

**TEKS UCAPAN PERASMIAN  
BIOMALAYSIA AND ASEAN BIOECONOMY 2015**

**OLEH**

**YANG BERTAMBAH DATUK MADIUS TANGAU  
MENTERI SAINS, TEKNOLOGI DAN INOVASI**

**PUSAT PERDAGANGAN DUNIA PUTRA (PWTC)  
ISNIN, 17 OGOS 2015**

**YANG BERHORMAT DATO' SRI AHMAD SHABERY CHEEK**  
Menteri Pertanian dan Industri Asas Tani

**YANG BERHORMAT DATUK DR ABU BAKAR MOHAMAD DIAH**

Timbalan Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi

**YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO' SRI DR NOORUL AINUR MOHD NUR**

Ketua Setiausaha

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**YANG BERBAHAGIA DATO' DR MOHD NAZLEE KAMAL**

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif, BiotechCorp

**Ketua-ketua Jabatan**

**Wakil Industri**

**Rakan Media**

**Tuan-tuan dan puan-puan yang saya hormati**

Salam 1 Malaysia

Pertama sekali, saya ingin mengalu-alukan kehadiran semua jemputan ke satu lagi program di bawah agenda pemerkasaan sains, teknologi dan inovasi (STI), iaitu **BIOMALAYSIA 2015 AND ASEAN BIOECONOMY 2015**.

1. MOSTI melalui BiotechCorp dan dengan kerjasama semua pihak berjaya menganjurkan BioMalaysia buat kali ke-13 dan syabas di atas persiapan rapi yang telah dibuat oleh Ahli-ahli Jawatankuasa Penganjur bagi memastikan kesinambungan agenda bioteknologi negara.

2. **Bioekonomi, pada tahun 2013, menyumbang RM120.8 billion (2010: RM106.7) atau 12.2% daripada jumlah KDNK.** Sektor bio-ekonomi turut diramalkan mempunyai **potensi pertumbuhan sebanyak 15% secara purata sehingga tahun 2030** yang akan menyumbang sehingga **RM181.2 billion** kepada KDNK.

3. Bagi memanfaatkan kehadiran tetamu serta rakan-rakan antarabangsa kita, izinkan saya meneruskan ucapan dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

4. It is an honour for me to join you this afternoon, and be amongst such esteemed company of leading biotechnology delegates from all over the world, here at the thirteenth edition of BIOMALAYSIA & ASEAN BIOECONOMY 2015.

5. Although this is the first time I am attending BIOMALAYSIA, and in my capacity as Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, I must say I am truly impressed with the large and diverse representation this year as mentioned just now by the Secretary General. It illustrates the continued relevance and dynamism of BIOMALAYSIA in showcasing the best and most recent advances, innovations, trends, challenges and solutions related to the biotechnology sector.

Ladies and gentlemen

6. As the **first country in Southeast Asia and the second in Asia, after China, to declare a bioeconomy initiative**, Malaysia has witnessed various socio-economic benefits to the nation – thanks to the steady development of bio-based sectors in the country.

7. Through the **Bioeconomy Transformation Programme (BTP)** which was launched in 2012, for example Malaysia has aligned various initiatives and strategies to accelerate commercialisation opportunities in biotechnology and boost the nation's bio-based economy. The BTP is set to maximize the undiscovered potential of the country's economy and at the same time enhancing the multiplier effect of the economy, thus strategically placing Malaysia within the **global biotechnology market that is projected to be worth USD 414.5 billion by the end of 2017**.

8. Currently, the **BTP** has a total of **46 high impact projects** which are expected to **generate gross national income (GNI) of RM5.87 billion in 2020, provide 25,224 job opportunities and secure cumulative investments of RM18.15 billion by 2020.**

9. In addition to these significant economic impacts, the BTP will also benefit the society and the nation by improving the income of the rakyat, especially among rural communities, through projects and programmes with high inclusiveness factors.

10. **The BTP also promotes a greener economy** by contributing to long-term economic and environmental sustainability. **Bio-Industrial Trigger Projects** such as energy crop plantation, the production of renewable biomaterials and bio-based chemicals, and production of compressed biomethane gas, for example are expected to contribute to **Malaysia's target of reducing its carbon footprint and emissions by 40% by 2020.**

11. As Malaysia's **National Biotechnology Policy** enters its third phase of **"Global Business"** beginning 2016, we are targeting for Malaysia to become a global player in the biotechnology industry. The role of BioNexus status companies in Malaysian's bioeconomy will undoubtedly become increasingly prominent.

12. To date, we have a total of **261 BioNexus status companies, with total approved investments worth RM6.42 billion.** This reflects a **16% growth rate** as compared to 2013, reflecting the success of the programme to drive the growth of **biotechnology-based small and medium enterprises (SMEs)** in Malaysia. 47% of these companies are in the SMEs and are ready to expand in the new economy, whilst the **top 2% (6 companies) are now listed on exchanges in Malaysia, Australia, UK and Europe.**

Ladies and gentlemen

13. With Malaysia as the current chair of ASEAN, it is most fitting that **this year's BIOMALAYSIA is focusing on bioeconomy in the ASEAN region.**

14. **Southeast Asia presents enormous growth potential** with its rapidly expanding consumer class, bustling international trade, youthful demographics, and strategic location at the intersection of China, Japan, and India. With the **ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)** sets to come into effect at the end of this year, the anticipation of **a single market with over 600 million people** has captured the attention of businesses and investors.

15. **Through the AEC, ASEAN will be transformed into a single market and production base that is fully integrated**

into the global economy, with much freer flow of goods, services, FDI, skilled labour and capital. Significantly, all signs point to ASEAN as a global economic powerhouse in the making – collectively, and **the stage is also set for ASEAN to become a major bioeconomy force.**

Ladies and gentlemen

16. **ASEAN has no shortage of biodiversity** – while occupying only **three per cent of the world's total land area**; the region is renowned for its rich biological heritage. The **forest cover in ASEAN is about 45 per cent compared to the world's average of 30.3 per cent** and it provides the **natural habitat for up to 40 per cent of all species** on Earth. **The three mega biodiversity countries, namely Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines, together represent around 80 per cent of global biological diversity.**

17. Given the wealth of biodiversity in the region, **the global shift in healthcare and wellness towards natural products with therapeutic value provides vast opportunities for ASEAN** to become a significant global player.

18. With **ASEAN's evolving demographics and lifestyle which emphasize overall wellness for productivity and quality of life, there is greater demand for quality and innovative healthcare and wellness services.** I believe that

biotechnology can help satisfy this demand and will further be a catalyst for the growth of ASEAN's wellness industry in the coming years.

19. Seeing that **the global wellness market is worth USD3.4 trillion**, it is clear that this rapidly growing sector can have a significant impact on ASEAN's economy. Beyond the lucrative factor, what is most important is that **the wellness industry has the potential to positively transform people's lifestyles and improve their well-beings**. In this respect, biotechnology has a lot to offer to the wellness industry in terms of products, services, and job opportunities.

20. **The applications of biotechnology can help harness the existing biodiversity and translate them to high value products and services**, including the production of wholesome nutritious food, functional food, nutraceuticals, cosmeceuticals and pharmaceuticals.

Ladies and gentlemen

21. MOSTI, through BiotechCorp, will further facilitate the **continued growth of biotechnology initiatives not only in the country but also in leading the bioeconomy initiatives in the region**. This year, **BiotechCorp is celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup>**



**anniversary of its establishment** and much has been achieved since 2005, from facilitating the growth of **BioNexus status companies**, attracting multi-million investments from global biotechnology giants, to spearheading the implementation of bioeconomy initiatives. BiotechCorp should be proud of its achievements and the contributions it has made to the bio-based industry in Malaysia.

22. In closing, I would also like to congratulate **BiotechCorp** for being awarded the ***Bio Business Industry Champion of the Year*** at the **World Bio Market 2015, Amsterdam**. I am sure this timely endorsement to the multi-tiered efforts by BiotechCorp in building the capacity for the biotechnology sector will spur the industry to greater heights. **The award also comes as a good closure for the second phase of the National Biotechnology Policy (NBP) – Science to Business phase which ends this year.**

23. On this note, I am pleased to declare that the **BIOMALAYSIA & ASEAN BIOECONOMY 2015**, officially opened.

Sekian. Terima kasih.

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