

**REMARKS BY**

**YB DATUK SERI PANGLIMA MADIUS TANGAU  
MINISTER OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

**AT THE WELCOMING RECEPTION**

**THE THIRD MEETING OF THE APEC ECONOMIES'  
CHIEF SCIENCE ADVISORS AND EQUIVALENTS:**

***'BUILDING FOUNDATIONS FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE TOWARDS  
INCLUSIVE ECONOMIES AND A BETTER WORLD'***

**HILTON HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR**

**14 OCTOBER 2015**

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***[ Salutation list to be finalised based on the confirmed attendance ]***

**PROF TAN SRI ZAKRI ABDUL HAMID**

**Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia**

**SIR PETER GLUCKMAN**

**Chief Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of New Zealand**

**Distinguished guests, Ladies and gentlemen,**

**Salam Sejahtera, Salam 1Malaysia and a very good evening.**

On behalf of the Government of Malaysia, I would like to extend my warmest welcome to everyone to this reception in conjunction with the **Third Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Economies' Chief Science Advisors and Equivalents, or in short, APEC CSAE.**

2. I am also delighted to see many distinguished Chief Science Advisors and Equivalents from APEC member economies in this reception. Allow me also to thank all of you for coming all the way from the Asia-Pacific region despite your busy schedule.

3. I am convinced that this two-days Meeting will engage all of you in the intellectual discourse of common interest, besides scholarly exchanges of ideas from the perspectives of your respective fields of expertise.

4. I understand that an interesting programme along the **thematic sessions** has been lined up over the next two days which includes **the practices of science advice to decision-makers in emergency situations such as natural and technological disasters; disease outbreaks and *develop* strategies and mechanisms to for disaster and risk reduction.**

5. **Another interesting theme is on Science and Traditional Epistemologies** which will explore key themes, objectives and approaches to Traditional Epistemologies.

6. We certainly look forward to listening to your insightful views, opinions and recommendations.

Ladies and gentlemen,

7. I wish to reiterate an important message on **the role of STI for inclusive growth, in particular, the development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)** by the Honourable Secretary Mario Montejo at the 6<sup>th</sup> APEC PPSTI Meeting in the Philippines two months ago.

8. He articulated on **how the APEC mechanisms through Policy Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation (PPSTI), for example, could encourage these MSMEs or SMEs (as commonly known) to become more active players in the innovation ecosystem and contributing to the development of inclusive growth.**

9. This relates very much with **Malaysia's owned efforts to energise the industry as one of the strategic thrusts of the National STI Policy as well as supporting the first pillar of the S2A Initiative.**

10. Malaysia, like the Philippines and most of the APEC economies, recognizes the **key role of SMEs in national development and as the backbone of the economy.**

11. In relation to this I would like to share with you a programme that we have embarked on recently through the **Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC) known as "SME's Innovate (Doing Well by Doing Good)."**

12. This programme challenged the SMEs to **invent low cost, affordable and sustainable products for people at the bottom of the**

**pyramid (BOP). This is one effort in lifting people out of poverty, building inclusive growth and ensuring the well-being of the society.**

Ladies and gentlemen,

13. Malaysia has an overarching goal of becoming **a high income and advanced nation that is inclusive and sustainable by 2020**. From this perspective, STI is unquestionably important in ensuring the establishment of a **scientifically advanced and progressive society as embodied in our Vision 2020**.

14. To put or translate the commitment of inclusiveness and sustainability into action, we have formulated an STI policy called **“National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (NSTIP: 2013-2020).”**

15. The NSTIP bodes well with the theme of the August meeting this year. For example, **“STI for Policy”** as one of the Policy’s foundations ensures that **STI is mainstreamed, embraced and implemented by all stakeholders** while **“STI governance”**, as another foundation, **blends well with APEC’s aspiration through this CSAE platform of building the foundations for scientific advice through openness and transparency**, which calls for the creation of a sound institutional and regulatory framework that is central to an effective and well-functioning STI ecosystem.

16. We have put our STI policy into action through the **National Science to Action (S2A) Initiative** in 2013. The bold Initiative aims to invigorate the science sector to generate game-changing ideas and strategies to create wealth and opportunities. **The S2A nurtures**

**networking among researchers, academics, government agencies and the private sector -- collaborations that could play a crucial role in securing our national wellbeing.**

Ladies and gentlemen,

17. Before I end my speech, I would like to congratulate the APEC Economies' Chief Science Advisors and Equivalents for your hard work and dedication and I look forward to your continuous efforts in advising governments on science issues for policy, and to share knowledge, best practices, strategies and opportunities, as well as to build strategic science and innovation relationships across the APEC region.

18. I hope that your short stay in Kuala Lumpur will be an enjoyable and a memorable one. Enjoy the evening.

Sekian. Terima kasih.

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