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PRESS RELEASE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

INNOVATION FOR A DIGITAL ASIA PACIFIC

SINGAPORE, 19 May 2022 – The Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, YB Dato' Sri Dr. Adham Baba delivered his Ministerial Address at the Huawei Asia Pacific Innovation Congress 2022 today at Sands Expo and Convention Centre. This program is organised by Huawei APAC and ASEAN Foundation converging Government Leaders, business heads, customers, media, analysts and partners from within the Asia Pacific region. With the theme 'Innovation for A Digital Asia Pacific', this congress offers a platform to exchange ideas, explore business opportunities and examine new ICT innovations for industrial applications.

Malaysia aims to become a high-tech nation by the year 2030. Therefore, efforts to mainstream Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) as the main driver of economic growth have been made in order to remain globally competitive.

The mainstreaming of STI leverages the power of digitalization where drivers such as 5G/ 6G, sensor technology, 4D/ 5D printing, advanced materials, advanced intelligent systems, cyber-security and encryption, augmented analytics & data discovery, blockchain, neurotechnology and bioscience technology that critical to socioeconomic drivers such as energy, business & financial services, medical & healthcare, smart technology & systems (next-generation engineering & manufacturing), smart cities & transportation, water & food, agriculture and forestry, education and environment & biodiversity.

"We must increasingly adopt digital tools, this must be coupled with meaningful connectivity to ensure that the benefits of digitalisation are enjoyed by all," said YB Dato' Sri Dr. Adham Baba.

Malaysia placed priorities on expanding the adoption of digital consumer tools (e-Commerce, digital payments), attracting, training, and retaining digital talent, fostering digital entrepreneurial ventures, providing fast fiber optics and mobile broadband internet access, as well as coordinating innovation between universities, businesses and digital authorities, among others.

Malaysia is always open to forging strategic partnerships with global institutions in the area of digitalisation. For instance, MIMOS one of the agencies under MOSTI through its Digital Transformation Programme with Huawei, focuses on the development of curriculum and course programs for 5G. The partnership seeks to assist the target group such as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as well as companies to provide upskilling and reskilling platforms for their workforce in the selection of fields and the form of training and professional certification.

The programme is set to produce strong digital talents, enhance digital skills and competencies among locals, increase marketability in high-tech jobs as well as meet the needs of the industry. This kind of strategic cooperation will allow not only job creation, but also enhance economic and social growth of the nation in a more inclusive and sustainable manner.

Malaysia welcomes further cooperation and partnerships on digitalisation programmes both in the bilateral and multilateral spheres. This conference will further strengthen the existing cooperation as well as the opportunities to create new cooperation between Malaysia and other countries.

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