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Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute

Dedicated To Creating A Better Society



3rd NATIONAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT

**“Economic Reforms -
Reaction, Impact, Priorities
and Opportunities”**

Tuesday, 18 July 2017

Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel & Spa, Selangor

Strategic Partner



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3rd NATIONAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT

“Economic Reforms - Reaction, Impact, Priorities and Opportunities”

Malaysia's economy is expected to have grown at a faster pace in the fourth quarter, supported by its oil and commodity exports after over a year of tepid global demand that bodes well for a more durable recovery over 2017.

Rebuilding investor confidence in Malaysia's economy is key for continuous success and attract more foreign investments into the country and to overcome negative international perception.

The median forecast in a Reuters poll of 14 economists was for 4.5% annual growth in October-December 2016, better than the 4.3% expansion over the previous quarter. This forecast matches the growth rate achieved in the fourth quarter of 2015, and some economists say the positive momentum puts South-East Asia's third-largest economy on track for a modest recovery.

There were also signs of a pick-up in external trade with December 2016 exports up 10.7% year-on-year on a strong recovery in shipments of crude oil, petroleum products and palm oil and palm-based products. Sustained private consumption and resilience in the services sector will also provide encouraging signals that recovery will sustain in 2017. However, a fragile ringgit currency, and lingering uncertainty around US President Donald Trump's economic and trade policies pose risks to the outlook. The ringgit tumbled sharply towards the end of 2016, prompting Bank Negara to clamp down on offshore ringgit trade and introduce steps to boost onshore ringgit trade.

However, there remains challenges that Malaysia must face on the road to recovery. The challenges faced today are attributed to factors such as modest global growth due to sluggishness in the largest economies including the U.S., Euro zone, Japan, UK, Canada and China—plus economic challenges in huge emerging markets particularly Russia, Brazil and Saudi Arabia—push down global demand further.

Protectionist policies particularly in trade-reliant nations and the impact of low global commodity prices, especially Malaysia's major ones such as oil and gas, and palm oil and rubber, are among factors that should be addressed.

Other contributing issues like the rise of ethnocentrism, racism, xenophobia, and ongoing risks of terrorist acts and other geopolitical risks worldwide are also dampening factors that will influence Malaysia's economic development.

This 3rd National Economic Summit jointly organized by the Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI), a leading private sector Think Tank, and by the Malaysian Economic Association (MEA), is indeed apt and timely to reconsolidate and to regenerate investments into the region as to enable Malaysia to regain its competitive edge. This summit with the relevant theme focusing on Malaysia's Economic Future at a time of uncertainty and volatility will enable top government and business leaders, academicians, researchers, diplomats and policy makers to:

- Take stock of the shape of the global recovery and outlook for Malaysia
- Assess global and regional economic and strategic trends.
- Assess the policy shifts and their impact on Malaysia's prosperity and stability
- Evaluate Malaysia's competitiveness and investment opportunities
- Review threats to Malaysia's future peace, stability and prosperity
- Inclusivity and good governance practices to bring back public confidence towards the integrity of the government
- Structural issues of the New Economic Model (NEM) and recommendations to resolve them

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

- **Tan Sri Dato' Mohd Sheriff Mohd Kassim**
Past President, Malaysian Economic Association (MEA) & Former Secretary-General, Ministry of Finance
- **Dato' Latifah Merican Cheong**
Deputy President, Malaysian Economic Association
- **Dr Thomas S K Tang**
Managing Director, Kuala Lumpur Centre for Sustainable Innovation (KLCSI)
- **Mr. Rizal Nainy**
Deputy Chief Executive Officer (1), SME Corporation Malaysia
- **Mr. Prashant Chadha**
Managing Director, Aon Hewitt Malaysia (Aon Hewitt)
- **Mrs. Azah Othman**
General Manager Global HR, Learning & Development SCOMI Group
- **Mr. Edward Clayton**
Senior Executive Director, PwC Strategy& (M) Sdn Bhd

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Business leaders with current and potential investments in the Malaysian economy sectors
- Ministers, policymakers, political leaders, senior government officials and key economy exporters
- Business specialists – business professionals, mid-level managers, business development managers, analysts, risk professionals in industrial sectors and financial institutions
- Owners of business enterprises

WHY ATTEND?

This summit will enable CEO's, senior government officials and strategic thinkers as you:

- To discuss and debate the key developments, corporate realities and changing environment.
- To help participants rethink their purpose, priorities and strategies.
- To help to shape the future business environment of the country over the next few years
- To explore the strategic trends that will impact on governments, companies and societies.
- Provide the opportunity to interact with and build relationships with other like-minded leaders.

PROGRAMME

8.30 am	Arrival & Registration of Participants	1.00 pm	Special Luncheon Address
9.25 am	Welcoming Speech by CEO, Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI), Tan Sri Dr. Michael Yeoh		Welcome Remarks Tan Sri Dato' Mohd Sheriff Mohd Kassim Past President, Malaysian Economic Association (MEA) & Former Secretary-General, Ministry of Finance
9.30 am	Keynote Address: "MALAYSIA'S TRADE & INVESTMENT STRATEGIES: THE WAY FORWARD IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD" by Minister of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed *	2.15 pm	SESSION THREE BUILDING HUMAN CAPITAL AND A SKILLED WORKFORCE As the economy moves up the value chain, educating, training and retaining a talented workforce will be a major growth challenge. Despite its favourable demographics, the talent pipeline is at risk not only in knowledge-driven industries but also in agriculture, construction and manufacturing. This session will discuss issues of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High prices, low wages syndrome • Issues of Foreign labour • Reforms of the labour laws • Education & employment mismatch and the unemployability of graduates • Employee Insurance Schemes (EIS)
9.50 am	Keynote Address by Mr. Changyong Rhee , Director, Asia and Pacific Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)		
10.10 am	Morning Refreshments		
10.30 am	SESSION ONE REVIEWING STRUCTURAL BOTTLENECKS TO SUSTAINING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AND UNLEASHING COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTIVITY FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH Malaysia's rankings have dropped in three global indexes: from 18th to 25th on the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index from 22nd to 23rd on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business, and from 32nd to 35th on the Global Innovation Index. Malaysia is also losing its competitive edge in a fundamental way and will impact sustainability of growth. This session will also discuss issues of governance judicial reviews, productivity, efficiency and transparency. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the institutional and structural; weaknesses that needs to be addressed? • How does these weaknesses impact the country's competitiveness and productivity growth? • The New Economic Model (NEM) has identified structural issues affecting economic foundation. Where are we on these recommendations, and what needs to be prioritized. Is it yet another plan, and if so, how best should that plan interface with the NEM. • What are the productivity targets expected under the Eleventh Malaysia Plan (11MP) 2016–2020? • What are the challenges and issues expected in raising productivity growth? 	3.30 pm	SESSION FOUR MALAYSIA'S BUSINESS SURVIVAL STRATEGIES – CONVERTING CHALLENGES INTO OPPORTUNITIES, ENHANCING GOOD GOVERNANCE, BEST PRACTICES AND OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaysia has to remain export oriented, looking at the current strategies in 11th plan, what needs to change. • How will these policies impact on Malaysian exported-oriented economy? • Malaysia lower rankings is because of emerging macro-economic imbalances and breaking down of governance and rule of law--what are adjustments needed to address downside risks of consequent weakening of economic resilience. • How can companies compete in these uncertain times? • How can Malaysian businesses not just survive but thrive in the ever-changing landscape? • What are the key lessons for management and operation in such a challenging world? • How will the newly elected president impact policies, and how will these policies impact commodity markets? • The governance agenda or rather its absence will threaten long-term sustainable growth. How will it impact investments and long-term growth?
11.45 am	SESSION TWO ASSESSING MALAYSIA'S ECONOMY: NEW KEY GROWTH DRIVERS AND CHALLENGES Malaysia's economic growth has slowed down but while it remains resilient to external headwinds, much needs to be done to ensure sustained private consumption and resilience that will provide encouraging signals that recovery will sustain in 2017 and beyond. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it a global recovery? • What will be the new key drivers of Malaysia's higher growth in 2017 and beyond? • How do you see the slowdowns in some of the world's key economies affecting Malaysia's growth prospects? • How do you see FDI inflow into Malaysia going from here in light of the current global economic environment? • Which sector(s) is expected to be a game-changer in attracting FDI inflow into the country? • How to you leverage the unique assets of the country to capture economic development opportunities in a competitive economy? 	5.00 pm	Closing Address Welcome Speech by President, Malaysian Economic Association (MEA), Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Sulaiman Mahbob *
		5.30 pm	End of Conference and Refreshments

* To be confirmed

• The Organiser reserves the right to alter the content and timing of the programme in the best interest of the Conference and is not responsible for cancellations due to unforeseen circumstances.
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REGISTRATION FORM

3rd National Economic Summit
18 July 2017 • Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa, Selangor

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REGISTRATION

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About ASLI

The Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI) is an independent, private and not-for-profit Think Tank headquartered in Malaysia. ASLI is committed to creating a better society and to help organisations enhance their competitiveness, leadership and strategic capabilities through its public programmes, conferences, publications, policy research, Business Councils and CEO peer groups. With over 20 years' experience, ASLI is the super-connector between Government, Business and Civil Society, having managed high-level business partnerships in Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Japan, China, Australia, USA, Canada, Britain, Germany, South Africa and other parts of the world.

Further information of ASLI is available at www.asli.com.my

► REGISTRATION FEES

Registration Fee
RM1,800
+ 6% GST per delegate

Special Group Discount
RM1,600
(Minimum 3 delegates)
+ 6% GST per delegate

Government / NGO
RM1,500
+ 6% GST per delegate

NOTE: Fee includes lunch, refreshments & conference documentation

► PAYMENT METHOD

The fee must be paid in advance of the event. Walk-in delegates with payment will be admitted on **'space available' basis**. Cheques or bankdrafts should be crossed and made payable to **Asian Strategy & Leadership Incorporated Sdn Bhd**.

- BANK TRANSFER CASH CHEQUE

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Branch : Bandar Sunway

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The organiser reserve the right to stop any registered delegate from taking part in the event if no proof of payment can be presented. This only applies to registered delegates who have **NOT** paid the registration fees **PRIOR** to the event date.

FOR GOVERNMENT SECTOR

A Local Order (LO) or letter of approval to participate must be presented before the event.

SUBSTITUTION/CANCELLATION

Provided the total fee has been paid, substitutions at no extra charge up to **5 days** before the event are allowed. Otherwise all bookings carry a **50%** cancellation liability immediately after a signed sales contract has been received by the organiser. Payment terms are five days and payment must be made prior to the start of the conference. Non-payment or non-attendance does not constitute cancellation.



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