



PRESS RELEASE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY DAN INNOVATION

SYMBOLIC HANDING OVER OF THE ASEANTOM CHAIRMANSHIP TO PHILIPPINES

JOHOR BAHRU, 14th August 2025 – YB. Dato' Haji Mohammad Yusof bin Apdal, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), officiates the closing ceremony of the 12th Meeting of the ASEAN Network of Regulatory Bodies on Atomic Energy (ASEANTOM) at the Renaissance Hotel, Johor Bahru, Johor.

ASEANTOM 2025 was conducted under the initiative of the Department of Atomic Energy Malaysia (Atom Malaysia), Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) as the Chair of ASEANTOM. In the closing ceremony of this meeting, Malaysia officially handed over the chairmanship of the ASEANTOM to the Philippines, marking the end of the ASEANTOM 2025 summit.

YB. Dato' Haji Mohammad Yusof bin Apdal also witnessed the handover of the chairmanship of the ASEANTOM between the Atom Malaysia and the Philippines.

In his closing speech, YB. Dato' Haji Mohammad Yusof bin Apdal expressed his appreciation to the delegates for their cooperation and support throughout Malaysia's chairmanship of the ASEANTOM Meeting. He also conveyed his gratitude to the Johor State Government and federal agencies for demonstrating dedication, professionalism, and a spirit of solidarity that aligns with the values of Malaysia MADANI—particularly in the aspects of compassion, trustworthiness, and well-being.

YB. Dato' Haji Mohammad Yusof bin Apdal emphasized that Malaysia has worked closely with ASEAN member countries to strengthen regional cooperation to ensure the safe, secure, and regulated use of nuclear technology in the region.

He also stressed that the spirit of unity, trust, and cooperation that defines ASEAN and ASEANTOM must continue so that the peace and prosperity of the region can be maintained.

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Issue by:

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

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DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY MALAYSIA (Atom Malaysia)

Control over the use of radioactive substances has been in place since 1968 when Parliament passed the Radioactive Substances Act 1968. Given the rapid development of atomic energy activities in Malaysia, more effective control was needed

In April 1984, Parliament passed the Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984 (Act 304). Subsequently, the Atomic Energy Licensing Board (AELB) was established on 1 February 1985 and placed under the Prime Minister's Department.

On 27 October 1990, this department was placed under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI). Later, on 9 June 2022, this agency was named the Department of Atomic Energy Malaysia (Atom Malaysia).

Atom Malaysia is a regulatory body responsible for regulating and enforcing the Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984 (Act 304) and its subsidiary legislation. Its purpose is to ensure that all activities involving the use of atomic energy are conducted safely without endangering workers, the public, property, or the environment.

OBJECTIVE

To ensure that the use of atomic energy is safe, secure and controlled in order to protect society, workers and the environment.

FUNCTIONS

The responsibility of Atom Malaysia are to implement the Board's functions as stipulated in the Act 304:

1. To advise the Minister and the Government of Malaysia on matters relating to the Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984 and developments thereon, particularly on the implications of such developments for Malaysia;
2. Control and supervise the use of atomic energy activities and matters incidental thereto;
3. To establish, maintain and develop scientific collaboration with any other body, institution or organisation relating to nuclear or atomic energy matters as the Authority deems appropriate for the purposes of the Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984;
4. Where so directed by the Government of Malaysia, to implement or provide for the implementation of obligations arising from agreements, conventions or treaties relating to nuclear or atomic energy matters to which Malaysia is a party if such agreements, conventions or treaties are relevant to the purposes of the Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984; and
5. To do other matters arising or consequential from the functions of this Board under the Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984 which are not contrary to the purposes of that Act, whether or not directed by the Minister.