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MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

OPENING SPEECH

YB DATO' SRI ARTHUR JOSEPH KURUP

MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

FOR

OPENING CEREMONY

INTERNATIONAL GREENTECH AND ECO PRODUCTS EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE MALAYSIA 2026 (IGEM)

AND

KUALA LUMPUR SUSTAINABILITY SUMMIT 2026 (KLSS)

8 OCTOBER 2026 (THURSDAY)

KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE

Salutations

1. **Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof,** Deputy Prime Minister;

2. **Yang Berhormat Tuan Nga Kor Ming,**Minister of Housing and Local Government, President of the UN-Habitat Assembly, Chairman of the National Circular Economy Council

3. **Yang Berhormat Tuan Syed Ibrahim bin Syed Noh**, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability;

4. Your Excellency, Heads of Diplomatic Missions in Malaysia;

5. **Yang Berbahagia Datuk Nor Yahati binti Awang**, Deputy Secretary-General(Environmental Sustainability), Ministryof Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability;

6. Heads of Departments and Senior Federal Officers from Federal and State Governments;

7. Strategic Partners;

8. Members of the media

9. Ladies and Gentlemen.

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies, and Gentlemen.

1. On behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), it is my privilege to welcome all of you to the 17th International Greentech and Eco Products Exhibition and Conference Malaysia 2026 (IGEM), held alongside the Kuala Lumpur Sustainability Summit 2026 (KLSS).

2. My deepest gratitude to our Deputy Prime Minister II, Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Amar Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, for joining us today to officiate these landmark events. Your leadership and steadfast support demonstrate Malaysia's commitment to anchoring green growth and climate action at the heart of our national agenda.

3. To the international delegates, clean-tech visionaries, global industry leaders and investors, we extend our profound appreciation. Your willingness to share expertise, invest across borders, and pioneer new solutions gives life to our theme of “Action Beyond Boundaries”. To our local partners, from state and municipal governments, industry leaders, and innovators, to our researchers, civil society, and community groups, thank you for taking shared ownership of this green transition and turning our national sustainable goals into living realities.

4. We gather today under the theme of shared purpose: *“Race Towards Net Zero: Action Beyond Boundaries.”* It is our guiding compass as the climate challenge transcends geography, jurisdictions, and

sectors. From heavy urban flooding to catastrophic landslides to extreme heat, the events shaping our region remind us that net-zero commitments cannot live in policy documents alone, they must be realised through practical, everyday execution.

Distinguished Guests,

5. IGEM is not an event that started yesterday. Over the past sixteen editions, it has evolved into Southeast Asia's premier marketplace for green technology and eco-solutions. Since its inception, IGEM has generated over RM86 billion in business leads and welcomed more than 700,000 global participants.

6. The results of last year's IGEM speak for itself. Operating alongside the inaugural KLSS, IGEM 2025 surpassed its targets by generating RM7.3 billion in potential green investments through structured business-matching sessions organised by MIDA and MATRADE. It brought together over 55,000 visitors, 420 exhibition booths, and 8 international pavilions, establishing direct commercial ties in renewable energy, circular economy, green mobility, and green finance.

7. IGEM together with KLSS demonstrate how policy dialogue and commercial innovation complement each other. IGEM stands as the flagship platform where green enterprise comes alive, bringing cutting-edge technologies, clean mobility, and circular economy solutions directly into the hands of industry and local leaders.

8. KLSS complements IGEM by providing the strategic policy radar, bringing regulators, financiers, and thought leaders together to align on the governance, taxonomy, and transition finance needed to scale those technologies across the region. Furthermore, KLSS provides the platform where we evaluate global climate frameworks through a regional lens, ensuring our transition plans remain both ambitious and socially equitable.

9. This shared commitment to a greener and more resilient future is also closely aligned with the aspirations of **Malaysia MADANI**, founded on the values of **sustainability, compassion, respect, innovation, prosperity, and trust**. These values guide our approach to the green transition, driving innovation and economic growth while ensuring that environmental responsibility, social inclusion, and the well-being of our people remain at the heart of development. Through stronger partnerships between government, industry, investors, communities, and innovators, we can build a sustainable future that is not only economically resilient, but also inclusive, equitable, and meaningful for generations to come.

Distinguished Guests,

10. Through the National Climate Change Policy 2.0, we are aligning our environmental agenda with industrial blueprints like the National Energy Transition Roadmap and the New Industrial Master Plan 2030. Furthermore, with our upcoming National Climate Change Bill, we will institutionalise mandatory carbon accounting and clear governance to give businesses the legal certainty they need to decarbonise. By introducing these legal and policy frameworks, we

give domestic and international investors the stability and confidence needed to deploy clean technologies in Malaysia.

11. In driving decarbonisation across hard-to-abate sectors, in April 2026, I launched the National Carbon Market Policy, establishing a transparent, high-integrity regulatory framework for both voluntary and compliance markets. By setting clear Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) standards aligned with Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, the policy provides domestic developers and global investors the regulatory certainty needed to confidently trade carbon credits.

12. But industrial transition is only half the equation, market trust completes it. Through our agency, the MGTC, we are expanding practical tools like the MyHIJAU Mark. This platform does not just verify eco-friendly products and services, it opens doors for Malaysian businesses to tap into government green procurement and connect directly with high-value green supply chains across ASEAN.

13. However, policy, regulatory frameworks, and market trust cannot be fully realised without accessible capital. To bridge this gap, Malaysia continues to mobilise targeted financial and fiscal incentives. Through the Green Technology Financing Scheme 5.0, we support the industry by providing government guarantees that help reduce financing risks and ease access to financing for green projects. Together with the Green Investment Tax Allowance, these measures help improve the viability of green investments and give project developers greater confidence to turn green ambitions into bankable projects.

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

14. While national policies are framed in Putrajaya, real execution happens on the ground, in our state industrial parks, municipal districts, and regional energy grids. Through sub-national collaboration, we work directly with state governments and local authorities to ensure green technology takes root everywhere. A prime example is the Low Carbon Cities Framework, which empowers local councils to measure, manage, and reduce urban emissions directly. IGEM serves as the engine that accelerates these local actions, giving our municipalities and local industries direct access to the clean technologies they need to reach their decarbonisation goals.

15. On this note of shared commitment, I extend my sincere thanks to our main strategic partners and sponsors, MIDA, MATRADE, Tenaga Nasional Berhad, and Toshiba as well as other international and local partners and sponsors, for their commitment and support. I also recognise the organising team at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability and the Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation for their dedication in delivering IGEM 2026 and KLSS 2026.

16. The transition to net zero is a shared journey, one that requires steady determination, decisive action, and practical capital. Over these three days, I encourage everyone here to build lasting partnerships, scale proven technologies, and drive meaningful environmental progress across our region. May our efforts to advance

sustainably yield concrete outcomes that serve both our people and our planet.

Thank you.