

SECOND PHASE UNESCAP MEETING

**MALAYSIA COUNTRY STATEMENT
SUBPROGRAMME OVERVIEW: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES RELATED
TO INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

The Honorable Chairman,

Madame Executive Secretary,

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

At the outset, my delegation would like to express our sincere appreciation to ESCAP for the excellence arrangement and hospitality accorded to us during this 70th session and to the host country, Thailand.

Honorable Chairman,

Malaysia fully supports the adoption of forward-looking socio-economic policies to promote inclusive and sustainable development. Inclusiveness is a necessary key process for the shared prosperity and sustainable development. It will not only increase socio-economic stability and optimum utilization of resources but also will demonstrate stronger competitiveness and equitable socio-economic development in this region.

Malaysia development philosophy of Growth and Distribution for the past three decades resulted in significant achievement in a more prosperous, inclusive and balanced economic participation of all Malaysian society. Malaysia managed to alleviate absolute poverty at the aggregation level and meet most of the MDG's. Malaysia is now focusing on addressing issues of subjective poverty and vulnerability from multidimensional perspectives to face with unexpected circumstances including market volatility and instability that will lead to increasing cost of living and vulnerability. Among other measures are building a more comprehensive social protection programme as well as enhancing capacity of the institutions and capability of the vulnerable households. Malaysia will also continue to focus on accelerating strategic economic reform, improving efficiency of various market economy and maintaining macroeconomic stability to enhance inclusivity and sustainability.

Honorable Chairman,

Malaysia recognizes that, as a small and open economy, the country faces many challenges to pursue its inclusive and sustainable development agenda. Malaysia is also influenced by external environment such as global socio-economic crises and the development in international trade arrangement. In this regards, Malaysia believes that, in pursuing inclusive and sustainable development, a stronger regional

cooperation and integration is necessary to provide a platform for the formulation of collective action that will allow for greater achievement of the development goals. The cooperation should not only confine to extending networking to address current socio-economic issues but also challenges for the post-2015 development agenda.

Honorable Chairman,

Malaysia will continue to play an active role within the ASEAN community to improve connectivity. Currently Malaysia is the Chair for Special Working Group Singapore-Kunming Rail Link Project. This project connects with domestic rail networks to form continuous link from Singapore to Kunming, China transcending Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Vietnam and Laos. The total length is 6,617 km. This linkage will be part of the greater Trans Asian Railway Network.

Malaysia also believes that effort to promote regional connectivity for shared prosperity should not only focus on addressing issues pertaining to improving modality connectivity but also on efficiency of the system, safety and security of the users and commuters as well as trade activities.

In conclusion, Malaysia strongly urged member states to fully support and build stronger collaboration to ensure safer environment for the people to commute and promote greater socio-economic mobility, inclusivity and prosperity.

Thank you