



## PRESS RELEASE

### MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

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#### MALAYSIA AND PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA STRENGTHEN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY DAN INNOVATION

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**PUTRAJAYA, 6 April 2023** - YB Chang Lih Kang, Minister of Science, Technology, and Innovation has undertaken an Official Visit to the People's Republic of China (PRC) from 29 March to 2 April 2023, as part of YAB Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia delegations.

The official visit commemorated the 10th Anniversary of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between Malaysia and the PRC, which is a testament to the long-standing bilateral ties founded on mutual respect, trust, and common interest. PRC remains Malaysia's largest trading partner for 14 consecutive years, with total trade of RM487.13 billion (US\$110.6 billion) recorded in 2022, up 15.6% from 2021.

During the visit, YAB Prime Minister met His Excellency President Xi Jinping; Premier of the State Council of the PRC, His Excellency Li Qiang; and Chairman of the National People's Congress, His Excellency Zhao Leji. Malaysia and PRC agreed to enhance cooperation in science and technology, specifically in the development of vaccines, as well as research and development (R&D) of high technology and digitalisation of the economy.

Government-to-Government Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and 19 business-to-business MoU were signed in various fields, especially green technology and digital economy. One of the MoUs sealed was the heads of agreement between DRB-Hicom Bhd and Zhejiang Geely Holding Group Co. Ltd on the development and commercialisation of an Automotive High Technology Valley (AHTV) in Tanjung Malim, Perak. The AHTV will cover an extensive automotive and mobility solutions value chain, from a fully-fledged high technology global R&D centre to a manufacturing cluster and supporting services and associated ecosystem for a new energy vehicle industry in Malaysia.

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) has positioned itself to oversee the development, validation and commercialisation of local green mobility technologies in supporting the country's transition towards a low carbon economy aligning to the Low Carbon Mobility Blueprint 2021-2030. NanoMalaysia Berhad one of MOSTI agency is currently ramping up domestic electric mobility ecosystem, expressed in programmes including NESTI (National Energy Storage Technology Initiative), EMERGE (Enabling Mobility Electrification for Green Economy), REVIVE (Rapid Electric Vehicles Innovation Validation Ecosystem), HyPER (Hydrogen-Paired Electric Racecar) and BICEP (Biomass Innovation Circular Economic Programme). These initiatives are to lead Malaysia into developing and commercialising energy storage systems crucial for electric mobility, excess grid; renewable energy; uninterrupted power supply for commercial and domestic building uses.

YB Chang Lih Kang, has emphasised to his counterparts in PRC the interests in technology exchange and upskilling of emerging digital sectors such as Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain to drive new areas of economic growth. MOSTI has embarked in several significant roadmaps to support the adoption of digital technology include the National Robotics Roadmap, the National Artificial Intelligence Roadmap, the National Blockchain Roadmap, the National Nanotechnology Policy and Strategy Roadmap, the National Advanced Materials Technology Roadmap, and the Electric and Electronics (E&E) Roadmap.

In line with the National Space Policy 2030, Malaysia recognises that space science and geospatial technology play significant roles in driving growth and contributing to the national sovereignty and competitiveness. Malaysia and PRC have signed an Agreement on Space Cooperation and the Peaceful Use of Outer Space in 2003, followed by the renewal of MOU between Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA) and China National Space Administration (CNSA) in 2021. The agreement is a scientific and technological exchange, and cooperation in the areas of space science, space technology and space applications, in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

Malaysia and PRC also look forward to strengthening commercialisation ecosystems by providing market access for potential startups in both countries. The Malaysian Research Accelerator for Technology & Innovation (MRANTI) has recently signed an MOU with TusStar Malaysia, a joint venture between Tus Holding (originating from Tsinghua Pioneer Park) and Brunfield International Group that is part of PRC's largest technology incubator network.

The collaboration will provide a soft landing and necessary infrastructures for 75 PRC companies earmarked by TusStar to set up their businesses in Malaysia, and the companies to provide job opportunities and technology transfers in return. These companies will also be furnished with business and talent resources and will be plugged into key accelerator initiatives including the National Technology and Innovation Sandbox (NTIS). Align to the Malaysia Startup Ecosystem Roadmap (SUPER) 2021-2030, Malaysia welcomes PRC's venture capitalists and startups to leverage Malaysia as its regional base to scale up and become unicorn companies.

In the area of science and technology, Malaysia and PRC have signed the Agreement on Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation on 4 October 2013; and the Agreement on Co-operation in Vaccine Development and Accessibility on 18 November 2020. Malaysia will continue to bolster bilateral cooperation and investment with PRC in key strategic areas including emerging digital technology i.e. Artificial Intelligence, aerospace technology, green technology i.e. electric mobility and vaccine development.

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**Prepared by:**

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