



**MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

KEYNOTE SPEECH

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**MALAYSIA'S NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN
(MYNAP) KICK-OFF WORKSHOP**

7 JANUARY 2025 (TUESDAY)

LE MERIDIAN HOTEL KUALA LUMPUR

SALUTATIONS

Salam Sejahtera, Salam Malaysia Madani and a very good morning

Happy New Year 2025 – a year of the Wood Snake according to the Lunar calendar.

- i. **Datuk Nor Yahati Binti Awang**, Deputy Secretary-General (Environmental Sustainability), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability;
- ii. **Dr Ulf Jaeckel**, Head of European and International Adaptation to Climate Change Division, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV);
- iii. **Dr. Timo Menniken**, Country Director, GIZ Malaysia and Thailand;
- iv. **Dr. Christian Zankiewicz**, Counsellor for Economic, Commercial & Environmental Affairs, German Embassy, Kuala Lumpur;
- v. **Dato' Ir. Mohd Zaki bin Mat Amin**, Director-General, National Water Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM); and
- vi. Distinguished moderators, speakers, participants, ladies and gentlemen,

INTRODUCTION

1. I am honoured to welcome you to the Malaysia National Adaptation Plan (MyNAP) Kick-off Workshop. This event signifies an essential step in Malaysia's journey towards developing adaptation strategies to protect our people and our future in the face of escalating climate impacts.

2. Recent extreme weather events have underscored the urgency of our mission. Last year, several states received over six months of rainfall in just five days. Tragically, lives were lost, more than 150,000 people were displaced, and infrastructure, homes, and farmland were devastated. These events remind us of our vulnerability and the need to embark on the necessity for proactive adaptation.

3. We are undoubtedly facing the cascading effects of rising temperatures, extreme weather events, and environmental degradation. Climate change is real. It affects almost every part of people's lives—their health, social mobility, education, and well-being.

4. We must rise to the challenge of addressing the impacts of climate change and work together to build a better and greener future for current and future generations.

GLOBAL AND NATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Ladies and gentlemen,

5. Our commitment to tackling climate change is clear. Article 7 of the Paris Agreement requires countries to develop and enhance plans and

policies to address adaptation. The NAP process is central to meeting this goal. It helps countries identify and prioritize adaptation actions, integrate these into national development plans, and prepare to access increasing global funding for climate adaptation.

6. The NAP process also supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by translating global ambitions into actionable steps, particularly in critical areas like food security and water resources. Additionally, it aligns with the Sendai Framework by addressing disaster risk reduction and building resilience across sectors.

7. Malaysia remains steadfast in its commitment to the Paris Agreement, aiming to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030, based on 2005 levels. Adaptation, however, is just as crucial. Our Fourth National Communication (NC4) to the UNFCCC highlights key vulnerabilities in agriculture, forestry, public health, and infrastructure. The MyNAP will build on these efforts, offering a coordinated strategy to address these vulnerabilities while strengthening national and sectoral resilience.

8. The Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the recently updated National Climate Change Policy 2.0 provide a robust framework integrating climate resilience into national and sectoral planning. The MyNAP, as the country's inaugural adaptation plan, will build upon these foundations, addressing sectoral and cross-sectoral vulnerabilities and setting a strategic course for implementation.

THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN

9. Climate projections presented in the NC4 report reveal that Malaysia is experiencing rising temperatures, shifting rainfall patterns, and increasing sea levels. By 2100, sea levels along Malaysia's coasts could rise by up to 0.73 meters, posing potential threats to flood risks and coastal erosion. The country will experience more frequent extreme weather events such as dry spells, intense rainfall, more frequent floods and coastal erosion. Climate change projections show us the challenges ahead. Therefore, MyNAP will address these challenges by focusing on five priority sectors:

- Water and Coastal Resources;
- Agriculture and Food Security;
- Infrastructure and Cities;
- Public Health, and
- Forestry and Biodiversity.

To drive meaningful change, MyNAP will focus on four key strategies:

- Strengthening governance and institutional capacity.
- Providing accurate climate data for informed decision-making.
- Engaging the private sector for effective partnerships.
- Increasing adaptation financing to support impactful measures

IMPORTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM STAKEHOLDERS

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. This workshop marks the official commencement of the MyNAP development process. Our objectives are:

- To build awareness and understanding of the NAP process and its significance for Malaysia's socio-economic and environmental future;
- To engage stakeholders in identifying key adaptation priorities and strategies; and
- To establish coordination mechanisms for effective adaptation across sectors and governance levels.

11. Over the next two days, we will explore Malaysia's challenges, learn from global experiences, and work together to improve the MyNAP framework. Your ideas are essential for creating a practical and inclusive plan.

12. Tackling climate change adaptation requires a unified effort across all ministries and agencies. Each sector must lead in improving policies and implementing initiatives tailored to its unique needs and priorities. Cross-ministry and agency collaboration is key to ensuring a strong and effective adaptation plan. We need to emphasize the importance of active involvement and support from all ministries, agencies, professionals, academia, NGOs, and CSOs in driving adaptation actions within their respective sectors, whether through policy improvements or the implementation of related initiatives.

13. The commitment and collaboration among these stakeholders would benefit the country in formulating an effective adaptation action plan aimed at achieving the following expected outcomes:

- Identify priority adaptation actions that are practical and have a high impact on the economy and the rakyat's well-being
- Share scientific and technological research findings contributes to enhancing resilience and productivity.
- Estimate costs associated with implementing adaptation actions within each respective sector.
- Assess potential losses and damages within each sector from climate disasters if adaptation actions are not undertaken.

LEVERAGING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Ladies and gentlemen,

14. Our gathering today is made possible with the support of our international partners, including the *German Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMUV)*, GIZ, and the NAP Global Network. Locally, NAHRIM and MGTC are key players in driving this effort forward. Their expertise will enrich our discussions and guide us toward best practices in adaptation planning. I thank all the sponsors.

15. As Malaysia prepares to assume the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2025, we can position climate adaptation as a regional priority. By leveraging our leadership role, we can accelerate the ASEAN climate agenda, foster cooperation among member states, and ensure that climate resilience remains at the forefront of regional development.

16. Malaysia's efforts in combating climate change can serve as a model for ASEAN, demonstrating how strategic planning and stakeholder engagement can drive meaningful progress. Together, we can build a more resilient Southeast Asia, united in our commitment to safeguarding our shared future.

CONCLUSION

Ladies and gentlemen,

17. As we come together for this critical initiative, let's stay committed to building a stronger, more resilient Malaysia. By working together, talking openly, collaborating closely, and using our collective knowledge and skills, we can create a solid foundation for a sustainable future. Let's ensure the MyNAP becomes more than just a plan; it's our guide for real, meaningful progress that benefits all Malaysians.

18. Finally, it is my honor to officially open the MyNAP Kick-off Workshop. I look forward to the rich discussions and practical outcomes from this event.

Thank you.

7 January 2025