

SPEECH

NIK NAZMI NIK AHMAD MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

FOR

MALAYSIA AVIATION DECARBONISATION BLUEPRINT

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PALM GARDEN HOTEL, PUTRAJAYA

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Deputy Secretary General (Policy), Ministry of Transport

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Salam Malaysia Madani

INTRODUCTION

- I am pleased to be speaking at the Malaysia Aviation Decarbonisation Blueprint (MADB) launching ceremony. My thanks to MOT for inviting me to this auspicious occasion.
- 2. The latest findings from the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) stated that human-induced global warming had driven global warming to 1.1° Celcius. The impact of this event is being felt in every corner of the world, increasing vulnerability and imposing significant and irreversible losses.

- 3. In line with the goals of the Paris Agreement, addressing global warming requires substantial and immediate reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions: a 43% reduction by 2030 and 60% reduction by 2035 compared to 2019 levels. Moreover, the IPCC findings also emphasised that it is imperative to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2050.
- 4. To achieve all of these is no easy feat. It requires a transition towards more ambitious climate actions and enhancement of cooperation. The UAE Consensus adopted at COP28 sets ambitious global targets: tripling renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency improvements by 2030. The consensus also emphasises the urgent need to reduce dependence on coal power, phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, and transition to cleaner energy sources in a just and orderly manner.
- 5. In this regard, we need to ensure that the efforts to reduce GHG emissions must be integrated into broader development strategies. By aligning our climate action with the developmental goals, we can accelerate emission reductions and transition to more sustainable pathways.

Ladies and gentlemen,

- 6. In our pursuit of sustainability, we must recognise that rhetoric alone is insufficient. It is imperative that our commitment be both comprehensive and ambitious, addressing not only environmental concerns but also social, safety, governance, and economic factors. Malaysia's transportation sector, particularly aviation, plays a crucial role in meeting our country's global climate objectives.
- 7. As you may have heard, the National Climate Change Action Council (MTPIN) chaired by the Prime Minister in June agreed to confirm the country's aspirations to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. No more as early as 2050.
- 8. For the aviation industry, sustainability entails enhancing aircraft operational efficiency, leveraging technological innovations, embracing sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), and participating in the carbon market mechanism.
- 9. Currently, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES) is formulating our policy direction on carbon trading that takes into account both compliance-based carbon markets established under several conventions such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and also the voluntary carbon market (VCM) with the first phase expected to be completed by this year and the second phase in 2025.

- 10. We hope that with this policy, airline industries could use this for their carbon off setting under the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA), meeting their own climate targets and in line with Malaysia's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) by 2030.
- 11. We understand the aviation industry matters a great deal to Malaysians. To some it is a point of pride. To a great many, it is an essential service for their lives and careers. There are many challenges facing it and achieving sustainability will be one of them.
- 12. But in achieving it, we will also lay the groundwork for a sustainable and competitive aviation industry that benefits all Malaysians and projects our country to the world. NRES will do all it can to support this being realised and we hope the rakyat will likewise back the government in the necessary changes ahead.
- 13. This Decarbonisation Blueprint gives us the means to forge ahead. It will not be easy but it must be done. And it provides us with a pathway to the future as well as the momentum to decarbonise other key sectors.

Ladies and gentlemen,

- 14. To drive our ambitions for a sustainable future, we must embrace a multi-faceted, whole-of-government approach. Every organisation and industry has a role to play in addressing climate action. As such, we must work tirelessly to realise our vision of a greener, more sustainable aviation industry that serves the needs of our people and planet.
- 15. Thank you for the great efforts shown and let us continue to collaborate and innovate to drive positive change for our environment.