al-Atabi, Provost & CEO, Heriot-Watt University, Malaysia.

The next session focused on "Eureka Moments - New Ways of Teaching in a Pandemic Future" COVID-19 has forced us all to go online with some of us struggling to find new innovative and engaging ways to teach students in a meaningful and effective manner. Assoc. Prof. Elajsolan Mohan, President, National Association of Private Educational Institutions (NAPEI) was the moderator for this session. Members of the panel included Dr Ahmad Rafee Bin Che Kassim Deputy Director General of Education Malaysia (Teachers Professional Development), Ministry of Education Malaysia, Mr. Anthony Ng Mun Sun, Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder, MITstem.ORG & International School, Mr. Chan Soon Seng, Chief Executive Officer, Teach For Malaysia and Dr. Ruzaimi Mat Rani, Founder, Drawzania. com.

YB Senator Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon, Deputy Minister of Education, Malaysia, gave a Special Address during the 2021 National Education & Learning Summit on 23rd March 2021. The speech was presented virtually.

In session three on "Preparing for Jobs of the Future" discussed the workplace is rapidly changing, especially in light of the pandemic. What skills and knowledge are needed by future employers? The moderator for this

session was Datuk Parmjit Singh, President, Malaysian Association of Private Colleges and Universities (MAPCU). Puan Junnaina Binti Husin Chua, Director- Planning and Research Division, Manpower Department, Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia, Dr. Vincent Kwok Liang Chian, Director, Fairview International School Group, Mr. Shaun Edward Cheah, Executive Director, Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MICCI) and Prof. David Whitford, President & CEO, RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus (RUMC) were amongst the panel speakers in this session.

The last session focused on "Improving Quality Education - Beginning with the Educationalist and Polishing the System", moderated by Puan Shahira Ahmed Bazari, Managing Director, Yayasan Hasanah. This session discussed on what is the key to unlocking quality education? and the panel members are included Datin Noor Azimah Abdul Rahim, Chairman, Parent Action Group for Education Malaysia (PAGE), Dato' Satinah Syed Saleh, Director, Melewar Learning Resources / President, Malaysian Association for Education (MAE) / Former Member, National Education Advisory Council (2018-2020), Ms. Nina Adlan Disney, Executive Director, Strategic Impact, LeapEd Services Sdn Bhd and Ms. Jazreel Goh, Country Director, British Council Malaysia.

Education standards must be upheld at all times and we must put students first in our education planning and policies.

We are also grateful to our Strategic Partner, Qi Group of Companies; Corporate Sponsors, LeapEd Services Sdn Bhd, i-graduate, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU), Fairview International School and Berjaya Group for their contributions and support for making this Summit a success. ■



9 March 2021  
World Trade Centre Kuala Lumpur

# The Malaysia Sustainability Leadership Summit 2021

The Malaysia Sustainability Leadership Summit (MSLS) 2021 jointly organised by Parliament of Malaysia, All Party Parliamentary Group on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG), Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance and the KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific with the support of the UN Malaysia and the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL) was held at the World Trade Centre Kuala Lumpur on 9th March 2021. The Summit saw the participation of more than 120 participants on site with another 60 participants attending on the virtual platform.

This year the MSLS focuses on the challenges of sustainability and the importance of sustainable leadership to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This high-level summit brought together key stakeholders working together for sustainable and inclusive development – Members of Parliament, Government, Business, Civil Society and Thought Leaders.

The summit prioritized the tripartite partnership between Government, Business and Civil Society and brought in Parliament as the 4th key partner. It aimed to promote the 5P's (People, Planet, Peace, Partnership, Prosperity).



From the Left to Right: Mr. Murugadas Loganathan, Climate Change and Energy Advisor, British High Commission; Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria Head of the secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) / Co-Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance; H.E. Charles Hay MVO, British High Commissioner to Malaysia; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI; and Ms. Caroline Cheong, Chief Operating Officer / Executive Director, Research & Programs, KSI in the holding room at the Malaysia Sustainability Leadership Summit 2021.



YB Dato Sri Rohani Abdul Karim, Chairman for All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM-SDG) and Members of Special Independent Committee on Emergency 2021 delivered the Welcome Speech.

This year with the COVID-19 pandemic impacting on lives and livelihood, health and economy, strengthening partnerships and collaboration becomes more essential. COVID-19 has impacted SDG 1 on poverty as well as SDG 2 on zero hunger, SDG 3 health and well-being. The summit also focused on sustainable cities (SDG 11), the environment and climate action.

The summit began with Introductory Remarks by Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, Organising Chairman of MSLS, President of KSI and Chairman of PROHAM.

Followed by Welcome Speech from YB Dato Sri Rohani Abdul Karim, Chairman for All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM-SDG) and Members of Special Independent Committee on Emergency 2021.

The Special address was delivered by YB Datuk Azhar Azizan Harun, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Malaysia. In his speech, YB Datuk Azhar said there are three factors that best illustrated the key role that Parliament played towards the success of SDGs - the monitoring and strengthening of legislative implementation as well as promoting greater public participation and the novelty of bipartisan cooperation.



YB Tan Sri Azhar Azizan Harun, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Malaysia delivered the Special Address at the Malaysia Sustainability Leadership Summit 2021.

This session provided participants with an update of the progress of the SDGs in Malaysia at the Global and National level. Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria Head of the secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) / Co-Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance was the Moderator. Speakers included: Datuk Saiful Anuar Bin Lebai Hussien, Director-General, Economic Planning Unit (Represented by Mr. Che Kodir bin Baharum, Director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Economic Division, Economic Planning Unit Prime Minister's Department, Malaysia) and Mr. Stefan Priesner, UN Resident Coordinator for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam.

In the first session on "Partnering Business and Civil Society to Achieve the SDGs: Aligning CSR to the SDGs and ESG Goals", the speakers are YB Dr. Kelvin Yii, Member of Parliament, Bandar Kuching / Treasurer All Party Parliamentary Group on SDGs (APPG), Ms. Luanne Sieh, Senior Managing Director, Head Group Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility, CIMB Group, Ms. Lya Rahman, Adviser/Council Member, Institutional Investors Council Malaysia, Pn. Shahira Ahmed Bazari, Managing Director, Yayasan Hasanah and the Moderator is Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila Ramli, Head of Monitoring & Evaluation, All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) / Principal Fellow Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), UKM. This session focusing on the relevant players on the ground, challenges faced by businesses or banks in aligning CSR to SDGs and ESG goals, views on investors perspective with regards to employers and their roles in the wellbeing of their workers and factors can enhance business- CSOs partnership in achieve SDGs and ESG goals.

H.E. Charles Hay MVO, British High Commissioner to Malaysia delivered the Luncheon Special Address at this Summit. His Excellency highlighted that this Leadership Summit was an excellent example of the breadth of work across sectors in Malaysia to drive ambitious actions to arrest climate change and nature degradation. The economic impact of the pandemic has left us worse off than we were at the height of the 2008 financial crisis. Despite the economic challenges, this an opportunity to build back better. We need to see countries support a green, sustainable, and resilient economic recovery from Covid-19.

His Excellency, in his speech outline four goals to get the world on track and how we can work together to make the Paris Agreement a reality. First, we need to step-up change in emissions reductions, secondly;

we must strengthen adaptation, developing solutions to respond to the impacts of climate change that are already happening as well as preparing for the future, third goal- a vital one - is to get finance flowing - both public and private. Particularly to developing countries and especially to adaptation and the fourth and final goal is to enhance international collaboration.

The summit's second session discussed on the "Climate Action - What a Cooler Planet Means for People and Environment". Moderated by Ms. Lavanya Rama Iyer, Head of Policy and Climate Change, WWF-Malaysia. Panel speakers include of Datuk Ar. Ezumi Harzani Ismail, President, Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM), Ms. Kasturi Nathan, Head of Governance and Sustainability, KPMG in Malaysia, Ms. Arina Kok, Director, Climate Change & Sustainability Services (CCaSS), Ernst & Young Advisory Services Sdn Bhd, Mr. Arshad Mohamed Ismail, President/Group Chief Executive Officer, Bank Pembangunan Malaysia Berhad (BPMB) and Mr. Redha Shukor, Partner, Operations and Sustainability Consulting, PwC Consulting Associates (M) Sdn. Bhd.

The next session focused on "Green Technology, Innovation and Sustainable

Finance -Transforming Sustainable Business and Cities". This session discussed the use of technology in financial services and in particular, in the sustainable finance area, has the potential to channel financial resources to environmentally sustainable firms more efficiently. The moderator for this session was Mr. Anthony Raja Devadoss, Managing Director & Regional Head, PERSOLKELLY Consulting Asia Pacific and the speakers were Ms. Sikha Patnaik, Head - Marketing and Communications, Basis Bay, Puan Nurul Hasanah Ahamed Hassain Malim, Head of Group Sustainability, FGV Holdings Bhd, Ms. Sofia Castelo, Lead, Environmental Resilience Community of Practice, Think City Sdn Bhd, Ts. Shamsul Bahar Mohd Nor, Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Centre (MGTC) and Mr. Faroze Nadar, Executive Director, Global Compact Network Malaysia & Brunei.

The fourth session focused on "Localizing the SDG's - Implementing SDG's on the Ground: The Role of APPG". Speakers in this session included YB Maria Chin Abdullah, Member of Parliament for Petaling Jaya / Deputy Chair, All Party Parliament Group Malaysia for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), YB William Leong Jee Jeen, Member of Parliament Selayang, Dr Lin Mui Kiang, Head

of Solutions, All-Parties Parliamentary Group for SDGs (APPGM-SDG) /Member, National SDG Steering Committee / Founding Member, CSO-SDG Alliance and Mr. Alizan Mahadi, Director of Research, Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia. This session was moderated by Mr. Anthony Tan, Secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG).

Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria Head of the secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) / Co-Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance delivered the Closing Summary at the end of the Summit.

Lastly, to achieve a sustainable and inclusive society the role of leadership is of paramount importance. Leaders must strongly advocate sustainability and adopt sustainability practices. Companies too must do more for ESG and prioritize ESG in their company plans and business practices.

We are also grateful to our Corporate Sponsors Basis Bay and Yayasan Hasanah for their contributions and support. ■



YB Maria Chin Abdullah, Member of Parliament for Petaling Jaya / Deputy Chair, All Party Parliament Group Malaysia for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) delivering her views. On her left is YB William Leong Jee Jeen, Member of Parliament Selayang.



Role-Players of the Localizing the SDG's - Implementing SDG's on the Ground: The Role of APPG. From Left to Right: YB Maria Chin Abdullah, Member of Parliament for Petaling Jaya / Deputy Chair, All Party Parliament Group Malaysia for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); YB William Leong Jee Jeen, Member of Parliament Selayang; Mr. Anthony Tan, Secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG); Dr Lin Mui Kiang, Head of Solutions, All-Parties Parliamentary Group for SDGs (APPGM-SDG) /Member, National SDG Steering Committee / Founding Member, CSO-SDG Alliance and; Mr. Alizan Mahadi, Director of Research, Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI presenting a token of appreciation to YB Tan Sri Azhar Azizan Harun, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Malaysia. Looking on the left is YB Dato Sri Rohani Abdul Karim, Chairman for All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM-SDG) and Members of Special Independent Committee on Emergency 2021 and on the right is Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Head of the secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) / Co-Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance.



Mr. Stefan Priesner, UN Resident Coordinator for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam delivering his views at the Session of Update on the Status of the SDG's in Malaysia and chaired by Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Head of the secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia on Sustainable Development Goals (APPGM-SDG) / Co-Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance.



Datuk Ar. Ezumi Harzani Ismail, President, Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM) speaking at the session on Climate Action - What a Cooler Planet Means for People and Environment. From Left to Right: Looking on are Ms. Kasturi Nathan, Head of Governance and Sustainability, KPMG in Malaysia; Ms. Arina Kok, Director, Climate Change & Sustainability Services (CCaSS), Ernst & Young Advisory Services Sdn Bhd; and chaired by Ms. Lavanya Rama Iyer, Head of Policy and Climate Change, WWF-Malaysia.



Session one: Partnering Business and Civil Society to Achieve the SDG's: Aligning CSR to the SDG's and ESG Goals. From Left to Right: YB Dr. Kelvin Yii, Member of Parliament, Bandar Kuching / Treasurer All Party Parliamentary Group on SDG's (APPG); Ms. Luanne Sieh, Senior Managing Director, Head Group Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility, CIMB Group; Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila Ramli, Head of Monitoring & Evaluation, All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) / Principal Fellow Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), UKM; Ms. Lya Rahman, Adviser/Council Member, Institutional Investors Council Malaysia; and Pn. Shahira Ahmed Bazari, Managing Director, Yayasan Hasanah.



## The Malaysian Healthcare Conference 2021

13 & 14 August 2021, Virtual Conference

# Accelerating the Transformation of Health Systems in a Pandemic - Challenges & Opportunities

The 2021 Malaysian Healthcare Conference with the theme "Accelerating the Transformation of Health Systems in a Pandemic - Challenges & Opportunities" was held fully virtual on the 13th and 14th August. Approximately 348 participants registered and attended the Conference online.

Tan Sri Dr. Michael Yeoh, President of the KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific in his welcome Address thanked the Minister, Ministry of Health (MOH), all front-liners and volunteers for their fine efforts, dedication, diligence, and commitment during this difficult and trying times. The sacrifices of the MOH officials and front-liners are deeply appreciated by all Malaysians.

He suggested to the Minister to consider using a new nomenclature or phrase to describe the SOP's - perhaps these should be called COVID Control Regulations (CCR) instead of SOPs. Compliance with these regulations will help us recover.

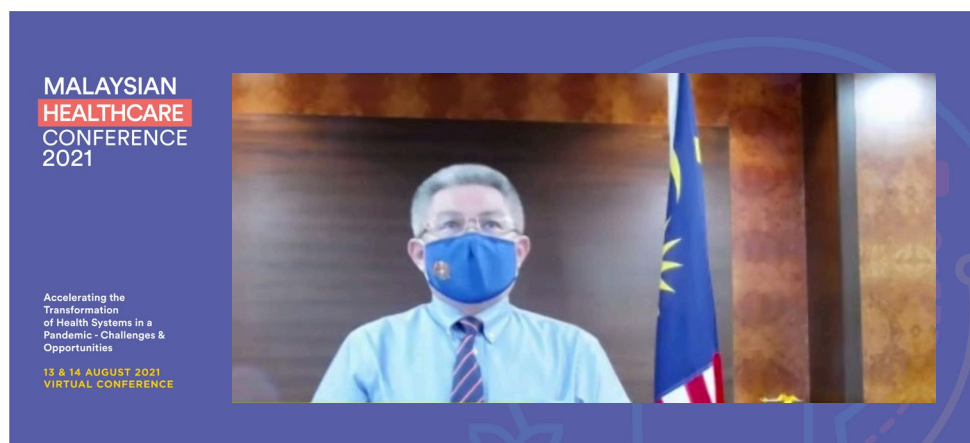
He also highlighted that we all must unite to support the MOH and health front-liners in fighting this invisible enemy. We need a whole of nation and whole of society effort to win this war against COVID-19.

YB Dato' Sri Dr Adham bin Baba, Minister of Health Malaysia in his Opening Keynote Address said that managing the mental health of Malaysia's population including frontliners now is the government's utmost priority in the fight against COVID-19. Hence, he said proper strategies to manage human psychology, especially mental health, is very important to break the vicious cycle of infections and prepare for life after the pandemic.

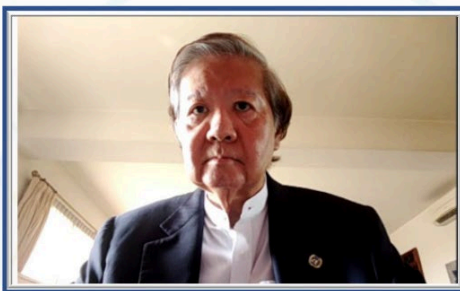
According to the Minister we need to manage mental health using cognitive-behavioural approaches, mindfulness and spirituality. "By practising the cognitive-behavioural, mindfulness, and spirituality strategies we may enhance our acceptance, optimism and commitment to prepare for a 'new or renewed normal'.

The Conference was divided into four sessions. The First session was the "What do Health Systems Have to do to Prepare for the Next Pandemic?" moderated by Prof Dr. April Camilla Roslani, Dean / Professor, Faculty of Medicine - Universiti Malaya. The panellists comprised of Prof Datuk Dr Lokman Hakim Sulaiman, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Research- International Medical University Kuala Lumpur, Prof. Dato' Dr Subramaniam Muniandy, President, Malaysian Medical Association (MMA), Datuk Dr Kuljit Singh, President, Association of Private Hospitals Malaysia (APHM) and Dr Khor Swee Kheng, Independent Health Policies Specialist.

The First session started with Special Address delivered by YB Datuk Seri Dr Haji Dzulkefly Bin Ahmad, Former Minister of Health Malaysia/ Chairman of Selangor's New Special Action Council for the Control and Prevention of the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19). In his speech he said that the government's decision to allow asymptomatic patients with coronary disease to be isolated at home was a wrong



YB Dato' Sri Dr Adham bin Baba, the then Minister of Health Malaysia delivered the Opening Keynote Address on the Accelerating the Transformation of Health Systems in a Pandemic - Challenges & Opportunities at the Malaysian Healthcare Conference 2021 held virtually on 13 August 2021.



"Accelerating the Transformation of Health Systems in a Pandemic - Challenges & Opportunities"

Special Address and Dialogue by Tan Sri Dato Seri Dr. Noor Hisham bin Abdullah, Director General of Health Malaysia. Joining him Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI.

decision. The former Minister of Health also said “the patients are isolated at home, which may allow the new crown epidemic to spread indefinitely”.

Prof. Dato’ Dr Subramaniam Muniandy, President of Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) urged all parties to stop the game of political power and not to disregard the health of the people.

The President of the Association of Private Hospitals Malaysia (APHM) Datuk Dr Kuljit Singh said the private hospitals are capable enough to help the government especially on decanting process, or the transfer of a portion of non-COVID-19 patients. “It is pointless for the government to keep building more facilities when there are so many facilities available in the private sector. In the Klang Valley alone, for example, there are more private hospitals than public hospitals.”

Dr Khor Swee Kheng, Independent Health Policies Specialist said the current nationalistic approach in vaccine purchases might not be feasible in the long run and that it was time for a “regional pooled vaccine procurement” to meet global demand. “When ASEAN, with its millions of people, makes an order, pharma companies will sit up and take notice, so it is always beneficial to have a regional effort in getting vaccines.

In the second session on “Digital Health Trends: Insights and Predictions for 2021 and beyond”, Dato Dr A. Jai Mohan, Adjunct Professor, Quest International University Perak Moderated the discussions. Panellists were Dr Feisul Idzwan Mustapha, Public Health Physician and Deputy Director (NCD), Disease, Control Division, Ministry of Health, Malaysia, Mr. Tirupathi Karthik, CEO, Napier Healthcare

Solutions Pte Ltd, Dr Ashish Kanakia, Director, Head Medical Business Management -Prudential Assurance Malaysia Berhad, Dr Tan Geok Chin, Professor of Pathology, Deputy Dean of Research & Innovation Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and Dr Prathaban Raju, Founder of Door2Door Doctor / Co-chairperson, DHM’s Special Interest Group 1 (SIG) / Former Chief Commercial Officer, Malaysian National News Agency (BERNAMA). This session covers the progression of global digital health trends over the year – how they rise and fall; and what categories are becoming more popular.

Mr. Girish M. Ramachandran, Co-founder and Executive Director, 27 Advisory Sdn Bhd moderated the Session three on “Expanding Private Equity Involvement in Healthcare” discussing why private equity firms are investing in healthcare, what that means for the future of the private equity landscape in healthcare; what are the potential implications and how to determine the trade-offs and impact of such transactions. Panellists in this session included Mr. Amirul Fares Wan Zahir, Chief Executive Officer, Xeraya Capital Sdn Bhd, Mr. Maran Virumandi, Managing Director & Co-founder, DoctorOnCall and Ms. Rafiza Ghazali, Group Chief Executive Officer, Cradle Fund Sdn. Bhd.

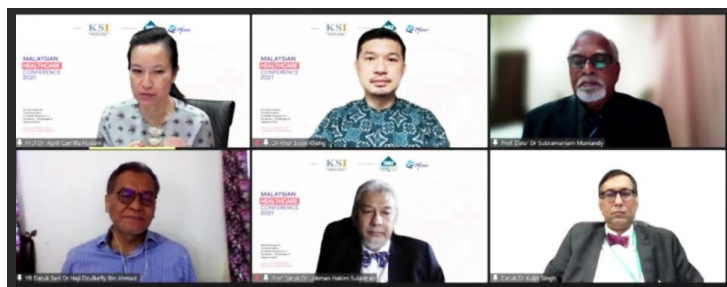
Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr Noor Hisham bin Abdullah, Director General of Health Malaysia delivered the Special Address and had a Dialogue Session with participants at this Conference. In his speech he said that the COVID-19 crisis had shown that it was possible to make wide and large-scale changes when certain hurdles were overcome through innovation and concerted coordination from all stakeholders.

The Director-General of Health also said that the country needs to invest more in developing its public health expertise. We need the best brain in public health. We are under invested in public health. Public health has a wide spectrum and we need to really recognise the sub-specialty in public health so we could develop a forte for all the areas and we need to really focus and give attention to public health.

Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham concluded the speech with reminder no one can do this alone but if we undertake a concerted effort to work together, a new age of public health is achievable. We have already seen how this kind of coordination can work in the pandemic response: when all stakeholders in public health actively work together behind a single critical goal, we can find solutions to even the most difficult challenge.

The final session of the Conference focused on “Mental Health Crisis & Covid-19”. This session discussed the impact of the pandemic on mental health and mental health crisis. This session was moderated by Mr. Azrul Mohd Khalib, Chief Executive, The Galen Centre for Health and Social Policy and joining him on the panel were Dr Charles Alessi, Chief Clinical Officer, Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society, Inc. (HIMSS) UK, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wan Aliaa Wan Sulaiman, Consultant Neurologist, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Dr Eugene Koh Boon Yau, Psychiatrist, Universiti Putra Malaysia and Puan Anita Abu Bakar, Founder & President, Mental Illness Awareness & Support Association (MIASA).

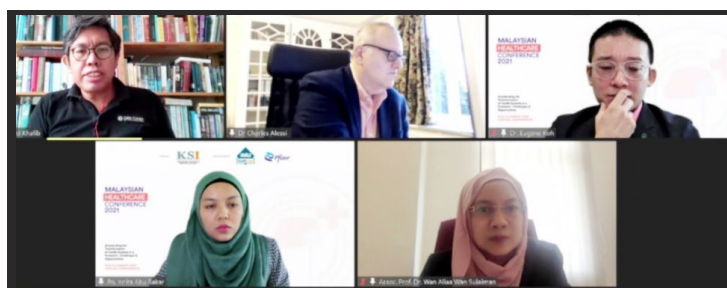
The 2021 Malaysian Healthcare Conference was made possible with the support of our Corporate Partners, IMU and Pfizer. ■



**Session one: What do Health Systems Have to do to Prepare for the Next Pandemic?**  
From Left to Right (First Row): Prof Dr. April Camilla Roslani, Dean / Professor, Faculty of Medicine - Universiti Malaysia; Dr Khor Swee Kheng, Independent Health Policies Specialist; and Prof. Dato’ Dr. Subramaniam Muniandy, President, Malaysian Medical Association (MMA). (Second Row): YB Dato’ Seri Dr Haji Dzulkefly Bin Ahmad, Former Minister of Health Malaysia/ Chairman of Selangor’s New Special Action Council for the Control and Prevention of the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19); Prof Dato’ Dr Lokman Hakim Sulaiman, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Research- International Medical University Kuala Lumpur; and Datuk Dr Kuljit Singh, President, Association of Private Hospitals Malaysia (APHM).



**Session two: Digital Health Trends: Insights and Predictions for 2021 and beyond.**  
From Left to Right (First Row): Dr Tan Geok Chin, Professor of Pathology, Deputy Dean of Research & Innovation Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia; Dato Dr A. Jai Mohan, Adjunct Professor, Quest International University Perak; and Dr. Prathaban Raju, Founder of Door2Door Doctor / Co-chairperson, DHM’s Special Interest Group 1 (SIG) / Former Chief Commercial Officer, Malaysian National News Agency (BERNAMA). (Second Row): Mr. Tirupathi Karthik, CEO, Napier Healthcare Solutions Pte Ltd; Dr Feisul Idzwan Mustapha, Public Health Physician and Deputy Director (NCD), Disease, Control Division, Ministry of Health, Malaysia; and Dr. Ashish Kanakia, Director, Head Medical Business Management -Prudential Assurance Malaysia Berhad.



**Session four: Mental Health Crisis & Covid-19.** From Left to Right (First Row): Mr. Azrul Mohd Khalib, Chief Executive, The Galen Centre for Health and Social Policy; Dr. Charles Alessi, Chief Clinical Officer, Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society, Inc. (HIMSS) UK; and Dr. Eugene Koh Boon Yau, Psychiatrist, Universiti Putra Malaysia. (Second Row): Puan Anita Abu Bakar, Founder & President, Mental Illness Awareness & Support Association (MIASA) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wan Aliaa Wan Sulaiman, Consultant Neurologist, Universiti Putra Malaysia.



## The 2nd Malaysia Digital Economy Summit 2021

21 October 2021, Virtual Summit

# Reinventing the Digital Economy: The Key to Success Post-Crisis

The 2nd Malaysia Digital Economy Summit 2021 (MDES) with the theme “Reinventing the Digital Economy: The Key to Success Post-Crisis” was held fully virtual on the 21st October. This Summit Jointly Organised by KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur draw upon the knowledge, expertise and creativity that exists in industry, the public sector, entrepreneurs and academia to discuss the emerging policy implications and the need for partnership to deliver a trusted, responsible and inclusive digital economy in Malaysia.

The Summit was attended by representatives from the government and private sector, academia, associations as well as the digital industry. Technology has changed our lives at a spectacular speed with the adoption of artificial intelligence, machine learning, cloud computing and e-commerce. Moreover, the pandemic has accelerated this transformation and underscores the need to harness the digital economy as a driver of growth and innovation. Innovations in medicine, education, communication, and productivity are being leveraged to address the enormous challenges posed by the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Now more than ever, there is greater urgency for companies to adopt transformative technologies and new business models to be agile in the face of the disruption caused by the pandemic crisis. Digitalisation is key to unlocking the next growth.

The Summit began with the Welcome Address by Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and Champion of Digital Productivity Nexus, MPC and was officiated by the Minister of Communications & Multimedia Malaysia, YB Tan Sri Datuk Seri Panglima TPr Annuar Haji Musa. In his Keynote Address, the Minister said that Malaysia needs an inclusive digital transformation to achieve a vibrant digital economy.

The Minister also stressed that the adoption of advanced technology, particularly the fourth Industrial Revolution technology, will be promoted in a high technology-based economy and the government will ensure that technology adoption and innovation will be the building block to spur growth across all sectors.

“We are now in a new normal. As such, connectivity must be a top priority, and stakeholders such as telcos and industry verticals, multinational corporations, governmental and non-governmental organisations must mobilise to develop strategies to accelerate digital inclusion,” he said.

Both governmental and non-governmental organisations must mobilise to develop strategies in order to accelerate digital inclusion, as connectivity must become the top priority of stakeholders, says Multimedia and Communications minister YB Tan Sri Datuk Seri Panglima TPr Annuar Haji Musa. Immediately after the Keynote address, Founder and Group Executive Chairman, Silverlake Axis Ltd, Mr. Goh Peng Ooi delivered his Special Address. Mr. Goh spoke of how a cohesive model is needed to project the future trends of technology which is crucial for economic development.

The first session began with the panel discussions on “Enabling Skills and Workforce Development to Drive Malaysia's Digital Transformation”. This panel discussed how the government and the business community are currently partnering to develop the next generation of skills required to unleash the full potential of the digital economy to achieve Malaysia's development objectives which was moderated by Pn. Shareen Dato' Abdul Ghani, Co-Founder & CEO, Sorga Innovation Sdn Bhd/ The creators of gigxglobal.com. The panellists comprised of Mr. Fabian Bigar, Chief Executive Officer, Strategic Change Management Office (MyDIGITAL), Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department Malaysia, Dato' Wei Chuan Beng Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and Champion of Digital Productivity Nexus, MPC, Mr. Anthony Raja Devadoss, Managing Director & Senior Client Partner, Executive Search, Korn Ferry Malaysia and Mr. Isaac Tan, Chief Executive Officer, Green Packet Academy.

Next session focused on “Quo Vadis, Digital Transformation?” As digital becomes ever-more essential to revenue growth and market relevance, its underlying infrastructure must be made as efficient as possible if digital is to realize its true potential. By prioritizing foundational technology modernization and simplification, organizations can accelerate their transformation into the digital era.

What are the current challenges with digital infrastructure transformation in IT? What are the 10 Key Digital Infrastructure Considerations? Where does one begin with a new strategy? Why is it important to your business? What does a successful digital transformation look like? This session was moderated by Mr. Georg Chmiel, Executive Chairman, Juwai-IQI Holdings and joining him on the panel were Datuk Dr. Suhana binti Md. Saleh, Director, K-Economy Division, Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department. Tan Sri Rainer Althoff, Independent Non-Executive Director, Top Glove Corporation Bhd / EXCO Member of ECKL, Mr. Shaun



YB Tan Sri Datuk Seri Panglima TPr Annuar Haji Musa, Minister of Communications & Multimedia Malaysia delivered the Opening Keynote Address at The 2nd Malaysia Digital Economy Summit 2021 held virtually on 21 October 2021.



Mr. Goh Peng Ooi, Founder and Group Executive Chairman, Silverlake Axis Ltd delivered the Special Address.



Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and Champion of Digital Productivity Nexus, MPC delivered the Welcome Speech.

Edward Cheah, Executive Director, Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MICCI), Dr Sharlene Thiagarajah, Chief Executive Officer, TM Research & Development, Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder & Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK and Ms Rafiza Ghazali, Group Chief Executive Officer, Cradle Fund Sdn Bhd.

In the third session on "The Path to Industry 4.0: Leveraging 5G and Smart Technologies", Mr. Shamsul Izhan Abdul Majid, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) Moderated the discussions. Panellists were Prof. M. Nazri Muhd, Adjunct Professor (AI Practice) / Founder & Group CEO, MyFinB Group / Founder, Centre of AI Innovation (CE.A.I.) (Global), Dr. Gopinath Rao Sinniah, CTO & Co-Founder, FAVORIOT, Mr. Oliver Tian,

Vice-Chair, International Alliance of Robotics Association Honorary Advisory Mentor, Asia Pacific Assistive Robotics Association and Mr. Girish M. Ramachandran, Executive Director, 27 Advisory Sdn Bhd & Co-Founder, IRGA.AG. This session examines upcoming technologies, developing in 5G, artificial intelligence, and cloud computing, and their implications on organisational effectiveness.

The final session of the Summit focused on "A Whole New (Contactless) World: The Rise of Digital Identity". This session brings you an intimate insight into how COVID-19 is re-shaping most industries and speeding up

the transition to a contactless world. Mr. Sea Chong Seak, Chief Technology Officer, Signing Cloud Sdn. Bhd, Mr. Nagendran Perumal, Chief Technology Officer, Censof Holdings Berhad and Mr. George Lee, CEO, Innov8tif Solutions Sdn Bhd were amongst the panel speakers in this session and was chaired by Dato' Ng Wan Peng, President, Big Bad Wolf Ventures / Former COO, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC).

The Summit was made possible with the support of Title Sponsor of MDES, Silverlake Group and our Corporate Sponsor Juwai-IQI for making this Summit a success. ■



Session one: Enabling Skills and Workforce Development to Drive Malaysia's Digital Transformation. From Left to Right (First Row): Ph. Shareen Gato' Abdul Ghani, Co-Founder & CEO, Sorma Innovation Sdn Bhd / The creators of gigxglobal.com; Mr. Fabian Bigar, Chief Executive Officer, Strategic Change Management Office, (MyDIGITAL), Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department Malaysia; and Mr. Isaac Tan, Chief Executive Officer, Green Packet Academy. (Second Row): Mr. Anthony Raja Devadoss, Managing Director & Senior Client Partner, Executive Search Korn Ferry Malaysia and Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and Champion of Digital Productivity Nexus, MPC.



Session two: Session 2: Quo Vadis, Digital Transformation? From Left to Right (First Row): Ms. Rafiza Ghazali, Group Chief Executive Officer, Cradle Fund Sdn Bhd; Mr. George Chmief, Executive Chairman, Juwai-IQI Holdings; and Dr. Sharlene Thiagarajah, Chief Executive Officer, TM Research & Development. (Second Row): Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder & Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK; Datuk Dr. Suhana binti Md. Saleh, Director, K-Economy Division, Economic Planning Unit, Prime Minister's Department; and Mr. Shaun Edward Cheah, Executive Director, Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MICCI). (Third Row): Tan Sri Rainer Althoff, Independent Non-Executive Director, Top Glove Corporation Bhd / EXCO Member, ECKL.



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Session four: A Whole New (Contactless) World: The Rise of Digital Identity. From Left to Right (First Row): Mr. Nagendran Perumal, Chief Technology Officer, Censof Holdings Berhad and Dato' Ng Wan Peng, President, Big Bad Wolf Ventures / Former COO, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC). (Second Row): Mr. George Lee, CEO, Innov8tif Solutions Sdn Bhd and Mr. Sea Chong Seak, Chief Technology Officer, Signing Cloud Sdn. Bhd.



## THE 2021 ASEAN LEADERSHIP & PARTNERSHIP FORUM

7 October 2021, Virtual Forum

# Rebuilding ASEAN Towards Sustainable Recovery

The 2021 ASEAN Leadership and Partnership Forum (ALPF) is a high-level Forum jointly organised by KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur, held virtually on 7th October 2021. The theme for this year's Forum is on "Rebuilding ASEAN Towards Sustainable Recovery".

This year ALPF covered various themes from investments opportunities, digital transformation, free trade agreements (namely RCEP and CPTPP) and sustainable business leadership. The Forum's opening segment featured the Opening keynote address by YB Dato' Sri Hajah Nancy Shukri, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia on "Promoting Tourism for ASEAN Economic Revival". In her Speech the Minister acknowledged the struggles of the tourism industry as the whole world faced this unprecedented global health crisis. It is indeed

disheartening as the pandemic has adversely affected so many businesses, including the tourism industry. She said before the borders reopen, it is important to be prepared with a recovery plan and re-strategize in order to gain a competitive edge for the tourism industry, particularly in the ASEAN region. This is because market insights predict that once borders are opened, the focus of tourists will be on closer-to-home destinations. Hence, it is important to strengthen the cooperation among ASEAN countries in facilitating the ecosystem of international arrivals," she explained.

The Special Address delivered by Minister of Foreign Affairs II, Brunei Darussalam and also Chair of ASEAN 2021; The Hon. Dato Seri Setia Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof. Minister Erywan Mohd Yusof called on all ASEAN members to step up cooperation in the vaccination drive

against COVID-19 and in addressing mental health issues. Minister Erywan, who is also ASEAN Special Envoy to Myanmar, said this will contribute to towards community-building measures to ensure that the welfare of ASEAN people are protected both physically and mentally. The Brunei Foreign Minister also called for early actions to address this issue as the region may see a mental health crisis that is far bigger than this pandemic in 10 to 15 years. Therefore, ASEAN looks forward to the adoption of the East Asia Summit (EAS) leaders' statement on mental health cooperation at the upcoming EAS, Minister Erywan underlined, adding that ensuring the health and well-being of the people is essential in determining the path to a sustainable economic recovery.

Minister Erywan also said in his speech that accelerating the efforts to ensure equitable access to safe, effective and affordable vaccines for all in a timely manner is crucial. He reiterated that vaccination is a gateway to being able to open up the economies and connect the region by facilitating to the best extent possible essential movement of people, including business travel and tourism.

The ASEAN Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Awards presented by KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific to honour individuals who excel in their respective fields and are at their peak of their industry and business.

Datuk Nora Abd Manaf, Group Chief Human Capital Officer, Malayan Banking Berhad conferred for the ASEAN Women Manager of the Year Award and Mr. Chan Kok Long, Co-Founder and Executive Director, iPay88

### ASEAN LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP FORUM



Rebuilding  
ASEAN Towards  
Sustainable  
Recovery  
7 OCT 2021  
VIRTUAL FORUM



YB Dato' Sri Hajah Nancy Shukri, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia delivered the Opening Keynote Address at The ASEAN Leadership and Partnership Forum held virtually on 7 October 2021.

### ASEAN LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP FORUM



Rebuilding  
ASEAN Towards  
Sustainable  
Recovery  
7 OCT 2021  
VIRTUAL FORUM



The Hon. Dato Seri Setia Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof, Minister of Foreign Affairs II, Brunei Darussalam, Chair of ASEAN 2021 delivered the Special Address.

### ASEAN LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP FORUM



Rebuilding  
ASEAN Towards  
Sustainable  
Recovery  
7 OCT 2021  
VIRTUAL FORUM



H.E. Pan Sorasak, Minister of Commerce, Cambodia delivered the Special Address.

### ASEAN LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP FORUM



Rebuilding  
ASEAN Towards  
Sustainable  
Recovery  
7 OCT 2021  
VIRTUAL FORUM



H.E. Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) delivered the Special Address.

Holding Sdn Bhd conferred for ASEAN Technology Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Tan Sri Dr. Michael Yeoh, Founder and Chairman, ASEAN Leadership & Partnership Forum and President of KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific thanked both Datuk Nora Manaf and Mr. Chan Kok Long for being conferred in his short welcome speech.

The Forum continued with Special Addresses by H.E. Pan Sorasak, Minister of Commerce, Cambodia and H.E. Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). H.E. Pan Sorasak, Minister of Commerce, Cambodia said in his Special Address that the Forum is timely organised and highly relevant as ASEAN are still fighting with the Covid-19 pandemic.

He believes that the promise of regional cooperation and multilateralism is the key to economic recovery, but priority should be given to COVID-19 vaccination, because the pace of economic recovery depends on vaccination, which is true for all countries and is the need to strengthen the health system in the government's overall plan to deal with COVID-19 to protect the poor and disadvantaged and to stimulate the economy; If small and medium-sized enterprises can adopt emerging technologies, they will be able to maintain operations during the epidemic.

Minister Pan Sorasak also said that according to the Asian Development Bank's outlook for September 2021, the ASEAN GDP growth rate is 3.1%, which is lower than the 4.1% in April of

the same year, and this highlights as a result, ASEAN countries need to collectively respond to the needs of this situation.

As the chair of ASEAN in 2022, Cambodia will be addressing the challenges together for harmony, peace, and prosperity in the whole region.

H.E. Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana focuses on five priorities areas; rebuilding ASEAN after the pandemic, investment opportunities, digital transformation, regional agreements and responsible and sustainable business leadership; which is very timely as the COVID-19 pandemic has entered into the second year. Countries are still grappling with a surge of cases due to new variants, adding up to a total number of more than 11.7 million cases to date in South-East Asia alone, not to mention its devastating socio-economic impacts.

She also suggested the following priority areas for an inclusive, resilient and sustainable recovery in her speech. Firstly, to recover better together and to address the widening inequality gap, we need to build more inclusive societies by ensuring continuity in fiscal and financial support for vulnerable groups and hardest-hit businesses until there is a robust recovery; promoting an employment-led recovery and narrowing the social protection coverage gaps.

Secondly, to create more resilient economies and be better prepared for future crises, we need to ensure that countries in the region are prepared for climate-disaster-health emergencies, creating more resilient regional supply chains, ensuring conducive trade

and investment for recovery and investing in strategic industries and infrastructure.

Lastly, she said we need to harness the power of digitalization by promoting digitalization processes and scaling up the digital-based economy. There is an urgent need to digitalize services related to health, education and government services. This will form the basis of a digitally connected economy with government and social services. Beyond digital connectivity, the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, if ratified by ASEAN member States, will benefit them in their transactions among parties to regional trade agreements such as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

Additionally, she said we need to build green and blue economies. Long-term environmental sustainability must be embedded in the COVID-19 policy response as well as incorporated into consumption behaviours and responsible business investment processes, practices and analyses. We must utilize innovative financing tools, including green and SDG-linked bonds, as instruments to address post-COVID-19 financing needs while advancing official development assistance and South-South and triangular cooperation.

The first session of the Forum began with the topic "Rebuilding ASEAN Post Pandemic – Challenges and Opportunities" examined what the various ASEAN-membered states need to do to rebuild and reset in order to overcome challenges they face in managing health and their economies which was moderated by



Session One: Rebuilding ASEAN Post Pandemic – Challenges and Opportunities  
From Left to Right: (First Row): Dr. K. Chris Hirabayashi, Secretary General, ASEAN-Japan Centre; Dr. Chheang Vannarith, President, Asia Vision Institute, Cambodia; and Prof. Suthiphad Chirathivat, Executive Director, ASEAN Studies Center of Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. (Second Row): Dr. Dino Patti Djalal, Founder and Chairman, Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia / former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia; Dr. Sok Siphana, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Asian Vision Institute (AVI), Cambodia; and Dr. Jayant Menon, Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.



Session Two: Southeast Market and Investment Opportunities in the New Normal  
From Left to Right: (First Row): Mr. Shan Saeed, Chief Economist, Juwai-IQI Holdings, Malaysia; Prof. Joefe B. Santarita, former Dean, Asian Center, University of the Philippines Diliman; and Dr. Tan Chong Koay, Founder / Chief Strategist, PHEIM Asset Management Sdn Bhd, Malaysia. (Second Row): Mr. Firdaus Rosli, Chief Economist, Malaysians Rating Corporation Berhad (MARC) and Mr. Shazali Sulaiman, Founder & Partner, Shazali & Partners / Chairman, Brunei International Chamber of Commerce, Brunei Darussalam.



Session Three: Digital Transformation in ASEAN – Towards a Digital ASEAN  
From Left to Right: (First Row): Dr. Lee Oi Kum, Chairman, Kashtec Holdings, Singapore; Mr. Konesh Kochhal, Director, Industry Ecosystem Engagements, Huawei; and Mr. Goh Peng Ooi, Founder and Group Executive Chairman, Silverlake Axis Ltd. (Second Row): Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder & Group Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK, Malaysia; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and former; and Chairman, Young President Organization (YPO Malaysia) & PIKOM.



Session Four: How ASEAN can Benefit from RCEP and CPTPP?  
From Left to Right: (First Row): Dr. Yose Rizal Damuri, Head of Department of Economics, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Indonesia; Dr. Robert Yap, Executive Chairman, YCH Group, Singapore; and Prof. Dr. Kriengsak Chareonwongsak, Chairman, Nation Building Institute, Thailand. (Second Row): Mr. Oudet Souvannavong, President, Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LNCCI), Lao PDR; Mr. JJ Samuel A Soriano, Chairman, SPV Group, Philippines; and Mr. Oknha Van Sou Ieng, Council of ASEANBAC, Cambodia and President of Garment Manufacturing Association of Cambodia (GMAC).



Dr. Chheang Vannarith, President, Asia Vision Institute, Cambodia. The speakers comprised of Dr. Jayant Menon, Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore, Dr. K. Chris Hirabayashi, Secretary General, ASEAN-Japan Centre, Dr. Dino Patti Djalal, Founder and Chairman, Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia / former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia, Prof. Suthiphand Chirathivat, Executive Director, ASEAN Studies Center of Chulalongkorn University, Thailand and Dr. Sok Siphana, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Asian Vision Institute (AVI), Cambodia.

Second session focused on the “Southeast Market and Investment Opportunities in the New Normal”. This session discussed on what are the new business and investment opportunities in ASEAN? How to manage investment risks post pandemic? What is the market, economic and investment outlook for ASEAN? Where are the growth opportunities? Dr. Tan Chong Koay, Founder / Chief Strategist, Pheim Asset Management Sdn Bhd, Malaysia, Mr. Shazali Sulaiman, Founder & Partner, Shazali & Partners / Chairman, Brunei International Chamber of Commerce, Brunei Darussalam, Mr. Shan Saeed, Chief Economist, Juwai-IQI Holdings, Malaysia and Mr. Firdaos Rosli, Chief Economist, Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad (MARC) were amongst the panel speakers in this session. This session was chaired by Prof. Joeef B. Santarita, former Dean, Asian Center, University of the Philippines Diliman.

Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and former Chairman, Young President Organization (YPO Malaysia) & PIKOM moderated the third session of the “Digital Transformation in ASEAN – Towards a Digital ASEAN”. This session discussed about how can ASEAN scale up digitalization? What are the challenges facing Digital ASEAN? What are the future trends in digitalization? How will digitalization disrupt ASEAN business and SME's? What are key success factors for digitalization? The leading tech experts like Mr. Goh Peng Ooi, Founder and Group Executive Chairman, Silverlake Axis Ltd, Dr. Lee Oi Kum, Chairman, Kashtec Holdings, Singapore, Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder & Group Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK, Malaysia and Mr. Konesh Kochhal Director, Industry Ecosystem Engagements, Huawei were amongst the panel speakers at this digital transformation session.

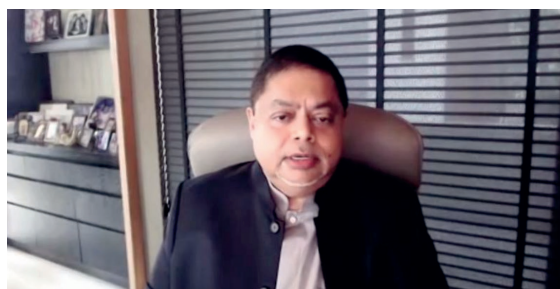
The Session four focused on the “How ASEAN can Benefit from RCEP and CPTPP?”. The RCEP and CPTPP and free trade agreements will have profound effects on ASEAN states involved and the region at large. In this session the speakers explain what the two FTAs entail and briefly discussed about the prospect of China entering the CPTPP. The panel speakers are Prof. Dr. Kriengsak Chareonwongsak, Chairman, Nation Building Institute, Thailand, Mr. Neak Oknha Kith Meng, President of Cambodia Chamber of Commerce / Chairman & CEO, The Royal Group of Companies, Cambodia (represented by Mr. Oknha Van Sou Ieng, Council of ASEANBAC, Cambodia and President of Garment Manufacturing

Association of Cambodia (GMAC), Mr. Oudet Souvannavong, President, Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LNCCI), Lao PDR, Mr. JJ Samuel A Soriano, Chairman, SPV Group, Philippines, Dr. Robert Yap, Executive Chairman, YCH Group, Singapore and moderated by Dr. Yose Rizal Damuri, Head of Department of Economics, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Indonesia.

Session five of the Forum on “Responsible and Sustainable Business Leadership” was centred on the sustainability agenda where speakers provide insight into some of the ways companies can adopt ESG values and responsible business practices. This last session started with a special address was delivered by Dato' Sri Dr. Vijay Eswaran Executive Chairman, Qi Group. This session was moderated by Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Co- Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance and joining him on the panel were Mr. Andrew Khoo, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, The MUI Group, Prof. Annie Koh, Professor Emeritus of Finance (Practice), Singapore Management University, Dr. Benjamin R. Quinones, Jr. Founder, Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC), Philippines and Ms. Mafruz Khan Chief Executive Officer, Asia Philanthropy Circle, Singapore.

The Forum was made possible with the support of our Corporate Partners; Kuok Brothers Sdn Bhd, Malayan Banking Berhad, The MUI Group and iPay88 Holding Sdn Bhd for making this Forum a success. ■

## ASEAN LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP FORUM



Rebuilding  
ASEAN Towards  
Sustainable  
Recovery  
7 OCT 2021  
VIRTUAL FORUM

Session five: Responsible and Sustainable Business Leadership  
Dato' Sri Dr. Vijay Eswaran, Executive Chairman, Qi Group delivered the Special Address.



Session Five: Responsible and Sustainable Business Leadership. From Left to Right: (First Row): Prof. Annie Koh, Professor Emeritus of Finance (Practice), Singapore Management University; Ms. Mafruz Khan, Chief Executive Officer, Asia Philanthropy Circle, Singapore; and Mr. Andrew Khoo, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, The MUI Group. (Second Row): Dr. Benjamin R. Quinones, Jr., Founder, Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC), Philippines and Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Co- Chair, Malaysian CSO-SDG Alliance.

The ASEAN Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Awards presented by KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific to honour individuals who excel in their respective fields and are at their peak of their industry and business.

## ASEAN LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP FORUM



### ASEAN DISTINGUISHED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

#### ASEAN WOMEN MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD



Datuk Nora Abd Manaf  
Group Chief Human Capital Officer  
Malayan Banking Berhad



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Recovery  
7 OCT 2021  
VIRTUAL FORUM

## ASEAN LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERSHIP FORUM



### ASEAN DISTINGUISHED LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

#### ASEAN TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD



Mr. Chan Kok Long  
Co-Founder and Executive Director  
iPay88 Holding Sdn Bhd



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# ASEAN and Asia Pacific Lifetime Achievement Awards



Group Photography with all the recipients.



Prof. Dato' Sri Dr. Mike Chan, Director, European Wellness Biomedical Group is one of the recipients for the Asia Pacific Outstanding Business Leader Lifetime Achievement Awards.



YB Dato' Sri Hajah Rohani Karim, Chairman All Party Parliamentary Group on the Sustainability Development Goals (SDG) presenting the Asia Pacific Business Leader Lifetime Achievement Award to Dato' Haji Azmar Talib, CEO of TRX City. Looking on are KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh (Left) and H.E. Pam Dunn, New Zealand High Commissioner (right) and Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director.



At the Luncheon Award Ceremony, YB Dato' Sri Hajah Rohani Karim, Chairman All Party Parliamentary Group on the Sustainable Development Goals (left); H.E. Pam Dunn, New Zealand High Commissioner (centre); and Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director.



Datuk Nora Abd Manaf, Group Chief Human Capital Officer, Malayan Banking Berhad was awarded the ASEAN Women Manager of the Year Award.



Dato's Dr. Anas Alam Faizli, CEO, ProtectHealth Corporation receiving the Asia Pacific Outstanding Business Leader Lifetime Achievement Award from Chairman All Party Parliamentary Group on the Sustainable Development Goals.



From Left to Right: KSI's Executive Director / Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Caroline Cheong and Dato' Jean Wong, Business Development Adviser; and Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila Ramli, Head of Monitoring & Evaluation, All Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM).



## The Penang Future Forward Summit 2021

25 October 2021  
Eastern & Oriental Hotel, Penang

# Achieving a Resilient and Sustainable Economy

The KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific was delighted to host its first physical event since the first quarter of 2021 in Penang. Jointly organized with the Wawasan Open University and MICCI Penang, the Penang Future Forward Summit took place on 25 October 2021 to provide a platform for the various captains of industry and civil societies to formulate successful strategies, capitalise on technological change and shape a more resilient, sustainable and competitive future for the state.

The joint welcoming speeches were delivered by Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific; Mr Michel Van Crombrugge, Chairman, MICCI Penang; and Tan Sri Dr. Koh Tsu Koon, Chairman, Board of Governors, Wawasan Open University.

The Governor of Penang, T.Y.T Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Haji Abdul Razak delivered the Opening Address. In his speech, the Governor highlighted that Penang can expect a faster economic recovery if the authorities can effectively contain the Covid-19 Pandemic and sustaining economic growth would remain a challenge for the remainder of the year right up to early 2022. The Governor further stressed that Penang is one of the most developed states in Malaysia, adding that the state's economic fundamentals remained strong in spite of the Pandemic. Compared to other states in Malaysia, Penang's economy is uniquely driven by both the manufacturing and services sectors which are set to recover from the upheavals of Covid-19. The global demand for electronics and electrical products, the entry of several

Fortune 500 companies into the Batu Kawan Industrial Park as well as the introduction of the Penang Transport Master Plan were among the contributing factors that would accelerate the state's economic recovery.

### Session topics covered were as follows:

1. Shaping the Future of Penang – Meeting the Entrepreneurial Challenges, Identifying New Opportunities for Growth
2. The Future of Work & Education in the New Normal - The Shape of Education and Employment of the Future
3. Digitalization Programs in Penang – How to Ensure Delivery and Value?
4. Revitalizing and Resetting Culture, Heritage and Tourism in Penang



Left to Right: Mr. Michel Van Crombrugge, Chairman, MICCI Penang; Tan Sri Dr. Koh Tsu Koon, Chairman, Board of Governors, Wawasan Open University; T.Y.T Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Haji Abdul Razak, The Governor of Penang; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific; and YB Dato' Hj Abdul Halim Hussain, Penang State EXCO for Trade, Industry and Entrepreneurial Development.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI presenting a memento to the Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Penang, T.Y.T Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Haji Abdul Razak.



Tan Sri Andrew Sheng, Chairman, George Town Institute of Open & Advanced Studies, Wawasan Open University; Distinguished Fellow, Asia Global Institute, University of Hong Kong delivering his views on the Shaping the Future of penang - Meeting the Entrepreneurial Challenges, Identifying New Opportunities for Growth.



Left to Right: Dato' Seri Koe Peng Kang, Deputy President and Chief Operating Officer, S P Setia Group; Mr. Max Say, Chief Partnership Officer, KSI; Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan, Vice Chairman, KSI; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI; Ms. Christina Tee, President, MICCI; and Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI.





Distinguished Guests, VIPs and participants of the Penang Future Forward Summit at the full-day proceedings.



Dato' Seri Koe Peng Kang, Deputy President and Chief Operating Officer, S P Setia Group receiving a memento from the Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Penang, T.Y.T Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Haji Abdul Razak.



Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan, Vice Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific presenting a memento to YB Dato' Hj Abdul Halim Hussain, Penang State EXCO for Trade, Industry and Entrepreneurial Development after the Closing Address.



VIPs and distinguished guests at the Opening Ceremony.



Dato' Ong Eng Bin, Chief Executive Officer, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad receiving a memento from the Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Penang, T.Y.T Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Haji Abdul Razak whilst Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI and YB Dato' Hj Abdul Halim Hussain, Penang State EXCO for Trade, Industry and Entrepreneurial Development look on.



Distinguished Role-Players of the session on the Revitalizing and Resetting Culture, Heritage and Tourism in Penang. From Left to Right: Dato' Toh Chin Leong, Immediate Past Chairman, REHDA Penang and Senior General Manager (Northern Region), IJM Land Berhad; Dato' Seri (Dr.) Anwar Fazal, Consumer, Environment and Human Rights Activist; YB Yeoh Soon Hin, Penang State Executive Councillor for Tourism and Creative Economy; Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan, Vice Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific / Former Chairman, RHB Islamic Bank Bhd. (Moderator); Dato' Mohd Shuhaili Mohd Zain, Penang Chief Police Officer; Dr. Matt Benson, Programme Director, Think City Sdn Bhd; Mr Ch'ng Huck Theng, Chairman, Association of Tourism Attractions Penang (ATAP) and President, CHT Network Sdn Bhd; and Ms. Khoo Salma Nasution, Vice-President, Penang Heritage Trust joining the session via Zoom.



Distinguished Role-Players of the session on The Future of Work & Education in the New Normal - The Shape of Education and Employment of the Future. From Left to Right: Prof. Dr. Lily Chan, Chief Executive and Vice Chancellor, Wawasan Open University; Prof. Dato' Dr. Faisal Rafiq Mahamd Adikan FASc., Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Sains Malaysia; Ms. Ong Bee Leng, Chief Executive Officer, Penang Women's Development Corporation; Prof. Datuk Seri Dr. Md. Zabid bin Haji Abdul Rashid, Executive Director, Think Data Sdn Bhd and Former President & Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Tun Abdul Razak; and Prof. Ts. Dr. Hajah Roziah Mohd Janor, Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Teknologi MARA.

Distinguished role-players were Tan Sri Andrew Sheng, Chairman, George Town Institute of Open & Advanced Studies, Wawasan Open University; Dato' Dr. Ooi Kee Beng, Executive Director, Penang Institute; Dato' Seri Wong Siew Hai, President, Malaysia Semiconductor Industry Association (MSIA); Mr Michel Van Crombrugge, Chairman, MICCI Penang; Mr Stephen Lai, Chief Executive Officer, Social Entrepreneur and Enterprise Development (SEED); Dato' Seri Nazir Ariff, Chairman, SME Development Bank Malaysia Berhad; Prof. Dr. Lily Chan, Chief Executive and Vice Chancellor, Wawasan Open University; Prof. Dato' Dr. Faisal Rafiq Mahamd Adikan FASc.,

Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Sains Malaysia; Dato' Boonler Somchit, Vice Chairman, PSDC Management Council; Dato' Ong Eng Bin, Chief Executive Officer, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad; Prof. Datuk Seri Dr. Md. Zabid bin Haji Abdul Rashid, Executive Director, Think Data Sdn Bhd and Former President & Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Tun Abdul Razak; Prof. Ts. Dr. Hajah Roziah Mohd Janor, Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Teknologi MARA; Ms Ong Bee Leng, Chief Executive Officer, Penang Women's Development Corporation; Dato' Sasedharan Vasudevan, Chief Executive Officer, Penang Port Sdn Bhd; Mr Tony Yeoh, Chief Executive Officer, Digital Penang; Dato' Henry Goh,

Co-Founder and Group Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK; Ms Annie Khor, Board Member of Wawasan Open University / Chief Information Officer, Schenker Logistics (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Member, National Digital Economy Council/ Former Chairman, PIKOM and Young Presidents Organization Malaysia; YB Yeoh Soon Hin, Penang State Executive Councillor for Tourism and Creative Economy; Dr. Matt Benson, Programme Director, Think City Sdn Bhd; Dato' Mohd Shuhaili Mohd Zain, Penang Chief Police Officer; Dato' Seri (Dr.) Anwar Fazal, Consumer, Environment and Human Rights Activist; Dato' Toh Chin Leong, Immediate Past Chairman, REHDA Penang



and Senior General Manager (Northern Region), IJM Land Berhad; Ms Khoo Salma Nasution, Vice-President, Penang Heritage Trust; Mr Ch'ng Huck Theng, Chairman, Association of Tourism Attractions Penang (ATAP) and President, CHT Network Sdn Bhd; Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan, Vice Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific / Former Chairman, RHB Islamic Bank Bhd.

The speakers have staged some vibrant and fruitful discussions wide across areas covering Penang state's economy, education, tourism and digital transformation. They have also touched on the necessity for Penang to brace the post-pandemic era by exploring new economic growth areas, accelerating digitalisation among businesses and industries, preparing our local talents for the new innovation-driven economy and at the same time, resetting the once-booming tourism and heritage scene.



Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Member, National Digital Economy Council/ Former Chairman, PIKOM and Young Presidents Organization Malaysia, moderated the session on Digitalisation Programmes in Penang during the Penang Future Forward Summit.

## During the Summit, the following outstanding individuals have been conferred the Lifetime Achievement Awards:

Recipients	Award Category
<b>Tan Sri Dato' Seri Lim Gait Tong</b> Chairman and CEO, Farlim Group (Malaysia) Bhd / China-ASEAN Business Association	Penang Entrepreneur Excellence Award
<b>Dato' Seri Nazir Ariff</b> Chairman, SME Development Bank Malaysia Bhd / Former Chairman, MICCI Penang	Penang Business Leadership Award
<b>Datuk Seri Wong Chun Wai</b> Group Advisor, Star Media Group Bhd	Penang Media Leadership Award
<b>Ms. Khoo Salma Nasution</b> Vice President, Penang Heritage Trust	Penang Heritage Leadership Award

The Awards were presented by the Governor of Penang, Tun Dato' Seri Utama Tun Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak.

The Summit was concluded by a Closing Address by YB Dato' Hj Abdul Halim Hussain, Penang State EXCO for Trade, Industry and Entrepreneurial Development. In his speech, he mentioned that the Penang state has contributed close to 30% of Malaysia's total trade, amounting to more than RM500 million and second only to Selangor, in year 2020. In terms of trade in goods, Penang was responsible for one-third or 31% of Malaysia's goods exports amounting to RM981 billion and we contributed about 23.6% to the national imports amounting to

RM796.2 billion. Zooming in on our state's E&E sector, Penang contributed close to 70% of Malaysia's RM189.3 billion export of electronic integrated circuits and 44% of the nation's RM88.6 billion exports of other E&E products.

The Summit was well attended by about 150 participants in person and another 100 attending virtually on Zoom and was made possible by the MTT Group of Companies; Farlim Group; OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Bhd & SP Setia Group; the Corporate Sponsors with Penang Port Sdn Bhd; SME Development Bank Malaysia Bhd & Tanjung Pinang Development Sdn Bhd as the Associate Sponsors. ■



A Lifetime Achievement Award on the Penang Entrepreneur Excellence is conferred on Tan Sri Dato' Seri Lim Gait Tong, Chairman and CEO, Farlim Group (Malaysia) Bhd and Chairman, China-ASEAN Business Association. Receiving the Award on his behalf is Dato' Teh Eng Hin, President, Malaysia-China Chamber of Commerce Penang Branch.



Datuk Seri Wong Chun Wai, Group Advisor, Star Media Group Bhd receiving his Lifetime Achievement Award on the Penang Media Leadership from the Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Penang, T.Y.T. Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Haji Abdul Razak.



# GCET Awards



Dato' Dr. Jessie Tang, CEO, East West One Group was conferred the World Chinese Women Entrepreneur Award by Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Penang, T.Y.T. Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Haji Abdul Razak. Looking on were Tan Sri Majid Khan, KSI's Deputy Chairman and Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, KSI's President.



Tan Sri Datul Lim Keng Cheng, Chairman, Lim Seong Hai Capital Bhd was conferred the World Chinese Excellence Entrepreneur Lifetime Achievement Award.



Left to Right: Prof. Dato' Sri Dr. Mike Chan, Director, European Wellness Biomedical Group; YB Chong Eng, Penang State EXCO and Dato' Dr. Chin Yew Sin, Advisor for Asia Pacific Region, One Belt One Road Association.



Group Photography. From Left to Right: Mr. Jonathan Tee, Regional Director, K-Smart Education Group; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, KSI's Senior Executive Director; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI; Dato' Dr. Jessie Tang, KSI's Director & CEO, East West One Group; Ms. Rina Neoh, Managing Partner, Ficus Venture Capital; Mr. Edmond Yeo, Chair, Chinese Information and Advice Centre; and Mr. Max Say, KSI's Chief Partnership Officer.



Dato' Seri Kenny Ong, Executive Chairman, MTT Group of Companies receiving the World Chinese Excellent Entrepreneur Lifetime Award from Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Penang, T.Y.T. Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Haji Abdul Razak. Looking on is KSI's President & GCET Organizing Chairman, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh.



Datuk Andrew Lim Tatt Keong, Group Executive Chairman, GAMA SOGO Group of Companies was conferred the World Chinese Excellent Entrepreneur Lifetime Achievement Award.



Ms. Esther Ng, Chief Content Officer, Star Media Group Bhd receiving her award for the World Chinese Excellent Media Leadership. Looking on is Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Founder and Patron of the Global Chinese Economic and Technology Summit.



Left to Right: Dato' Jean Wong, KSI's Business Development Adviser; Tan Sri Majid Khan, KSI's Deputy Chairman; Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Founder & Patron of GCET; Mr. Max Say, KSI's Chief Partnership Officer; Dato's Shuhaily Mohd Zain, Penang Chief Police Officer; and KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh.



## The 2021 Asia Economic and Entrepreneurship Summit

30 September 2021, Virtual Summit

# Asia in the New Normal – Rebuilding Resilience, Overcoming Challenges

KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific hosted a virtual summit with an eye on Asia which is still reeling from the ill-effects of Covid-19 on the global economy. The 2021 Asia Economic and Entrepreneurship Summit with the theme Asia in the New Normal – Rebuilding Resilience, Overcoming Challenges is a leading regional economic forum jointly organized annually with the Pacific Basin Economic Council and China Daily on 30 September 2021.

The Summit is a meeting of minds for Government, Business, Civil Society and Thought Leaders to discuss the key trends, strategic challenges and major issues impacting on business and industry in Asia.

The Covid Pandemic has caused tremendous disruptions across Asia with lives and livelihoods being threatened. Building back in the new normal requires resilience, agility and adaptability as well as Government support. In the new normal greater focus will have to be given to digitalization, technology and innovation. Building shared prosperity as well as sustainable and inclusive growth is a key challenge. Businesses and entrepreneurs in Asia including the SMEs and start ups need to adapt to a VUCA world (volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous).

The Opening Keynote Address was delivered by The Hon. Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah Haji Yusof, Senior Minister and Minister of Works, Malaysia. In his speech, the Minister stated that in Malaysia, infrastructure development which is one of the main driver of economic growth will receive a big boost in the 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP) (2021-2025) to assist the sector in reviving the economy. It is also expected that the budget for the 12MP is set to beat previous Malaysia Plan's budget with a higher amount of more than RM250 billion. He further stressed that in today's environment, climate change is impacting communities across the globe in unprecedented ways like rising sea levels, extreme weather, food and water insecurity, resource scarcity and conflict which render us reasons not to build infrastructure like we normally do. As such an urgent and pre-emptive actions is needed through new collaborations and partnerships for ambitious new ideas to mitigate climate change.

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TUN BAKAR EXCHANGE  
**EUROPEAN WELLNESS**  
**PROTECHHEALTH**  
**SKA**  
**JUMBO**  
**SFU**

30 September 2021,  
Virtual Summit

### 2021 ASIA ECONOMIC AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUMMIT

Asia in the New Normal – Rebuilding Resilience, Overcoming Challenges



The Opening Keynote Address – “Building Sustainable Infrastructure For Economic Growth” of the 2021 Asia Economic and Entrepreneurship Summit by The Hon. Dato' Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Senior Minister and Minister of Works, Malaysia.

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TUN BAKAR EXCHANGE  
**EUROPEAN WELLNESS**  
**PROTECHHEALTH**  
**SKA**  
**JUMBO**  
**SFU**

30 September 2021,  
Virtual Summit

### 2021 ASIA ECONOMIC AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUMMIT

Asia in the New Normal – Rebuilding Resilience, Overcoming Challenges



The Special Ministerial Address – Parliamentary and Legal Reforms Towards Enhancing Governance and Economic Prosperity was delivered by The Hon. Dato' Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Parliamentary and Legal Affairs).

The Hon. Dato' Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Parliamentary & Legal Affairs) delivered a special Ministerial Address on Parliamentary and Legal Reforms Towards Enhancing Governance and Economic Prosperity. The Minister highlighted in his speech that transformation in the Government sector embodies noble values and solidarity across religious, racial and

cultural backgrounds in the context of Keluarga Malaysia. Malaysia's immediate priority is to sustain the management of the ongoing pandemic and its effects on individuals, households, and businesses. Protecting the lives and health of citizens is vital to ensure a safe resumption of economic activities and the prevention of a protracted economic downturn. This will ensure that the government continues to

make sound policies that would serve the people and provide them economic and social benefits with minimum obstacles.

Among the pertinent topics that were addressed at the Summit are:

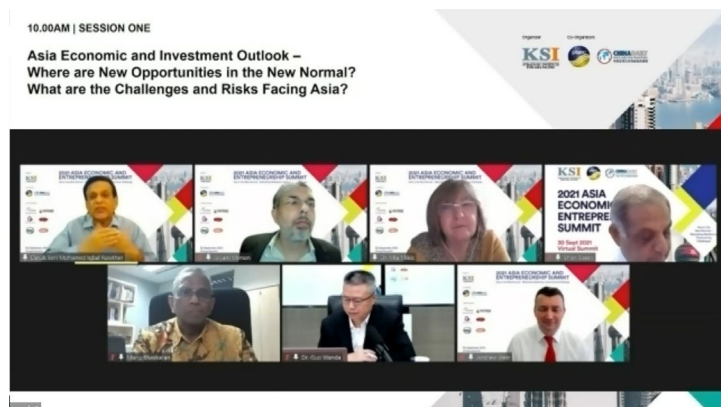
- Asia Economic and Investment Outlook – Where are New Opportunities in the New Normal? What are the Challenges and Risks Facing Asia?
- Special Ambassadorial Session on the Indo-Pacific and RCEP
- Challenges of the Digital Economy in Asia – Trends, Opportunities and Risks
- Meeting the Challenges of Sustainable Development: Towards a Green Economy

Panel distinguished role-players include Mr Andrew Weir, Chairman, Pacific Economic Basin Council; Mr Manu Bhaskaran, Chief Executive Officer, Centennial Asia Advisors Pte Ltd; Dr. Guo Wanda, Executive Vice President, China Development Institute; Mr Shan Saeed, Chief Economist, Juwai-IQI Holdings; Dr. Mia Mikic, Advisor at Large for the Asia-Pacific Research and Training

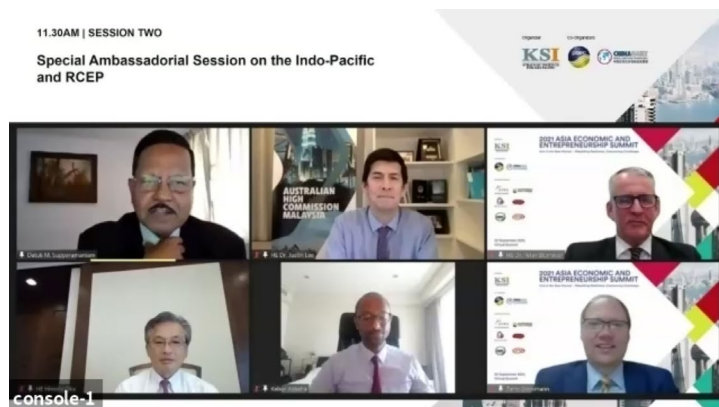
Network on Trade (ARTNet) / Former Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, UN ESCAP; Dr. Jayant Menon, Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore; Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur; H.E. Dr. Justin Lee, High Commissioner of Australia to Malaysia; H.E. Dr. Peter Blomeyer, Ambassador of Germany to Malaysia; H.E. Hiroshi Oka, Ambassador of Japan to Malaysia; Mr Timo Goosmann, Head of Section – Political, Press and Information, Delegation of the European Union to Malaysia; Mr Kebur Azbaha, Head of Prosperity and Economics Team, High Commission of the United Kingdom in Malaysia; H.E. Datuk M. Supperamaniam, Former Malaysian Ambassador to the World Trade Organisation; Mr Goh Peng Ooi, Executive Chairman, Silverlake Axis; Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder and Group Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK; Mr Matthew Chen, Chief Executive Officer, Sunline Holding; Mr Andrew Tan, Chief Executive Officer, KipleX; Prof. Michael Sung, Chairman, Carbon Blue Innovations

and Co-Director, Fintech Research Centre, Fanhai International School of Finance, Fudan University China; Prof. Dato' Dr. Chin Yew Sin, JP, Advisor for Asia Pacific Region, Global One Belt One Road Association; Dr. Oh Ei Sun, Senior Fellow, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and Singapore Institute for International Affairs; Ms Pamela Mar, Executive Vice President – Knowledge and Applications, Fung Academy; Mr Shazali Sulaiman, Chairman, Brunei Darussalam International Chambers of Commerce and Industry / Partner, Shazali & Partners; Mr Albert Oung, UNESCAP ESNB Green Economy Task Force Chair / Founder & President, World Green Organisation; Ms Arina Kok, Partner, Assurance and Climate Change and Sustainability Services, Ernst & Young; Ms Elina Jani, Director for Business Development, Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Centre; and Ms Barbara Meynert, Senior Adviser, Fung Group.

About 120 participants attended the Summit virtually on Zoom. ■



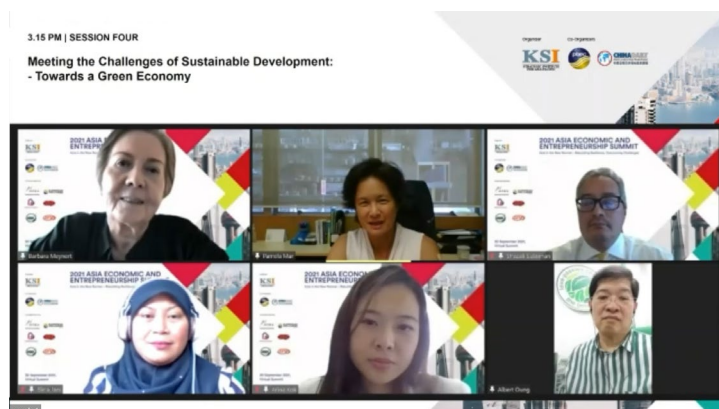
Distinguished Role-Players of the session on the Asia Economic and Investment Outlook. Top Left to Right: Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (Moderator); Dr. Jayant Menon, Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore; Dr. Mia Mikic, Advisor at Large for the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNet) / Former Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, UN ESCAP; and Mr Shan Saeed, Chief Economist, Juwai-IQI Holdings. Bottom Left to Right: Mr. Manu Bhaskaran, Chief Executive Officer, Centennial Asia Advisors Pte Ltd; Dr. Guo Wanda, Executive Vice President, China Development Institute; and Mr Andrew Weir, Chairman, Pacific Economic Basin Council.



Role-players of the Special Ambassadorial Session on the Indo-Pacific and RCEP. Moderated by H.E. Datuk M. Supperamaniam, Former Malaysian Ambassador to the World Trade Organisation (top left); H.E. Dr. Justin Lee, High Commissioner of Australia to Malaysia; and H.E. Dr. Peter Blomeyer, Ambassador of Germany to Malaysia. Left to Right (Second Row): H.E. Hiroshi Oka, Ambassador of Japan to Malaysia; Mr Kebur Azbaha, Head of Prosperity and Economics Team, High Commission of the United Kingdom in Malaysia; and Mr Timo Goosmann, Head of Section – Political, Press and Information, Delegation of the European Union to Malaysia.



Distinguished panel speakers at the session of the Digital Economy in Asia. Moderated by Dr. Oh Ei Sun, Senior Fellow, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and Singapore Institute for International Affairs (top left); Dato' Dr. Chin Yew Sin, JP, Advisor for Asia Pacific Region, Global One Belt One Road Association; Mr Andrew Tan, CEO, KipleX; and Dato' Henry Goh, Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK. Bottom Left to Right: Mr Matthew Chen, CEO, Sunline Holding; Prof. Michael Sung, Chairman, Carbon Blue Innovations and Co-Director, Fintech Research Centre, Fanhai International School of Finance, Fudan University China; and Mr Goh Peng Ooi, Executive Chairman, Silverlake Axis.



Distinguished Role-Players at the Green Economy session. This session is moderated by Ms Barbara Meynert, Senior Adviser, Fung Group (top left); Ms Pamela Mar, Executive Vice President – Knowledge and Applications, Fung Academy; Mr Shazali Sulaiman, Chairman, Brunei Darussalam International Chambers of Commerce and Industry / Partner, Shazali & Partners; Ms Elina Jani, Director for Business Development, Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Centre; Ms Arina Kok, Partner, Assurance and Climate Change and Sustainability Services, Ernst & Young; and Mr Albert Oung, UNESCAP ESNB Green Economy Task Force Chair / Founder & President, World Green Organisation.



## The 2021 Malaysian Banking and Finance Summit

21 September 2021, Virtual Summit

# Future of Banking in the New Normal – Disruptive Innovation, Technology and Transformation

The 2021 Malaysian Banking and Finance Summit was held fully virtual on Zoom on 21 September 2021. Themed “Future of Banking in the New Normal – Disruptive Innovation, Technology and Transformation”, the Summit was jointly organized with The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur and supported by the Association of Banks in Malaysia.

The COVID Pandemic has caused widespread disruption globally to nations, economies, business and society. Banks globally have to face the brunt of reduced earnings as well as higher loan provisions with an almost universal loan moratorium to save businesses. Hence in the new normal

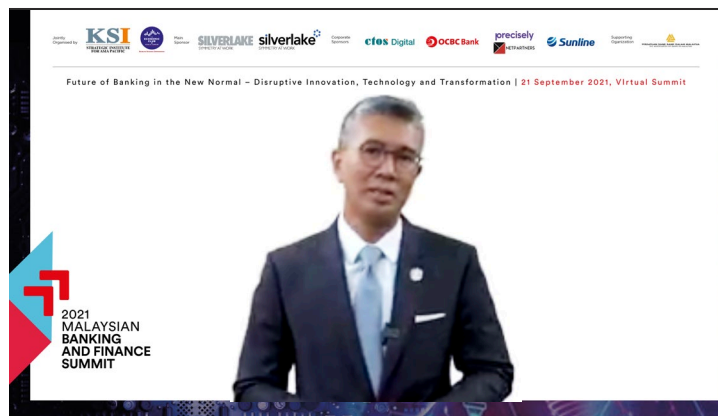
banks have to cope with new challenges. Disruptive change is the new normal for banks and businesses worldwide.

Increasing use of new technology, the emergence of digital banks, the need to enhance operational effectiveness and productivity as well as the war for talent are among some of these challenges. How will Malaysian banks cope with these new challenges and strategic issues? How can Malaysian banks keep abreast of new global and technological trends? What are the threats and risks facing banks in the new normal.

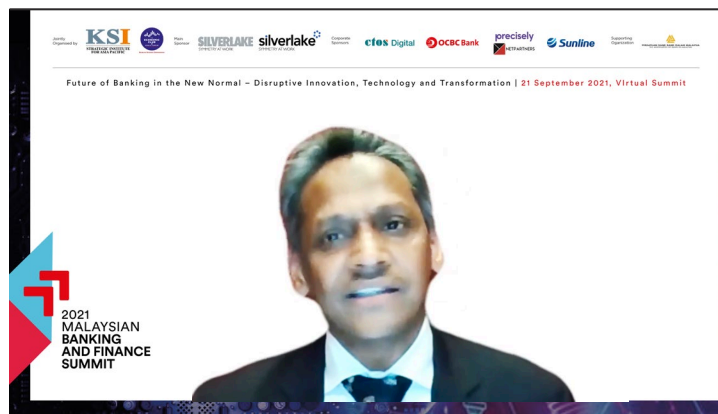
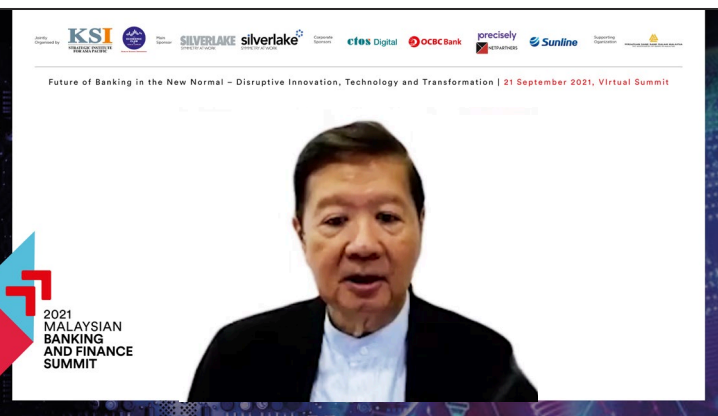


YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy) delivering the Special Address at the 2021 Malaysian Banking and Finance Summit. Joining the session are KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh (top right). Second Row: Left to Right: Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, EXCO, The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur and Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman, Advisory Council, Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur.

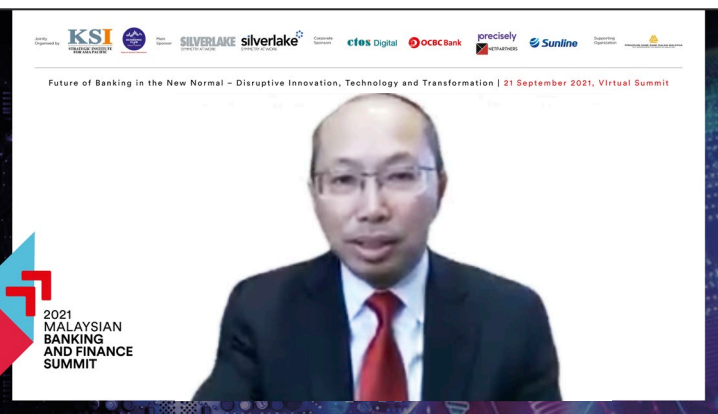
The Opening Keynote Address was delivered by YB Senator Datuk Seri Utama Tengku Zafrul Abdul Aziz, Minister of Finance via a recorded video. In his speech, the Minister stressed that the Government's priority is to cushion the economic blow to the most vulnerable rakyat. Since the onset of the pandemic, many have lost their jobs and livelihoods. The Budget 2021 allocated a total of RM322.5 billion, which is the biggest ever in our country's history to boost economic resilience, reinforce our healthcare and safeguard the well-being of the rakyat. In addition, the Government introduced 7 assistance packages from PRIHATIN to PEMULIH, collectively worth RM530 billion.



YB Senator Datuk Seri Utama Tengku Zafrul Abdul Aziz, Minister of Finance delivered the Opening Keynote Address - The Role of Banks and Financial Institutions in Supporting National Economic Recovery at the 2021 Malaysia Banking and Finance Summit via a pre-recorded video with KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh delivered the Introductory Remarks.



The Closing Address of the 2021 Malaysian Banking and Finance Summit was delivered by Datuk Shaik Abdul Rasheed bin Abdul Ghaffour, The Deputy Governor of Bank Negara Malaysia live on Zoom. Joining the session is Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman, Advisory Council, Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur.



To date, the Government has provided over RM260 billion of assistance, benefitting over 2.4 million businesses and more than 20 million Malaysians.

He further informed that the 12th Malaysian Plan will be the first of the two development plans to achieve our aspirations through the Shared Prosperity Vision (SPV) 2030. SPV 2030 aims to achieve sustainable growth and fair and equitable distribution, across income groups, ethnicities, regions and supply chains.

Towards the afternoon, a Special Address on the Digital Initiative and 12th Malaysia Plan – Challenges and Opportunities for the Banking and Financial Sector was delivered by YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy). In his speech, he pointed out that the Malaysian economy is expected to post a GDP growth rate of approximately 3-4%. This is encouraging as despite the pandemic, the economy has continued to grow, testament to the resilience of the rakyat due to the strong fundamentals in our economy and sociocultural stability. The World Bank and IMF projects Malaysia economy to grow around 5-6% in 2022 as the normalisation of economic activity occurs with positive spillovers from growing external demand. The Minister further continues urging banks to work together with the business community and in Government on paving the way forward in ushering business transformation to allow all sectors to build back better.

The topics discussed at the Summit include the Future of Banking: What Will Banks Look Like in the New Normal; Digital Banking and Fintech – The Game Changer; Sustainable Banking and Finance – Promoting Sustainability and ESG; and Achieving Customer Satisfaction – How People, Technology and Processes Can Meet and Exceed Customer Satisfaction.

Distinguished role-players include Dato' Ong Eng Bin, Chief Executive Officer, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad; Mr Stuart Milne, Chief Executive Officer, HSBC Bank Malaysia Berhad; Mr Shankar Kanabiran, Partner and Financial Services Advisory Leader, Ernst & Young; Mr Dennis Martin, Group CEO & Executive Director, CTOS Digital Berhad; Dato' Maznah Jalil, Exco Member, Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur / Former Director, UOB (M) Berhad / Former Head, Corporate Finance & Principal Investment, Hong Leong Financial Group / Former Executive Vice President, Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad; Mr Goh Peng Ooi, Executive Chairman, Silverlake Axis; Mr Matthew Chen, Chief Executive Officer, Sunline Holding; Mr George Lee, Managing Partner, Tin Hill Ventures Pte Ltd; Ms Elain Lockman, Co-Founder & CEO, Ata Plus Sdn Bhd; Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder & Group Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK; Mr Ku Kok Peng, Group Chief Strategy

Officer, Green Packet Berhad; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific / Former Chairman, Young Presidents Organization (YPO); Mr Yee Wing Peng, Chief Executive Officer, Deloitte Malaysia; Mr Promod Dass, Deputy Group CEO, RAM Holdings Bhd; Mr Pradeeban Letsumanasingam, Director, The Tech Connectors; Mr Eddie Hu, Managing Director, Elegant Hallmark Sdn Bhd; Datuk Noripah Kamso, Former Chairman, Bank Rakyat / Member, Malaysia Sustainable Finance Group; Mr Othman Abdullah, CEO, Silverlake (Islamic Banking Innovative Services Delivery); Datuk Nora Abd Manaf, Group Chief Human Capital Officer, Malayan Banking Berhad; Prof. Dato' Dr. Azmi Omar, President & CEO, International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF); Dr. Nikolai Dobberstein, Head of Kearney's Communications, Media & Technology Practice in Asia Pacific and Managing Partner of the Malaysian Practice; and Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan, Executive Vice Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific / former Chairman, RHB Islamic Bank Bhd.

The Deputy Governor of Bank Negara Malaysia, Datuk Shaik Abdul Rasheed bin Abdul Ghaffour delivered the Closing Address. With the banking sector embracing digitalisation, Bank Negara Malaysia playing the role of regulator and supervisor must also adapt. Digital transformation offers many opportunities to develop tools that will enable us to gain a quicker and greater understanding of risks to the banking sector.

There is great potential to use technology to get the most from the large amounts of data available to banking regulators and digital solutions will offer efficiency gains that will allow the regulators and supervisors to focus our time on the more constructive aspects of our work. He further pointed out that Malaysia's virtual banking framework was released in December of last year. Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) will be issuing up to 5 operational licenses, which will be granted by the first quarter of 2022. The updated digital banking framework which had gone through a 6-months consultation period has been viewed as a positive move by local industry participants, with some analysts referring to it as the "best of breed" in balancing the requirement for innovation while maintaining financial stability in the Southeast Asian country. With banks and non-bank institutions vying for the license, the focus to fulfil BNM's mandate for financial inclusion will be a common starting point for applicants. However, applicants should also keep trust and innovation at the core of their ideation process and business model.

The high-level annual Summit was conducted fully virtual on Zoom and supported by Silverlake Group, the Main Sponsor; CTOS Digital, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Bhd, NetPartners & Sunline Holding as the Corporate Sponsors.

The Summit was well attended by over 300 participants which had even more participants than our regular physical events. ■



Distinguished role-players at the CEO Forum. From Left to Right: Mr Dennis Martin, Group CEO & Executive Director, CTOS Digital Berhad; Dato' Maznah Jalil, Exco Member, Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur; r Shankar Kanabiran, Partner and Financial Services Advisory Leader, Ernst & Young. (Second Row) Dato' Ong Eng Bin, Chief Executive Officer, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad and Mr Stuart Milne, Chief Executive Officer, HSBC Bank Malaysia Berhad.



Distinguished role-players at the Digital Banking and Fintech session. From Left to Right: Mr Ku Kok Peng, Group Chief Strategy Officer, Green Packet Berhad; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific / Former Chairman, Young Presidents Organization (YPO); and Mr George Lee, Managing Partner, Tin Hill Ventures Pte Ltd. (Second Row): Ms Elain Lockman, Co-Founder & CEO, Ata Plus Sdn Bhd; Mr Matthew Chen, Chief Executive Officer, Sunline Holding; and Mr Goh Peng Ooi, Executive Chairman, Silverlake Axis. (Third Row): Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder & Group Chief Operating Officer, MACROKIOSK.



Distinguished role-players at the Sustainability Banking and Finance session. From Left to Right: Mr Eddie Hu, Managing Director, Elegant Hallmark Sdn Bhd; Datuk Noripah Kamso, Former Chairman, Bank Rakyat / Member, Malaysia Sustainable Finance Group; and Mr Yee Wing Peng, Chief Executive Officer, Deloitte Malaysia; Mr Promod Dass, Deputy Group CEO, RAM Holdings Bhd. (Second Row): Mr Pradeeban Letsumanasingam, Director, The Tech Connectors; and Mr Promod Dass, Deputy Group CEO, RAM Holdings Bhd.



Distinguished role-players at the Digital Banking and Fintech session. From Left to Right: Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan, Executive Vice Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific / former Chairman, RHB Islamic Bank Bhd; Dr. Nikolai Dobberstein, Head of Kearney's Communications, Media & Technology Practice in Asia Pacific and Managing Partner of the Malaysian Practice; and Datuk Nora Abd Manaf, Group Chief Human Capital Officer, Malayan Banking Berhad. (Second Row): Mr Othman Abdullah, CEO, Silverlake (Islamic Banking Innovative Services Delivery); and Prof. Dato' Dr. Azmi Omar, President & CEO, International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance (INCEIF).



## The 2021 Malaysian Housing and Property Summit

27 July 2021, Virtual Summit

# Resetting and Rebuilding the Housing and Property Industry in the New Normal

The 2021 Malaysian Housing and Property Summit (MHPS) took place over the virtual realm via Zoom platform on 27 July 2021. With the theme "Resetting and Rebuilding the Housing and Property Industry in the New Normal", the Summit was co-organised with the FIABCI Malaysia International Real Estate Federation and supported by the Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM) and the Association of Valuers, Property Managers, Estate Agents and Property Consultants in the Private Sector (PEPS).

The Opening Keynote Address was delivered by YB Datuk Hajah Zuraida Kamaruddin, Minister of Housing and Local Government via a recorded video. The Minister raised that the real estate industry and the national economy have a mutual and close tie and the far-reaching impact. From an economic standpoint, function of real estate industry in the national economy could be reflected from its role in inducing induces direct economic effect, for the other industries such as construction, manufacturing, banking and the professionals that provide services to the real estate industry. Therefore, it is a wise and right decision for the Malaysian Government to revitalise and guide the real estate industry via initiatives introduced, so to make this industry continues to play an active role in stimulating economic growth.

The Minister also pointed out that business sentiment is at its lowest level with many operations severely impacted by the outbreak. The sense of uncertainty will lead to slower demand as businesses and occupiers will likely continue to postpone major expansion or relocation decisions. In the immediate term preceding the lifting of the current MCO, co-working or flexible space

may be less popular as there will be reduced desire for clients or members to congregate and interact face to face in one location. Revenue derived from memberships fees and events may be affected during this period although e-events will continue to progress.

The Summit's first session is on the property sector in the new normal where the panelists delivered a general view of the economic market outlook; introduction of several measures to incentivize home ownership for B40 by the Government; re-adjusting the entry price points for unsold property; and revival of mega projects. Panelists of this session were Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Founder & Executive Chairman, Country Heights Holdings Bhd; Datuk Tee Eng Ho, Executive Chairman, Eastern & Oriental Bhd; Mr Shan Saeed, Chief Economist, Juwai-IQI Holdings; Sr Mohd. Salem Kailany, President/CEO, UDA Holdings Bhd and was moderated by Tan Sri Dato' (Dr) Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman, Executive Chairman, Rahim & Co International Sdn Bhd.

The second session discussed on the Sustainability in Property Development – Embracing the New Normal. Dato' Stewart LaBrooy, Chairman, AREA Group of Companies, delivered an overview of what a sustainable strategy entails when organizations choose to go on that journey; and also the impact of ESG in real estate financing. Ms Phang Oy Cheng, Executive Director-Governance and Sustainability, KPMG Management & Risk Consulting Sdn Bhd talked on embracing new norms. Ar Abu Zarim Abu Bakar, Deputy President, PAM, talked about the promoting a green recovery and improvement on the efficient of water infrastructure and new approaches



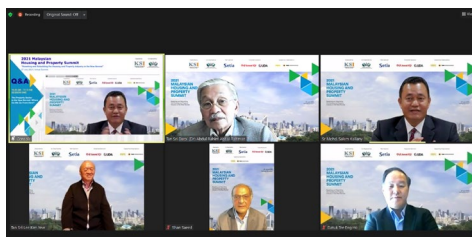
YB Datuk Hajah Zuraida Kamaruddin, Minister of Housing and Local Government delivered the Opening Keynote Address of the 2021 Malaysian Housing and Property Summit via a pre-recorded video.

to development; and Ar Lilian Tay, Deputy President, VERITAS Design Group addressed the city planning and building design need to address on household and lockdown stress, healthcare system stress, power & water supply, security and public areas.

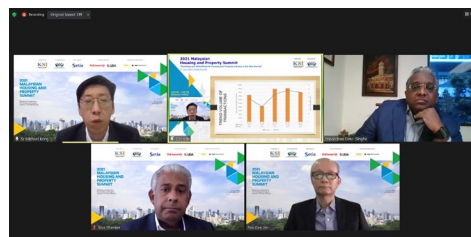
The third session focused on the strategic outlook and trends in the Property Market. Sr Michael Kong, President of PEPS gave a general market overview for 2020, 2021 and projection for 2022 and also touch on Malaysia My Second Home; Mr Foo Gee Jen, Managing Director, CBRE|WTW covered the commercial (office & retail) and industrial outlook; and Mr Previndran Singhe, CEO, ZerIn Properties provides update on the residential, service apartments, SOHO. The panelists were also touch on foreign buyers and foreign investments in their respective sectors.

Last session was on the digitalization and innovation in the Housing and Property Industry: How Digital Technology will be the New Competitive Edge for Property Development. Mr David Mizan Hashim, Group President, VERITAS Design Group introduced the topic of smart cities, explaining where we are and how we should move forward; Mr Poo Ching Loong, General Manager, YESBoss talked about big data, blockchain and Ai; followed by Mr Georg Chmiel, Executive Chairman, Juwai-IQI Holdings touched on how technology impact has been crucial the past year and the trends for the future.

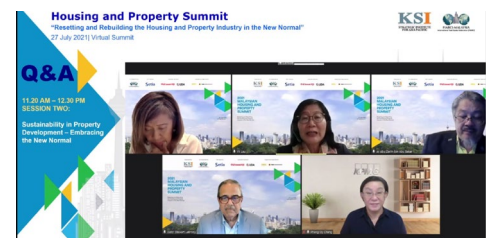
The Summit was well attended by over 300 participants and was made possible by the SP Setia Group, the main sponsor with Juwai-IQI Holdings and UDA Holdings Bhd as the corporate sponsors. ■



Distinguished Role-Players at the session on the Property Sector in the New Normal. Left to Right: Sr Mohd. Salem Kailany, President/CEO, UDA Holdings Bhd; Tan Sri Dato' (Dr) Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman, Executive Chairman, Rahim & Co International Sdn Bhd; (Second Row) Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Founder & Executive Chairman, Country Heights Holdings Bhd; Mr Shan Saeed, Chief Economist, Juwai-IQI Holdings; and Datuk Tee Eng Ho, Executive Chairman, Eastern & Oriental Bhd.



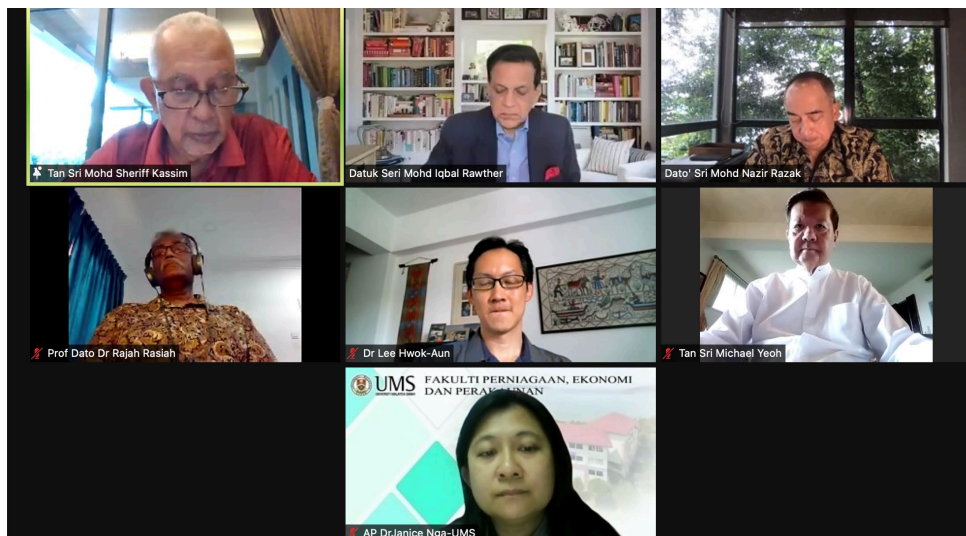
Distinguished Role-Players at the session on the Strategic Outlook and Trends in the Property Sector. Left to Right: Sr Michael Kong, President, Association of Valuers, Property Managers, Estate Agents and Property Consultants in the Private Sector (PEPS); and Mr Previndran Singhe, CEO, ZerIn Properties. (Second Row) Mr Siva Shanker, CEO, Real Estate Agency, Rahim & Co International Sdn Bhd; and Mr Foo Gee Jen, Managing Director, CBRE|WTW.



Distinguished Role-Players at the session on the Sustainability in Property Development. Left to Right: Ar Lilian Tay, Deputy President, VERITAS Design Group; Ms Y Y Lau, Country Head, JLL Property Services (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd (Moderator); Ar Abu Zarim Abu Bakar, Deputy President, PAM. (Second Row) Dato' Stewart LaBrooy, Chairman, AREA Group of Companies and Ms Phang Oy Cheng, Executive Director-Governance and Sustainability, KPMG Management & Risk Consulting Sdn Bhd.

15 September 2021, Virtual Roundtable

# The New Economic Policy (NEP): Reflections on the NEP after 50 Years



Arising from the May 13 riot as a result of the huge economic disparity between the Malays and non-Malays, the government promulgated an affirmative action plan, the New Economic Policy or NEP in 1971. Its twin-pronged objectives are to eradicate poverty regardless of race and to restructure society so that all ethnic groups would be represented in every profession and throughout the economy.

This year, 2021 celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the NEP. Over the years, the NEP has seen many iterations from National Development Policy to Shared Prosperity Vision (SPV) 2030. Yet all these programs and policies have not contribute to national unity. Society has remained skewed and polarised with many issues still unresolved and in fact worsened not just amongst inter-ethnic groups but more importantly within intra-ethnic groups.

This roundtable was organised by KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific (KSI) and the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL). The panellists of the roundtable were Tan Sri Dato' Mohd Sheriff Bin Mohd Kassim, Former Secretary-General, Ministry of Finance, Malaysia; Dato Sri Mohamed Nazir bin Tun Abdul Razak, Founding Partner and Chairman, Ikhlas Capital; Dr Lee Hwok-Aun, Senior Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore & Senior Fellow, The Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS); Prof Dato' Rajah Rasiah, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya and Dr. Janice L. H. Nga, Assoc. Prof., Planning and Development Economics, Faculty of Business,

Economics and Accountancy, Universiti Malaysia Sabah

Speaking at an online forum on the legacy of the New Economic Policy (NEP), former finance ministry secretary-general Tan Sri Mohd Sheriff Kassim and former CIMB group chairman Dato Sr Nazir Razak both agreed that Malays are now more capable of finding their own success than they were 50 years ago when the policy was introduced. While affirmative action shouldn't be done away with completely, it should be prefaced on needs rather than race. Tan Sri Mohd Sheriff Kassim said he the policy of preferential treatment (of Malays) should be reviewed so that they will be encouraged to compete on their own merit. He added that young Malays do not like to apply for office jobs like in the old days, they prefer the rough and tumble of doing their own thing. With the digital transformation in this country, many of them doing amazing things to earn a living in partnership with their friends. He added that the upcoming 12th Malaysia Plan (12MP), which is slated to be tabled in October, is a perfect opportunity for the country to change its course. He hope that the government will do away with the negative aspects of social engineering and focus instead on inclusive policies based on needs instead of race.

Dato Sri Nazir said the NEP's extension in 1990 coincided with a bull run in the stock market, which allowed Bumiputeras to take advantage of the 30% corporate equity target the government implemented under the programme.

"You didn't need to work very hard (to get rich), you just needed to get some shares at a discount from the government or non-Malay community ... hard work became optional for Malays."

He said that removing race-based advantages would even be welcomed by many fellow Malay business leaders, as "they're fed up of being seen as beneficiaries of a handicap". However, reforms have been difficult to implement as a "small but powerful" group who reap the rewards of the NEP through high-ranking appointments and preferential treatment for contracts have been staunch opponents to removing these advantages.

The panel also pointed out that Government-linked companies (GLCs) are in urgent need of reform, and such action should include the shutting down of those which are not performing. While some of these GLCs played an important role in the country, too many had become non-essential and, worse, damaging. This is because some of these GLCs have become too politically-connected through the appointment of board positions. The country's reputation for corporate practices will worsen if the politicisation of GLCs is not stopped.

Dr Lee Hock-Aun in his discussion challenges the audience to reconsider common misconceptions surrounding the NEP in order to avoid another 50 years of polarised debates. He urges us instead to focus on the NEP's underlying principles and enduring objectives, and reflect on the shortcomings of the policy over the past few years.

He goes on to propose a way forward that builds on the NEPs two prongs and emphasises the need to not terminate these policies, but enhance them instead. He hoped that society would be more open to discuss the NEP more meaningful and constructive.

Prof Dato Dr Rajah Rasiah commented that any strategy to address the poverty issue in Malaysia must take into consideration provisions in the New Economic Policy (NEP). Apart from that, he added that political interests in the implementation of affirmative action must be curtailed. While the NEP was the right approach towards addressing the poverty problem in Malaysia in the 1960s and 1970s, the conditions today are very different. However, he said 50 years on, pockets of poverty still remain while the nation has become more ethnically polarised.

The call to continue with ethnic-based restructuring and poverty alleviation remains strong, with leading political parties in government doing all they can to retain the policy.

Prof Dato Dr Rajah said while affirmative action is necessary in all capitalist societies because of their inherent tendency to generate inequalities, such action should not be based on ethnicity.

Dr Janice Nga spoke on the NEP especially on the eradication of poverty objective from the perspective of Sabah

The roundtable saw the participation of some 355 people from various sectors. ■



## The 2021 Malaysian Economic and Strategic Outlook Forum

22 February 2021, Virtual Forum

# The Post COVID New Normal - Where Do We Go From Here?

KSI's first major event of the year, the 2021 Malaysian Economic and Strategic Outlook Forum (MESOF) took place over the virtual realm with all sessions taking place over Zoom 22nd February 2021. The Forum was co-organised by KSI, the Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MICCI), and the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL).

In his welcome speech, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI, noted that the world is increasingly volatile, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA), which similarly requires a VUCA responses and a focus on the 3 R's – to Rebuild, Reset, and Revitalise. Mr. Azrani Rustam, Vice President of MICCI said that in a year of uncertainty, Malaysia is racing against time to save the economy.

The opening keynote address was given by YB Dato Sri' Alexander Nanta Linggi, the Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs. The Minister outlined the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs' (MEDAC) focus areas in approaching the new normal economy through the acceleration of e-commerce adoption, increasing procurement of e-production by e-businesses, and revamping tribunal and independent body under the Consumer's Act 1999.

The Forum's first session was centred on the Post COVID Economic Outlook. Mr Richard Record, Lead Economist at The World Bank Group spoke of repressed domestic demands and a widening fiscal deficit, but credited Malaysia's efforts for its fiscal stimulus packages which have cushioned the impact of a crisis. He expects Malaysia's economy to return to growth. Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician at the Department of Statistics Malaysia, pointed out that the

national economy requires consideration towards salaries and wages, demographics, labour scenarios, international trade, and economic prospects. Mr. Firdaos Rosli, Senior Economist at the Malaysian Rating Corporation Berhad (MARC) projects that a v-shaped rebound is likely and that the future outlook is driven by a strong pick up in private consumption and investment. Mr. Shan Saeed at Chief Economist, Juwai IQI expects the global economy to be volatile and fragile and that the Malaysia government will continue to use fiscal policies to drive growth. Investors are looking at the fundamentals of equity, the strength of the US dollar, and expect emerging economies to have a better year.

The second session focused on the Political Outlook with speakers comprised of YB Dr. Kelvin Yui, Member of Parliament for Bandar Kuching; YB Senator Yusmadi Yusoff, Chairman of the Senate Reform Working Committee / Chairman & Founder of RIGHTS Foundation; Datuk Nicole Wong Siaw Ting, MCA National Youth Chairperson; Dr. James Chin, Professor of Asian Studies, University of Tasmania, and Ms. Tricia Yeoh, Chief Executive Officer of Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS). This session was moderated by Dr. Oh Ei Sun, Senior Fellow of KSI and the Singapore Institute for International Affairs. The panel spoke of the need for political stability, the role of youth and social media in politics, and the tussle between the main Malay parties for political dominance. Ultimately, the outcome of the general election will be decided on matters relating to the wellbeing of voters.

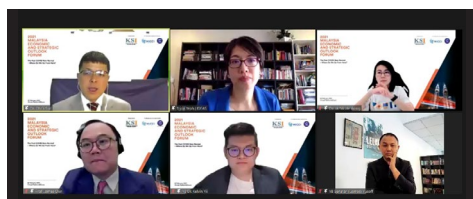
A Special Luncheon Address was delivered by Tan Sri Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, Special Advisor on Public Health to the Prime Minister. She urged the private sector to work together



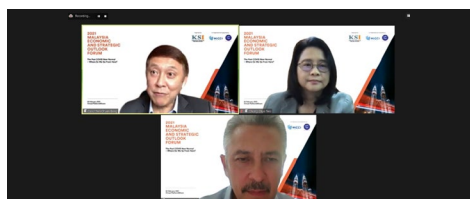
YB Dato Sri' Alexander Nanta Linggi, the Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs delivered the Keynote Address of the 2021 Malaysia Economic and Strategic Outlook Forum.

with the government to share their resources in combating the pandemic and stressed that businesses should give stronger priority towards the wellbeing of their employees.

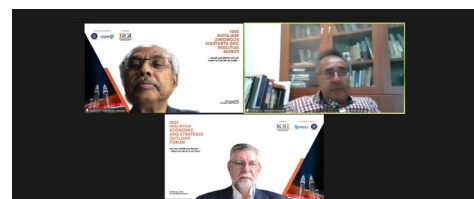
MESOF 2021's fourth session discussed the Digital Post COVID New Normal which was moderated by Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director of KSI. Speakers include Ms Chong Chye Neo, Independent Non-Executive Director of Bursa Malaysia Bhd; Dato' Henry Goh, Co-Founder and Group Chief Operating Officer of MACROKIOSK; Mr Matthew Chen CEO of Sunline's Overseas Business Group; and Mr Fitri Abdullah, Managing Director of Oracle Malaysia. They noted that the data-driven economy is already under away and that data is the new "oil". Acceleration of e-commerce uptake will continue to grow and automation will be deployed. However, corporate Malaysia, specifically the SME's, is still lagging behind. The launch of MyIdentity will be of great boost for the digital economy. The last feature of MESOF 2021 was a Special Dialogue Session entitled Business After COVID - Resilience and Survival in the New Normal. Datuk Dr. Hamzah Kassim, Co-Founder of The iA Group and Mr Edward Clayton, PwC Partner, Capital Projects & Infrastructure - Malaysia & Vietnam participated in the dialogue which was moderated by Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan, Executive Vice Chairman of KSI and Senior Associate at Kets de Vries Institute. Malaysia has not fully recovered from the fallout wrought by the pandemic with slowdowns in FDI. Lessons can be drawn from other countries that were able to restructure economy and move ahead. New opportunities in renewable energy, digital communication, agriculture, and property development need to be looked into, especially in light of climate change. ■



Distinguished speaker of the Political Outlook session which was moderated by Dr. Oh Ei Sun, Senior Fellow of KSI and the Singapore Institute for International Affairs. From Left to Right: Ms. Tricia Yeoh, Chief Executive Officer of Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS); and Datuk Nicole Wong Siaw Ting, MCA National Youth Chairperson. (Second Row) Dr. James Chin, Professor of Asian Studies, University of Tasmania; YB Dr. Kelvin Yui, Member of Parliament for Bandar Kuching; and YB Senator Yusmadi Yusoff, Chairman of the Senate Reform Working Committee / Chairman & Founder of RIGHTS Foundation.



Distinguished speaker of the Digital session which was moderated by Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director of KSI / Former Chairman, PIKOM; followed by Ms Chong Chye Neo, Independent Non-Executive Director of Bursa Malaysia Bhd and Mr Fitri Abdullah, Managing Director of Oracle Malaysia (second row).



Distinguished speaker of the Special Dialogue session: Business After COVID - Resilience and Survival in the New Normal: What's New? What's Next? session which was moderated Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan, Executive Vice Chairman of KSI and Senior Associate at Kets de Vries Institute; followed by Datuk Dr. Hamzah Kassim, Co-Founder of The iA Group and Mr Edward Clayton, PwC Partner, Capital Projects & Infrastructure - Malaysia & Vietnam (Second row).

# The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur

## Programs and Activities for the year 2021.



The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL) held several programs during the year, 2021. Some of these programs were co-branded with KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific (KSI) while some were stand-alone ECKL programs.

On 23rd February 2021, a roundtable on, "Expanding Malaysia Economic Pie - Where, What and How" was held on the virtually. This webinar was jointly organized by both ECKL and KSI.

Arising from the webinar, the panel are in consensus that Malaysia needs to grow the economic pie to ensure a fairer and more inclusive growth for all Malaysians. Additionally, the government needs to work closely with the private sector, civil society and academia to promote innovation in order to create opportunities and jobs of the future. Moreover, predictability and certainty in government policy is necessary to attract and retain FDI back into the country. Therefore, Malaysia needs both 'whole-of-government' and 'whole-of-society' approaches to address challenges of the 21st century. The panel has proposed short and long-term recommendations for the policymakers.

The panel comprised Tan Sri Andrew Sheng (Distinguished Fellow at Asia Global Institute of the University of Hong Kong), Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar (Chairman, Bursa Malaysia and Chairman, ECKL International Advisory Council) and Dato' Dr Madeline

Berma (Commissioner, Human Rights Commission of Malaysia). The session was moderated by Tan Sri Yong Poh Kon (Chairman, Royal Selangor International Sdn Bhd).

Another webinar was also held on 26 March 2021 on "The Opportunities and Challenges in 2021 for Private Equity in Asia".

The private equity industry was no exception to the coronavirus pandemic. Market volatility and business uncertainty challenged even the most robust and experience firms who've had to contain raising capital, guide portfolio companies through the pandemic while creating enough value to deliver a consistent return to investors. However, the industry was able to embrace and adjust their new reality. Course correcting operating models, improving advisory capabilities, and relying on industry experts to adapt businesses under their care to be more agile and resilient. This robust recovery was seen by several notable trends last year such as the increasing amount of capital raising. Asia's dry powder grew at 22% from 2019 to 2020 and this trend is expected to continue.

Despite this, the challenges brought forth via Covid still remain. Many parts of the deal process have been put on hold or are moving at a much slower pace. Travel restrictions have limited firms from conducting due diligence and meeting management teams in person resulting in delayed or elongated

timeframes for acquisitions and transactions. As frameworks for virtual due diligence are becoming commonplace and vaccine distributions set to ease travel restrictions, 2021 will increasingly become a year of new opportunities and challenges for private equity in Asia.

Members of the panel were Mrs Lim Hwee Hua – Co-Chairman, Tembusu Partners & Former Finance Minister of Singapore; Ganen Sarvananthan – Co-Managing Partner of TPG Capital Asia and Tuan Syed Yasir Arafat Syed Abdul Kadir, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Ekuiti Nasional Berhad with Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman of ECKL Advisory Council as the moderator.

ECKL also co-branded with KSI to organise the 2021 Malaysia Economic and Strategic Outlook Forum on 22 February 2021; Malaysia Economic Summit 2021 on 13 July; the National Recovery Summit on 9 September 2021; the Malaysia Banking & Finance Summit on 21 September 2021; the 2021 ASEAN Leadership and Partnership Forum (ALPF) on 7 October 2021 and the 2nd Malaysia Digital Economy Summit 2021 on 21 October 2021.

Arising from the proceedings of the Malaysia Economic Summit held on 13 July 2021, the recommendations derived from the Summit were compiled and presented to the Minister of Finance on 8 August 2021 in a special online meeting.

Fifteen (15) Proposals to navigate through the health and economic crisis while preparing for post-pandemic recovery, including 7 short-term proposals to be considered within 12 months to tackle the public health and economic crisis; 4 proposals in the medium-term (3 to 4 years) to reinforce and accelerate the post-pandemic recovery and 4 long-term proposals in the next 5 to 7 years for Malaysia to achieve the Shared Prosperity Vision (SPV) 2030. Besides these activities and programs, ECKL also held several exco meetings in March, July and December 2021. ■



### Members of the ECKL EXCO include

1. Datuk Seri Haji Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman
2. Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman, Advisory Council
3. Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, Deputy President
4. Dato' Mohd Radzi Latiff, Secretary
5. Datuk M Supperamaniam, Assistant Secretary
6. Mr Jonathan Ong, Treasurer
7. Mr Goh Peng Ooi
8. Dato' Dr. Jennifer Low
9. Tan Sri Rainer Althoff
10. Dato' Wira Azhar Hamid
11. Dato' Maznah Abdul Jalil

### Members of the ECKL Advisory Council

1. Prof. Dr. Sulochana Nair, VC/CEO, BinaryUniversity
2. Tan Sri Barry Goh, Executive Chairman, B&G Capital Resources Berhad
3. Tan Sri Yong Poh Kon, Managing Director, Royal Selangor International Sdn Bhd
4. Tan Sri Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali, Executive Director, Economic Action Council (EAC)
5. Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai, Executive Chairman, Top Glove Corporation Berhad

### Members of the Economic Advisory Council

1. Emeritus Prof. Datuk Dr. Norma Mansor, Malaysian Economic Association
2. Mr. Mottain Manokaran, Alliance Bank Malaysia Berhad
3. Mr. Wan Suhaimie Wand Mohd Saidie, Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad
4. Mr. Peck Boon Soon, RHB Group
5. Mr. Shan Saeed, IQI Global
6. Mr. Alan Tan, Affin Hwang Investment Bank
7. Dr. Chua Hak Bin, Maybank Kim Eng Research



## Engagement with Ambassadors



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, Ms Caroline Cheong and Mr Zaim Mohzani with the Ambassador of China Mr Ouyang Yujing.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh calling on the Ambassador of Indonesia Hermono.



KSI's External Relations Director, Zaim Mohzani with the US Secretary of State, Mr. Blinken.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh with the speaker of the Dewan Rakyat Tan Sri Azhar Harun, the Ambassador of Kazakhstan H.E. Bulat and Deputy Youth and Sports Minister Senator Dato Sri Ti Lian Ker.



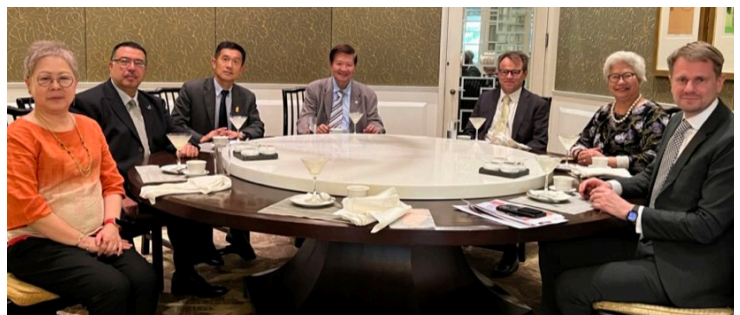
Tan Sri Michael Yeoh and Mr Max Say with the Ambassador of Russia and the Minister Counsellor at the Russia Embassy.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh with the new US Ambassador, Brian McFeeters.



KSI Adviser Datuk Seri Mohd Iqbal and President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh and ECKL EXCO Member, Mr Goh Peng Ooi at Lunch hosted by Tan Sri Azman Hashim for the new Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Takahashi.



KSI Luncheon for the Ambassadors of Thailand, Egypt, Sweden and Norway.



## Engagement with Governors and Ministers



KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, Dato' Dr. Vaseehar Hassan and Ms Caroline Cheong calling on the Governor of Penang, TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak.



KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh calling on the Governor of Melaka, TYT Tun Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam.



Ms Caroline Cheong, Tan Sri Majid Khan and Tan Sri Michael Yeoh calling on the Chief Minister of Sabah, Dato Seri Hajiji Noor.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh hosting dinner for the Governor of Penang, TYT Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh calling on the Minister of Transportation, Dato Seri Dr. Wee Ka Siong.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh calling on the Minister (Economy) in the Prime Minister's Department, Dato Seri Mustapa Mohamad.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh calling on the Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer, Dato Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi.



# National Lifetime Achievement Awards



KSI Team with TYT Tun Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Melaka.



Ms Caroline Cheong is greeting TYT Tun Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Melaka on his arrival at the event.



Group Photography of all Recipients of the Top 50 Lifetime Achievement Awards and National Outstanding Entrepreneurs Lifetime Achievement Awards.



Datuk Dr. Parmjit Singh, CEO & Co-Founder, APIIT Education Group receiving the Top 50 Lifetime Achievement Awards for the Education Excellence from TYT Tun Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Melaka, whilst KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh and Executive Chairman, Rahim & Co International, Tan Sri Dato (Dr.) Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman look on.



Panelists at the Summit. From Left to Right: Mr Sarkunan Subramaniam, Managing Director, Knight Frank Malaysia; Dr. Nikolai Dobberstein, Head of Kearney's Communications, Media & Technology Practice in Asia Pacific and Managing Partner of the Malaysian Practice; Mr Pradeeban Letsumanasingam, Country Head, iPaymy and Datuk Nora Abd Manaf, Group Chief Human Capital Officer, Maybank.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, KSI's President presenting a special memento to TYT Tun Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Melaka for his gracious presence at the Summit.



Mr Georg Chmiel, Executive Chairman, Juwai-IQI Holdings delivering his views at the Roundtable session whilst prominent role-players look on.





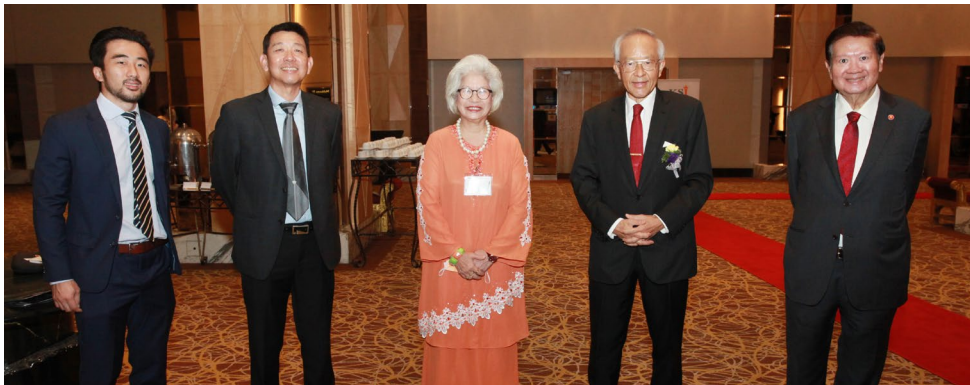
Dato' Seri Ibrahim Haji Ahmad Badawi, Executive Chairman, Brahimi's Holdings Bhd receiving the National Outstanding Entrepreneurs Lifetime Achievement Award from the Governor.



Mr Peter Teh, Chairman, PICO International receiving the National Outstanding Entrepreneurs Lifetime Achievement Award from the Governor.



Mr Poo Ching Loong, General Manager, YesBoss Sdn Bhd receiving the National Outstanding Entrepreneurs Lifetime Achievement Award from the Governor.



Participants at the Award Luncheon.



Dato' Wei Chuan Beng Speaking on the event.



Dato' Adam Yee, President & CEO, Siemen Malaysia receiving the Top 50 Lifetime Achievement Award for Business Excellence from the Governor.



Datuk Nora Abd Manaf, Group Chied Human Capital Officer, Maybank receiving the Top 50 Lifetime Achievement Award for Women Excellence from the Governor.



Dato' Anne Eu, Eu Yan Sang receiving the Top 50 Lifetime Achievement Award for Women Excellence from the Governor.



Dato' Tee Eng Ho, Chairman, E&O Berhad and Kerjaya Prospek receiving his Award from the Governor.



Some recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Awards with the Governor of Melaka.



## Unlocking Sabah's Potential, Unleashing Business Opportunities

17 - 18 Jan 2022

Sabah International Convention Centre,  
Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

# Sabah International Business and Economic Summit

The Sabah State Government and the KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific organized the Sabah International Business and Economic Summit in Kota Kinabalu on 17&18 January 2022. Held at the Sabah International Convention Centre it was attended by over 700 participants.

The Chief Minister Of Sabah Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor opened and delivered the keynote address at the summit while the Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Seri Dr Jeffrey Kitingan closed the summit. 25 speakers spoke at the summit with the theme "Unlocking Sabah's Potential, Unleashing Business Opportunities". The summit aimed to attract new investment into Sabah and to showcase the State's economic potential as a regional Hub for East Asean and the RCEP region.

The Chief Minister spoke on the Sabah Maju Jaya vision to deliver development and progress for the state. ■



The Chief Minister of Sabah, Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Hajiji Bin Haji Noor and sponsors at the opening ceremony of SIBES.



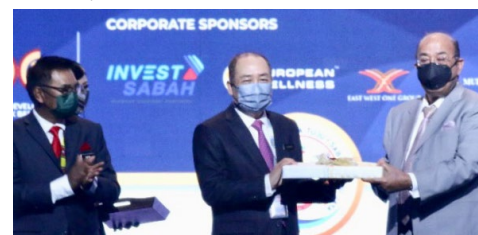
The Chief Minister of Sabah, Datuk Seri Haji Hajiji Noor speaking at the opening of SIBES flanked by Tan Sri Abdul Majid Khan, Co-Organising Chairman / Deputy Chairman, KSI.



Launching of Prof David Lim's book at the summit by Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI and Tan Sri Abdul Majid Khan, Co-Organising Chairman / Deputy Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific.



The official opening of SIBES 2022. Left to Right: Sabah State Secretary, The Honourable Datuk Seri Panglima Sr Haji Safar bin Untong, JP; Sabah Chief Minister, The Right Honourable Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Hajiji Bin Haji Noor; and Tan Sri Abdul Majid Khan, Co-Organising Chairman / Deputy Chairman, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific.



A memento to the Sabah Chief Minister, Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Hajiji Bin Haji Noor from Tan Sri Abdul Majid Khan, Co-Organising Chairman / Deputy Chairman, KSI.



Standing for the National Anthem at the opening of SIBES.



The Deputy Chief Minister II of Sabah and Sabah State Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Jeffrey G. Kitingan delivering his special address with Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI.



The panel on Advancing Sabah's Technology, Innovation and Digitalisation in the 21st Century. Left to Right: Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Founder and Chairman, Golden Horse Digital Investment Bank / Adviser, KSI; Prof Datuk Dr. Taufiq Yap Yun Hin, Vice Chancellor, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS); Prof Dato Seri Dr. Mike Chan, Co-Owner & Founder, European Wellness Biomedical Group, Germany / Adviser, KSI; and Dato Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI and Champion of Digital Productivity Nexus, MPC. The session is moderated (center) by Mdm. Viviantie Sarjuni, General Manager, Sabah Creative Economy and Innovation Centre (SCENIC).





The Chief Minister of Sabah, Datuk Seri Haji Hajiji Noor arriving for the summit rehearsal the day before the event, together with Tan Sri Abdul Majid Khan and Tan Sri Michael Yeoh.



A Group photograph. Left to Right: Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Founder and Chairman, Golden Horse Digital Investment Bank / Adviser, KSI; the Swedish Ambassador; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI; The Deputy Chief Minister II of Sabah and Sabah State Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Jeffrey G. Kitingan; Tan Sri Barry Goh, KSI, Chairman; and Datuk dr Jessie Tang, Founder and Group CEO, East West One Group (EWOG) / Director, KSI.



Tan Sri Abdul Majid Khan; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh; and Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew is greeting The Chief Minister of Sabah, Datuk Seri Haji Hajiji Noor on his arrival at the event.



Left to Right: Prof Dato Seri Dr. Mike Chan; Dato Dr. Jessie Tang; Ms Caroline Cheong; and Tan Sri Michael Yeoh waiting for the Chief Minister's of Sabah arrival.



Left to Right: Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh; and The Deputy Chief Minister II of Sabah and Sabah State Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Datuk Seri Panglima Dr. Jeffrey G. Kitingan.



VIPs at the SIBES 2022 Gala Dinner, hosted by The Chief Minister of Sabah, Datuk Seri Haji Hajiji Noor.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh and Tan Sri Majid Khan having refreshments with the Chief Minister of Sabah and the State Secretary.



Left to Right: Prof Dato Seri Dr. Mike Chan; Dato Dr. Jessie Tang; Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Manjun, Sabah State Minister of Local Government and Housing & Second Minister of Finance; and Tan Sri Barry Goh.



KSI, Chairman Tan Sri Barry Goh and President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh at the SIBES 2022.



Left to Right: Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew; Datuk Seri Panglima Sr Haji Safar bin Untong, JP, Sabah State Secretary; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh; and the Director General of the State Public Services Dept, Dato Rosmati.



KSI Directors - Datuk Dr Jessie Tang, Tan Sri Barry Goh, Tan Sri Majid Khan with Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Manjun, Sabah State Minister of Local Government and Housing & Second Minister of Finance.



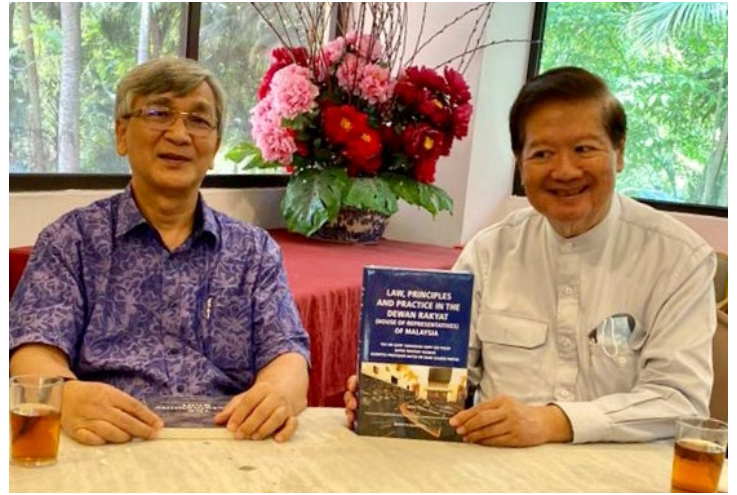
KSI hosted a welcome dinner for Ambassadors attending the SIBES with the Datuk Seri Panglima Masidi Manjun, Sabah State Minister of Local Government and Housing & Second Minister of Finance as the guest of honor.



# Pictorial Highlights



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI and Ms Caroline Cheong, Chief Operating Office, KSI calling on the new speaker of Parliament, Datuk Azhar Harun,



Former speaker of Dewan Rakyat, Tan Sri Mohd Arif presenting his book to Tan Sri Michael Yeoh.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh with YB Datuk Seri Hajah Nancy Shukri, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture.



YB Dato' Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar, Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives, Malaysia having a light moment with Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Tan Sri Majid Khan and Tan Sri Michael Yeoh.



Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew presenting a memento to YB Dato' Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar, Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives, Malaysia.



The High Commissioners of Australia and the UK to Malaysia with the Minister and other dignitaries at the Asia Economic Summit.



## The 2020 Asia Economic and Entrepreneurship Summit

8 September 2020  
The Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur

# Growing Partnership for Inclusive, Innovative and Sustainable Growth

The 2020 Asia Economic and Entrepreneurship Summit was jointly organised by the KSI, the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC), and China Daily Asia Pacific on 8th September 2020 at The Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur, with the theme on "Growing Partnership for Inclusive, Innovative and Sustainable Growth".

The summit's first session discussed the Future of Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation in a Sustainable VUCA World. Moderated by Ms Penny Burt, CEO of Asialink Centre, Australia, panel members include of Mr Ian C. Buchanan, Emeritus Chair, Australia National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation, Australia; Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, Distinguished Fellow Gateway House – The Indian Council on Global Relations, India; Prof. Xiao Geng, Chairman of the Hong Kong Institution for International Finance; Dr. Eden Woon, President of the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand, and Mr Goh Peng Ooi, Executive Chairman of Silverlake Axis. It identified that economic integration is key to economic recovery where collaboration can unlock new business opportunities. Asia will soon become the centre of the global economy and must decide if it wants to usher an age of development with peace and harmony or deal with expansionism and aggression. Events occurring in the different regions around the world are interlinked as geopolitics has an impact on the future of

economic cooperation between regions. There needs to be aspiration towards a cooperative, inclusive, and peaceful multipolar Asia.

The opening address was delivered by YB Dato' Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar, Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives, Malaysia. He highlighted the plight of small companies that have been badly affected by COVID-19. He called for the public and private sectors to work hand-in-hand to buffer this impact. The Minister also highlighted the Malaysian government's response initiatives for businesses which have led to a V-shape recovery that saw unemployment rates decreasing from 4.9% in June compared to 5.3% in May 2020.

The next session focused on The Indo-Pacific Vision and Strategy which featured HE Andrew Golezdzinski Am, High Commissioner of Australia to Malaysia, HE Charles Hay MVO, High Commissioner of the United Kingdom to Malaysia, and HE Hiroshi Oka, Ambassador of Japan to Malaysia as panel speakers, and Datuk Seri Azman Ujang, Former Chairman of BERNAMA as moderator. It was explained that the Indo-Pacific is an expanding strategic viewpoint which cannot be separated by region as the two areas are interconnected, a view that is being adopted by more countries. Economies of the Indo-Pacific will account for 41% of global GDP by 2030. By then, two-thirds of the global

consumer class will be from this region. The shift of political, economic, and military power towards this region will be the biggest global development of the coming years. It is crucial to maintain a rules-based free and open maritime regime in the Indo-Pacific region for the international community as connectivity is also key for the prosperity of international community. At the same time institutional connectivity, such as the streamlining of custom practices and standards also facilitate cross boundary business transactions.

YB Dato' Sri Hajah Nancy Shukri, Malaysia's Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture attended the summit as luncheon speaker. She talked about the Ministry's tourism transformation agenda that will focus on efforts to increase revenue, secure partnerships and investment, and empower local communities to ensure the sustainability and resilience of the tourism industry. She strongly encouraged the adoption of digital mediums to showcase the arts which can be promoted using virtual platforms. She also reminded delegates that innovation is much more than inventing or creating new ideas, but is also about a change in mindset where innovation must be ingrained into one's culture.

The Minister then gave out the recipients of 2020 Asia Pacific Excellent Entrepreneur Lifetime Achievement Awards. The winners were Mr. Ng Kong Chin, President of Midea Scott & English Sdn Bhd; Dato' Dr. Jessie Tang, Chief Executive Officer of East West One Group (Achievement Award for Woman Entrepreneur); Datuk Seri Kenneth H'ng Bak Tee, CEO & Group Managing Director of GUH Holdings Berhad; Mr Mark Chang Mun Kee, CEO of JcbNext Berhad; Datuk Benjamin Reynauld, President of SSP Global Energy Solutions Ltd; Dato' Rosman Mohamed, Chief Executive Officer of Bank Kerjasama Rakyat Malaysia Berhad; and Prof. Dato' Chin Yew Sin, JP, Chairman of Bioplus Life Corporation, USA and Deputy Chairman of EKA Noodles Berhad, Malaysia. ■



YB Dato' Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar, Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives presenting a memento to Datuk Seri Kenneth H'ng Bak Tee, CEO/Group Managing Director, GUH Holdings Berhad. Looking on is Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI.



Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Adviser to KSI presenting a souvenir to HE Andrew Golezdzinski Am, High Commissioner of Australia to Malaysia and HE Charles Hay MVO, High Commissioner of United Kingdom to Malaysia. Looking on was Datuk Seri Azman Ujang, Former Chairman of BERNAMA.



L to R: Dato' Jean Wong, Advisor, Business Development to KSI; Tan Sri Majid Khan, Deputy Chairman, KSI; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI; Dato' Rosman Mohamed, CEO, Bank Kerjasama Rakyat Malaysia Berhad; HE Charles Hay MVO, High Commissioner of the United Kingdom to Malaysia, and Mr Max Say, Executive Director and Chief Partnership Officer, KSI.



## The Malaysian Economic Summit 2020

12 October 2020  
The Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur

# COVID-19: Assessing Financial and Economic Impacts & Its Aftermath



L to Right: Mr Max Say, Executive Director and Chief Partnership Officer, KSI; Ms Pamela Geh, Director of Group Human Resource, MUI Group; Dato' Jean Wong, Adviser, Business Development, KSI; H.E. Mr Dag Juhlin-Dannfelt, Ambassador, Embassy of Sweden in Kuala Lumpur; Mr Adam Yee, President & CEO, Siemens Malaysia; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI; Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar, Chairman, ECKL Advisory Council / Chairman, Bursa Malaysia Berhad; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President of KSI; Dato' Lim Han Soon, Independent Non-Executive Director, Top Glove Corporation Berhad; H.E. Pascal Gregoire, Ambassador, Embassy of Belgium; H.E. Gunn Jorid Roset, Ambassador Royal Norwegian Embassy, Kuala Lumpur and Mr Juha Salin, Economic Counsellor, US Embassy.

**2020 is indeed a challenging year for all of us. The pandemic COVID-19 has become one of the most difficult tests faced by humanity in modern history.**

As the pandemic has spread it has taken lives, stirred anxiety and political drama, overwhelmed health systems, and triggered potentially lasting geopolitical change. The International Monetary Fund says the global economy now faces its worst downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

This 2020 Summit is jointly organized by the KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific (KSI) and the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL).

At the Summit, the Chairman, ECKL Advisory Council and Chairman, Bursa Malaysia, Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar said in his welcome address that solid fundamentals built over the years have accorded Malaysia some resilience to deal with COVID-19 shocks. The country's healthcare system has demonstrated robustness and resilience during the ongoing health crisis. In addition,

diversified sources of growth and external trade structure have helped mitigate domestic and external developments, while the continued presence of domestic and institutional investors, as well as deep and liquid financial markets remain supportive of an orderly financial market condition.

In his opening keynote address, Minister of Finance, YB Senator Datuk Seri Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz said that Budget 2021 will be an opportune time for the government to consider and adopt more sustainable ways to grow the economy and build the country's resilience. The pandemic remains a threat to our socio-economic recovery, development and future growth. As such, moving forward, Malaysia will play to its strength, and just as how digitalisation has been accelerated by the Covid-19 lockdowns. This will also be an opportunity to move up the value chain.



In his opening keynote address, Minister of Finance, YB Senator Tengku Dato' Sri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz said that Budget 2021 will be an opportune time for the government to consider.

The Minister added that as part of the government's 6R Recovery Strategy, Budget 2021 focuses on revitalising the economy and aims to protect lives and livelihood, builds on the current recovery momentum, spurred by the RM305 billion economic stimulus packages under Prihatin, Penjana and Kita Prihatin. Budget 2021 will also underline a combination of business-friendly policies, prudent fiscal management, and effective transformation tools to build the nation's resilience against future economic shocks.

The Minister also reiterated that Malaysia remained open for business and the government has helped businesses maintain their operating capacity through initiatives such as the Wage Subsidy Programmes that have saved 2.6 million jobs, as well as technology adoption programmes which helped upgrade businesses, both large and small.

Dr. Jome Kwame Sundaram speaking in his panel session said that government bonds for borrowing should be issued domestically and sold to Bank Negara Malaysia to help minimise the cost of borrowings and spending. ■



Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL) / Adviser, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific chaired the session on "Assessing COVID-19 Impacts on the Economy and Implications for Business" at the Malaysian Economic Summit 2020. Looking on is Mr Azrani Rustam, Vice President, Malaysian International Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MICCI).



Session 1: Assessing COVID-19 Impacts on the Economy and Implications for Business. L to R: Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL) / Adviser of KSI; Mr Nurhisham Hussien, Chief Strategy Officer, Employees Provident Fund (EPF); Mr Andrew Khoo, Chairman & CEO, Malayan United Industries Berhad and Dr. Jome Kwame Sundaram, Senior Adviser, Khazanah Research Institute (KRI).



## The 2020 Malaysian Banking and Finance High Level Meeting and Virtual Conference

23 July 2020

Hotel Istana Kuala Lumpur

# Digitization: The Age of Disruption in the Banking and Finance Industry

The 2020 Malaysian Banking and Finance High Level Meeting and Virtual Conference with the theme "Digitization: The Age of Disruption in the Banking and Finance Industry" was held on 23 July 2020 at the Hotel Istana Kuala Lumpur.

The age of disruption has arrived in the global banking and finance industry. Digital banking licenses have been issued by several jurisdictions will change the nature of banking and finance bringing access to even more people than ever before.

The Conference was held in association with the Association of Banks in Malaysia. YB Dato' Sri Mustapa bin Mohamed, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy) delivered the Opening Keynote Address on the Current Challenges Facing the Malaysian Economy. In his speech, he pointed out that the Malaysian economy has been facing challenges in sustaining its economic competitiveness for several years now as it competes with emerging economies around the region. And in order to maintain our standing as the most competitive economy in ASEAN after Singapore, the key challenges

facing the Malaysian economy such as competition and consumer confidence must be addressed.

He also added that the fall in our competitiveness is due to an apparent decline in Government efficiency, business efficiency and infrastructure. High youth unemployment and increasing underemployment are diminishing the Malaysian economy's ability to compete effectively in an increasingly digitalised global market.

As a result, business efficiency is affected as a huge talent pool is left out of the process of encouraging businesses to adopt new technology. This is a challenge to the Malaysian economy as our businesses are inefficient as they struggle to adapt to changing trends. Having said that, the Government believes that banks have the capacity to help businesses become more efficient and competitive through technology.

In conclusion of his speech, he mentioned that the Malaysian economy's competitive problems will not be resolved by just technological advancements and sorting

out our employment issues. In fact, even successfully tackling the additional challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic will be insufficient. While the resolution of those issues will increase business efficiency, it would be inadequate in spurring government efficiency. This is evident as Government efficiency is also about having effective institutions that are sound, honest and fair, thereby guaranteeing consumer confidence and competitiveness.

The topics discussed at the Conference include the Global, Technological and Economic Challenges: What will Shape the Future of Banking; Digital Banking – The Game Changer: How will it Disrupt Banking, How are Traditional Banks Responding? What are the Prospects for Digital Bank?; Sustainable Banking – The Way Forward towards Sustainability and Enhancing ESG Issues in Banking; Leadership and Talent Management: Enhancing Operational Excellence in a Digital New Era through Technology and People; and Financial Literacy and Financial Inclusion: Protecting the Unbanked in an Era of Digital Banking and Consumer Protection. ■



Opening Ceremony of the 2020 Malaysian Banking and Finance Summit. L to R: Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI; YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy); Datuk Seri Mohames Iqbal Rawther, Chairman, Economic Club Kuala Lumpur; and Tan Sri Majid Khan, Deputy Chairman, KSI.



Mr CC Puan, Group Managing Director / CEO, Green Packet Berhad (left) and Mr Abrar Anwar, Managing Director & CEO, Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad.



YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister in Prime Minister's Department (Economy) was greeted on arrival by KSI Advisor, Dato' Jean Wong (left) and Chief Operating Officer, Ms Caroline Cheong.



Group Photograph with KSI's Directors, VIPs and Senior Representatives from our Sponsors.



## Malaysian Healthcare Conference 2020

25 August 2020  
The Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur

# Innovations & Technologies: Shaping the Future of Healthcare



Opening Session: L to R: Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI; YB Dato' Sri Dr. Adham bin Baba, Minister of Health Malaysia; and Tan Sri Majid Khan, Deputy Chairman, KSI.



L to R: Ms Caroline Cheong, Chief Operating Officer / Executive Director, Research & Programs, KSI; YB Datuk Seri Dr. Haji Dzulkefly Bin Ahmad, Former Minister of Health Malaysia / Chairman of Selangor's New Special Action Council for the Control and Prevention of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19); and Ms Kamala Batumalay, Conference Admin Manager, KSI.

The Minister of Health also said that “digital health” refers to the use of digital technologies for health. It is an umbrella term that includes electronic health (e-Health), mobile health (m- health) and emerging areas such as the use of artificial intelligence (AI), Big Data and genomics. Digital health can enable healthcare providers and services to become more efficient and of higher quality. Digital technologies can also help the general public to attain access to timely and expert advice via tele-consultation in health emergencies which can save lives.



KSI conferred a Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award for Public Health Leadership on the Director General of Health, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah.



KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh presenting a token of appreciation to the Minister of Health, YB Dato' Sri Dr. Adham bin Baba. Looking on is Tan Sri Majid Khan, Executive Chairman of KSI.



KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh and the Director General of Health, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah at the forum.

KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific organised the Malaysian Healthcare Conference themed “Innovations & Technologies: Shaping the Future of Healthcare” on 25th August 2020 at the Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur.

The Conference began with the panel discussions on “The New Competitive Landscape in Healthcare” which was moderated by Tan Sri Dato' Dr. Abu Bakar Suleiman, Chairman, IMU Group. Tan Sri, in his short speech said that health care providers work hard to deliver good healthcare, however care has not improved much and the health care system remains chaotic, unreliable, inefficient and crushingly expensive. The panellists in this session were Mr. Tirupathi Karthik, Chief Executive Officer, Napier Healthcare Solutions Pte Ltd, Mr. Rangam Bir, President & Chief Executive Officer, Gibraltar BSN Life Berhad, Dr. Raymond Choy, Co- founder and Chief Executive Officer, Doc2Us and Datuk Dr. Kuljit Singh, President, Association of Private Hospitals Malaysia (APHM).

This year, the Malaysian Healthcare Conference 2020 was officiated by the

Minister of Health, YB Dato' Sri Dr. Adham bin Baba. In the Opening Keynote Address, the Minister focused on leveraging innovations and technology in reshaping the future of healthcare and urge the public to adhere to the Ministry's SOPs and cooperate to ensure that Malaysia is “free” from the disease (COVID-19).

In Session 2 on “The Next Frontier of Digital Drug Discovery”, the panellists were Mr. Amrahi Bin Buang, President, Malaysian Pharmaceutical Society (MPS) and Mr. Leonard Ariff Abdul Shatar Group Managing Director, Duopharma Biotech Bhd. This session was moderated by Mr. HK Yong, Trustee & Audit Chair, World Fish/ Asian Council, International Project Finance Association.

YB Datuk Seri Dr. Haji Dzulkefly Bin Ahmad, Former Minister of Health Malaysia/ Chairman of Selangor's New Special Action Council for the Control and Prevention of the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19) delivered the Special Address on “The Importance of Primary Care and the Impact of COVID-19” at this Conference. YB Datuk Seri spoke on the importance of primary care and the impact of COVID-19. ■



## 2020 National Housing and Property Summit

15 September 2020  
The Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur

# The Housing and Property Sector at a Crossroads – Is the Worst Over or Is It in a Crisis? What Next?

Held on 15 September 2020 at the Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur, the 2020 National Housing and Property Summit with the theme “The Housing and Property Sector at a Crossroads – Is It Worst Over or Is It in a Crisis? What Next?” was jointly organized with FIABCI Malaysia.

The Opening Keynote Address was delivered by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, YB Puan Hajah Zuraida Kamaruddin. In her speech, she pointed out that Malaysia is expected to experience economic contraction following the imposed Movement Control Order (MCO) from March 18 to May 3 that has caused business shutdown in all non-essential activities. During the various phases of Movement Control Order, the residential market is expected to see a slow uptick.

In addition, Bank Negara Malaysia cut the overnight policy rate (OPR) for the third time during the review period by a further 25 basis points to 1.75% this month to help lower the monthly repayment sum. Which coupled with the automatic loan moratorium for six months from April 1, will provide some relief to households amidst the current crisis.

According to the National Property Information Centre (NAPIC) data, there were 2,260 unsold condominium units

within the Klang Valley, of which 498 comprised of luxury units worth RM1 million and above, as of the second quarter of 2018 (2Q18). Also, there were condominiums and apartments worth RM83 billion that had remained unsold at the end of 2Q19.

Towards the afternoon, we have the Deputy Minister of Works, YB Dato’ Eddin Shazlee bin Shith delivered the Special Luncheon Address on Infrastructure, Construction and Property Development to Stimulate Economic Recovery and Growth. In his speech, he stressed that the construction industry is the hardest hit during this pandemic crisis. 90% of construction projects are not allowed to operate as well as a number of new projects cannot

be physically implemented on site. Hence, the construction sector recorded losses of about RM11 billion per month including unpaid wages, unused materials, idling plants and equipment, head office overhead and profit loss due to the halting of 7,500 on-going projects during the first phase of the MCO. The COVID-19 pandemic has not only caused financial and labour shortages but has led to other obstacles with unemployment reaching the high records.

He also added that, while economic downturns can sometimes lead to the delay of building projects and folding up of businesses due to economic crisis, we must remember that history has shown us that the economic recovery is also due to the development works, especially the governments investments in infrastructure developments.

The topics discussed at the Summit include the CEO Roundtable: How the Property Sector can Cope with the Post Covid-19 Crisis; Affordability and Sustainability: Dual Challenges of Affordable Housing; 2020 Property Market Trends and Outlook; and Property Technology – Digitalizing the Housing and Property Sector. ■



Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, Executive Chairman, Country Heights Holdings Berhad delivering his view. On his left is Sr Foo Gee Jen, Group Managing Director, CBRE | WTW.



Tan Sri Barry Goh, Chairman, KSI presenting a memento to YB Dato’ Eddin Shazlee bin Shith, Deputy Minister of Works at the Special Luncheon Address. Looking on is Tan Sri Majid Khan, Deputy Chairman, KSI (far right); Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI and Datuk Koe Peng Kang, President, FIABCI Malaysia (on the left).



Group photograph with YB Puan Hajah Zuraida Kamaruddin, Minister of Housing and Local Government.



Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI is greeting YB Puan Hajah Zuraida Kamaruddin, Minister of Housing and Local Government on her arrival at the Summit.



## Malaysian Digitalization Forum

6 October 2020  
The Ritz-Carlton Kuala Lumpur

# The New Digital Era in the New Normal – Strategies for Success

The Digital Economy is the way forward for Malaysian businesses and companies. The pandemic crisis has shown the importance of digital innovation and digitization with the growth of e-commerce and online business. The pandemic crisis especially during the MCO has seen an acceleration of digitization of the economy with many industries and businesses adopting online platforms and e-commerce. In this new era of digital innovation Artificial Intelligence (AI), Robotics, Big Data analytics and digital transformation will disrupt Malaysian business as it will also impact businesses globally. Malaysian companies including GLC's, GLIC's and SME's have to adopt to digitization, AI and robotics. Businesses must be adaptive to the new normal and have the agility to transform and compete in the new digital era.

The Forum was jointly organized with the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur and the Opening Keynote Address was delivered by the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, YB Khairy Jamaluddin via ZOOM. In his speech, he stressed that to build an ecosystem of digital innovation and digital inclusion, it is important to think ahead and use technology creatively to develop solutions that address and overcome challenges. However, we must first begin with the necessary infrastructure improvements.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, technologies are playing a crucial role in keeping our society functional in a time of lockdowns and quarantines. And these technologies may have a long-lasting impact beyond Covid-19. In addition, these technologies can help reduce the spread of the coronavirus while helping businesses stay open and make society more resilient



The speech of the Closing Keynote Address by YB Datuk Mohd Redzuan Yusof, Minister of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperations was read out by KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh. The Minister is on home quarantine during this time.

in the face of pandemic and other threats. Covid-19 has demonstrated the importance of digital readiness, which allows business and life to continue as usual during pandemics. Building the necessary infrastructure to support a digitized world and stay current in the latest technology will be essential for any business or country to remain competitive in a post Covid-19 world. Time of crisis such as now also encourage innovative thinking.

The topics discussed at the Forum include the Role of Digitization in Sustaining and Accelerating Economic Recovery; How Businesses can Adapt and Benefit from AI and Big Data; BPO and Global Business Services; E-Commerce and Online Business and a Conversation and Dialogue session with the Chairman of the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation, Datuk Wira Dr. Hj. Rais Hussin Mohamed Ariff.

The speech of the Closing Address by YB Datuk Seri Mohd Redzuan Yusof, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Special Functions) was read out by KSI's President, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh on his behalf as the Minister is on home quarantine due to the spike in the Covid cases.



Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman of the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur delivering the Welcoming Speech.



YB Khairy Jamaluddin, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation delivering the Opening Keynote Address of the Malaysian Digitalization Forum via Zoom.

In his speech, the Minister highlighted that one positive thing emerging from this pandemic, if at all, is the acceleration of the digital uptake by companies, some of whom have been delaying the process of implementation despite the potentials of the 4th Industrial Revolution, with many more who did not see a need for it, but were forced to make the change or risk their businesses fail. The Covid-19 outbreak has coerced radical transformation in customer behaviour, moved significant part of the economy online, and expanded customers' comfort levels and willingness to engage digitally.

In conclusion of his speech, it is stressed that the benefits of digitalisation outweigh the cons. There is much we can look forward to in this exciting new world – with or without COVID-19, where we can expect our business processes to change dramatically as soon as a year or two from now leveraging on the power of automation, AI, data analytics, and other features of I.R. 4.0. I hope all of us will take the opportunity to leverage on the advantages brought forth by the wave of digitalisation. ■



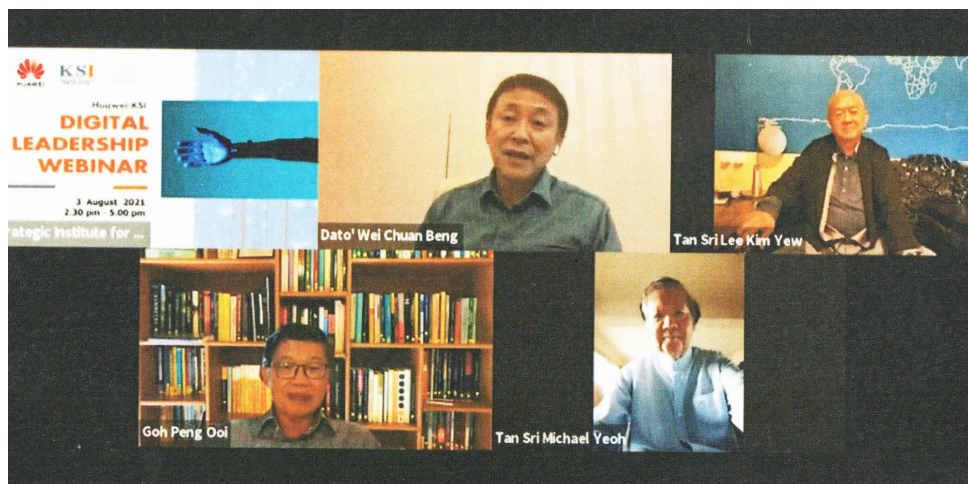
L to R: Tan Sri Rainer Althoff, Exco-Member of the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur; Mr Anthony Raja Devadoss, Managing Director & Business Head, PERSOLKELLY Consulting, Asia Pacific / Deputy Chair, OM-A GBS Initiative by PIKOM; Dato' Wei Chuan Beng, Senior Executive Director, KSI; Tan Sri Michael Yeoh, President, KSI; Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, Chairman of the Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur; Mr Danny Lee, Chairman of PIKOM; and Mr Max Say, Executive Director and Chief Partnership Officer, KSI.

**“ABC is no longer A for Apple, B for Ball and C for Cat, but rather, interestingly, A is for Artificial Intelligence, B is for Big Data and C is for Cloud Computing. This is the world we live in today.”**

YB Khairy Jamaluddin  
Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation



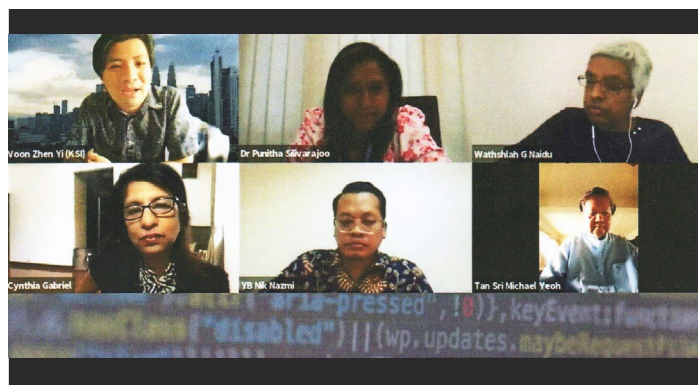
## Huawei - KSI Digital Leadership Webinar



## Making Freedom of Information a Norm, A Right, and an Effective Tool for Good Governance.

30 July 2021, KSI hosted a good governance-focused webinar revisiting efforts undertaken in freedom of information policy. Speakers include YB Nik Nazmi, Member of Parliament for Setiawangsa who was Selangor State Assembly's Select Committee on the Freedom of Information Enactment, Cynthia Gabriel, Executive Director of the Centre to Combat Corruption and Cronyism (C4), Wathshlah G. Naidu, Executive Director of the Centre for Independent Journalism (CIJ), and Dr. Punitha Silivarajoo, Director (Policy and Research) at the Legal Affairs Division, Prime Minister's Department. The webinar was moderated by Voon Zhen Yi, Research Director of KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific.

Speakers of the webinar revisited efforts undertaken in the past to have freedom of information (FOI), or the right to information, more readily accessible to the public. The speakers themselves have actively been involved in championing FOI legislation. Such efforts have been realised in Penang and Selangor, while efforts are under away at the federal level whereby legislation is being drafted. Recordings of this webinar can be found on KSI's official YouTube channel. ■



## Webinar on Orang Asli Women and the Environment

KSI Organised a webinar on 22 July 2021 centred on the role of the Orang Asli and Orang Asal women in the effective management and conservation of the environment. Yet, there are many challenges faced by the OA women, making it difficult to play a part in environmental issues. The livelihoods of the OA hinge on available natural resources where men cultivate and women plant and gather food. This way of life which depends heavily on the forest makes the preservation of the OA's natural environment, much of which is their ancestral lands, a matter in their best interest, leading to environmental sustainability. Unfortunately, the OA lack adequate supporting policies protecting their rights to their own lands.

Speakers for the webinar YB Jannie, ADUN of Kapayan and former Rapporteur of the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples under the Human Rights Council and the voice of two Orang Asli youth - Sherry Tan and Analisa A/P Tang an organisation called Apa Kata Wanita Orang Asli. The webinar was moderated by Dr Karma Tashi Choedron, Environment Sociologist and Assistant Professor of the School of Politics, History and International Relations, University of Nottingham Malaysia. Recordings of this webinar can be found on KSI's official YouTube channel. ■



## About KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific

KSI is an independent not-for-profit think tank dedicated to improve socio-economic wellbeing through the development of public policy ideas through research, public interaction, and providing insight. We provide policy advocacy, leadership development and strategic planning to policy makers and members of society.

### Mission, Vision and Objectives

#### KSI's Services

- Policy Research and Studies
- Business Advisory Services
- High Level Forums
- Business Summits
- CEO Peer Groups

#### Purpose

- Building Better Nations

#### Positioning

- Thought Leadership with Impact

#### Plan

- Leverage networks and events
- Use technology pervasively

#### Products

- Thought Leadership Events
- Thought Leadership Reports
- Thought Leadership Networks

#### Pillars

- Education
- Economics
- Politics and Governance
- International Affairs
- Healthcare

#### People

- Knowledge Seeking Innovators
- Key Strategic Influencers
- Keeping Success Indefinitely

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#### **Prof Dato' Seri Dr. Mike Chan**

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