

**TEKS UCAPAN**

**YB DATUK SERI PANGLIMA MADIUS TANGAU  
MENTERI SAINS, TEKNOLOGI DAN INOVASI**

**SEMPENA  
BIOECONOMY DAY**

**RABU, 11 NOVEMBER 2015**

**HOTEL LE MERIDIEN  
KOTA KINABALU, SABAH**

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***SALUTATIONS TO BE CONFIRMED NEARER TO THE DATE***

**YBHG DATO' DR MOHD NAZLEE KAMAL**

Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Biotechnology Corporation

**YBHG DATUK DR MOHD YAAKUB HJ. JOHARI**

President

Sabah Economic Development and Investment Authority (SEDIA)

**Chief Executive Officers / Director Generals of MOSTI agencies**

**Senior Management of the BTP and BioNexus status companies**

**Senior Management of the BiotechCorp**

**Dif-dif Kehormat, Tuan-tuan dan Puan-puan, sidang hadirin yang dimulihkan,**

Salam 1Malaysia dan Salam Sejahtera.

Saya ingin mengucapkan terima kasih kepada Malaysian BiotechCorp kerana telah sudi menjemput saya ke majlis **HARI BIOEKONOMI** ini. Saya gembira kerana Kota Kinabalu, Sabah dipilih sebagai lokasi bagi majlis ini yang sudah tentunya akan membawa banyak manfaat dari konteks perkongsian ilmu dan maklumat, mengeratkan hubungan dengan para syarikat pelaburan dari industri bioteknologi. Izinkan saya meneruskan ucapan ini dalam Bahasa Inggeris.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

2. I am pleased to join all of you during this auspicious Bioeconomy Day. This event is one of the many important initiatives taken by the Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation (MOSTI) and BiotechCorp **to propel the nation's bio-based industry and reach global standards in the market.**

3. The Bioeconomy Day is an **opportunity for us to showcase the importance of bioeconomy in creating a more sustainable future where resources are used in the most efficient way.** Recognising this major growth proposition, the Malaysian government, through the Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation (MOSTI), has taken decisive steps into coordinating and increasing national efforts to harness the bioeconomy's potential through the implementation of the Bioeconomy Malaysia initiative.

4. I am proud to say that **Malaysia is the first country in Southeast Asia and the second in Asia after China to have implemented a Bioeconomy initiative, known as Bioeconomy**

**Transformation Programme (BTP).** The BTP was endorsed by the Malaysia's National Bioeconomy Council and subsequently was launched by YAB Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak on 30 October 2012.

5. Malaysia is not alone in implementing the bioeconomy agenda. **Bioeconomy has become an integral part of the strategic activities and economic policies in European Union and all G7 countries.** They share many similar characteristics which are comparable with our own bioeconomy agenda.

6. The United States, UK and South Africa **have dedicated programmes** like Biomass Crop Assistance Program, Farm Anaerobic Digestion Fund and Agro-Innovation Hubs respectively to develop their local farmers and rural communities. Likewise, **we have set our focus on improving the B40 household through the Bioeconomy Community Development Programme (BCDP).** Similarly, we have a dedicated funding to commercialise bioeconomy projects like BTP Fund which is synonymous with European Union's Horizon 2020 and United Kingdom's Green Investment Bank.

7. Based on these initiatives, it is clear that **Malaysia has paved a solid foundation to bring the nation's bioeconomy at par with the advanced economies,** which are crucial for Malaysia to develop and retain its excellence in bioeconomy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

8. Despite the slow economic growth in Malaysia over the past few years, BTP has reached significant achievements since it was introduced

3 years ago. **As of October 2015, the BTP boasts a total of 48 Trigger Projects which are expected to generate a total GNI of RM5.97 billion in 2020, provide 25,355 jobs opportunities and secure cumulative investments of RM18.21 billion by 2020. As for BCDP, 21 projects are currently at the various stages of implementation in Johor, Melaka, Terengganu and Penang.**

9. The overwhelming response from the first Bioeconomy Day held last August and the **nationwide BTP Workshops** demonstrated the growing interest in bioeconomy. As the BTP projects continue to mature along the commercialisation timeline, we expect the industry's economic contribution to grow in tandem.

10. I am pleased to note that **several high impact BTP projects in Sabah** which utilise exciting new technologies, drawing significant investments while creating a host of new skilled, high-paying jobs for Malaysians.

11. **These Sabah-based BTP projects are spearheaded by the Sunlight Inno Seafood Sdn Bhd for the Development of Fully Integrated Aquaculture Facilities; Genting Plantations Berhad for Setting up an Integrated Bio-Refinery Complex in Palm Oil Industrial Cluster; Korporasi Pembangunan Desa (KPD) via Agrodessa Sdn Bhd for Expansion of Shiitake Mushroom Production Facility and Sabah Softwoods Berhad (SSB) for Setting up a Biogas Power Generation Plant at Kapilit Palm Oil Mill. Collectively, these projects are expected to contribute RM858.4 million of GNI in 2020, RM2.73 billion in investments and 4,636 jobs by the year 2020.**

12. Another significant development is **the collaboration between SSB together with its technology provider Biotec International Asia Sdn Bhd (BIOTEC), a BioNexus Status company.** The companies successfully built a biogas plant at the Kapilit Palm Oil Mill in Tawau with total investments worth RM15.1 million. The construction of this facility was self-financed and has been successfully commissioned in October 2014.

13. I look forward to the continued progress of the BTP as well as BCDP and seeing their positive effects on the development and well-being of our communities, especially the rural folk. **In line with one of the 11<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan priorities, MOSTI aims to contribute to the communities and B40 households by leveraging on the bio-based technology through commercialisation of local R&D and innovations to fuel Malaysia's bioeconomy.** This is in line with the **Malaysia's Commercialisation Year 2016** which was announced in the Budget 2016 by YAB Prime Minister recently to boost R&D initiatives and high-impact innovation in the country.

14. As the Ministry that is responsible for leading and driving Malaysia's STI agenda of , **MOSTI and the government will continue to support the bioeconomy agenda through the various fiscal incentives and facilitation measures as well as through market-based approaches to boost commercialisation and support the rapid growth of the industry.**

15. In order to ensure the success of the BTP and BCDP initiatives, I hope to see more **inter-ministries cooperation, as well as active involvement of more industry players** to tap into the vast opportunities in the bio-based industries. As the Government is fully committed to assist

this industry, the participation from the financial and investment fraternity is very much welcomed.

16. I understand there was a workshop session early in the morning and already we have seen a number of new potential projects to be included in BTP and BCDP. I am confident that the Bioeconomy Day will encourage more participation in these programmes besides providing a better understanding to everyone present on the current global and local issues facing the bio-based industry. I would like to thank everyone in MOSTI and BiotechCorp for making this event a success. I would also like to extend my appreciation to all attendees for taking the time to witness some of the best ideas in Malaysia's bio-based industry and to take that first step towards a shared success.

Sekian. Terima kasih