

SPEECH BY
YB DATUK HAJI FADILLAH BIN HAJI YUSOF
DEPUTY MINISTER OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

AT ITX ASIA 2012
WEDNESDAY | 12 SEPTEMBER 2012 | 10.00 AM
KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE

ASSALAMUALAIKUM W.B.T, GOOD MORNING AND SALAM 1MALAYSIA.

MR. WILLIAM NG

MANAGING DIRECTOR, BUSINESS MEDIA INTERNATIONAL

MS. KATHLEEN LEONG

MANAGER OF OMAN AIR

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

1. FIRST AND FOREMOST I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK BUSINESS MEDIA INTERNATIONAL FOR INVITING ME TO OFFICIATE THE ITX ASIA 2012 EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE .

2. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK ALL SPONSORS AND EXHIBITORS PRESENT FOR PLAYING THE IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROMOTING ICT ADOPTION AMONGST THE CORPORATE AND SMALL MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMES) IN OUR COUNTRY .

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

3. AS YOU ARE ALL AWARE , MALAYSIA HAS SET ITS SIGHTS IN BECOMING A HIGH-INCOME , INNOVATION-LED AND KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMY THROUGH THE VARIOUS TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMMES SET OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT . HOWEVER , IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THESE ASPIRATIONS , THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION IN CONTRIBUTING TO OUR NATIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY CRITICAL AND PERTINENT .

4. THE IMPACT OF GLOBALISATION , LIBERALISATION OF MARKETS AND ADVENT OF TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION SHOWS THAT TODAY'S BUSINESSES CAN NO LONGER CONTINUE TO OPERATE THE WAY IT USED TO IN THE PAST . THIS IS INDEED A DEFINING MOMENT FOR MALAYSIA ESPECIALLY FOR OUR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR AS WE SHIFT INTO HIGHER GEAR IN TRANSFORMING OUR ECONOMY SO AS TO REMAIN RELEVANT IN THIS EVER-EVOLVING AND COMPLEX CHALLENGING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT .

5. AT THIS JUNCTURE , I AM PLEASED TO INFORM ALL OF YOU THAT MALAYSIA'S COMPETITIVENESS RANKING HAS IMPROVED SIGNIFICANTLY IN RECENT INDEPENDENT SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY

THE WORLD BANK AND WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM . BASED ON THE RECENT WORLD BANK “ DOING BUSINESS REPORT IN 2012” , MALAYSIA CLIMBED UP FIVE NOTCHES TO 18TH PLACE FROM ITS 23RD PLACE IN 2011 WHILE THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM REPORT ON “ GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS REPORT FOR 2011-2012 “ IN A SURVEY OF 142 COUNTRIES RANKED MALAYSIA AT 21ST PLACE UP 5 NOTCHES FROM 26TH PLACE IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR . SIMILARLY , THE INSTITUTE FOR MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT WORLD COMPETITIVENESS YEARBOOK 2011 ALSO INDICATED THAT MALAYSIA IS AMONG THE TOP 20 MOST COMPETITIVE ECONOMIES IN THE WORLD .

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN ,

6. ALL THESE ACHIEVEMENTS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE HAD THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR NOT WORKED TOGETHER ON A COLLECTIVE BASIS IN OUR NATION-BUILDING JOURNEY . THIS INCLUDED THE INTRODUCTION OF E-GOVERNMENT , CONCERTED ROLL-OUT OF THE BROADBAND AND INTERNET PENETRATION IN THE COUNTRY , EMBRACING INNOVATION AS A CULTURE ACROSS ALL STRATA OF SOCIETY AND FOCUS ON ADOPTING TECHNOLOGY IN ENHANCING EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY WITHIN THE PUBLIC DELIVERY SYSTEM .

7. TOWARDS THIS END , THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE , TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (MOSTI) CONTINUES TO PLACE GREAT EMPHASIS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF ICT AS A STRATEGIC ENABLER AND MULTIPLIER WHICH

ENCOMPASSES THE BUILDING OF A COMPREHENSIVE ECO-SYSTEM , ACCESS TO FUNDING INSTRUMENTS , DEVELOPMENT OF EXPERTS AND KNOWLEDGE WORKERS AND AN EFFICIENT DEPLOYMENT OF VARIOUS TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL .

8. WHILST THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN CREATING THE RIGHT ECOSYSTEM BY FORMULATING ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION POLICIES , PROMOTING NEW SOURCES OF GROWTH AND CREATING A CONDUCIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INVESTMENTS AS OUTLINED IN THE NATIONAL STRATEGIC ICT ROADMAP , THE PRIVATE SECTOR WILL CONTINUE TO BE KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND DRIVERS IN THE EXPANSION OF THE INDUSTRY THROUGH PRIVATE FUNDING INITIATIVES AND INGENUOUS ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS IN BRINGING THE COUNTRY TO HIGHER LEVELS AT THE GLOBAL STAGE .

9. AS SUCH , I AM GLAD TO NOTE THAT THE PROGRAMMES DESIGNED BY THE ORGANISERS AT ITX ASIA 2012 EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE WILL BE ABLE TO GALVANISE THE INDUSTRY FURTHER TOWARDS BECOMING MORE SELF-RELIANT , DYNAMIC AND PRODUCTIVE AT ALL FRONTS .

10. ON THAT NOTE , IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO DECLARE ITX ASIA 2012 OPEN AND WISH ALL EXHIBITORS , SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS THE VERY BEST AT THE EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE .

11. THANK YOU .