MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

KEYNOTE SPEECH

YB DATO' SRI ARTHUR JOSEPH KURUP

MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

MyNAP HIGH-LEVEL FORUM: MOBILISING PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION AND ADAPTATION FINANCE FOR A CLIMATE-RESILIENT MALAYSIA

7 OCTOBER 2026 (WEDNESDAY)

10.00 AM

EXHIBITION HALL 6A, KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE

Good morning and Salam Malaysia Madani.

YBhg. Datuk Nor Yahati Binti Awang

Deputy Secretary-General's Office (Environmental Sustainability), NRES

Her Excellency, Silke Riecken-Daerr

German Ambassador to Malaysia;

Her Excellency, Ruzina Hassan

Acting Deputy High Commissioner, British High Commission Kuala Lumpur;

YBrs. Dr. Orville Grey

Head of Secretariat of NAP Global Network;

YBrs. Ms Norhasliza Mohd. Mokhtar

Acting Chief Operating Officer, Climate Action Group, Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

1. It is a great pleasure to welcome all of you to the MyNAP High-Level Forum: Mobilising Private Sector Action and Adaptation Finance for a Climate-Resilient Malaysia.

2. First, I would like to thank the NAP Global Network, hosted by the **International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD),** the **Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)**, the **Malaysian Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation**

(MGTC), the **British High Commission Kuala Lumpur** and **UK PACT** for their support in making this Forum possible.

3. I am also pleased that this Forum is held together with IGEM 2026. This is a good opportunity for us to look at climate adaptation not only as an environmental issue, but also as an economic, development and investment priority for Malaysia.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND MALAYSIA'S RESILIENCE

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

4. Climate change is no longer a distant concern. We are already experiencing more extreme heat, heavy rainfall, floods, water stress and other climate impacts. These impacts affect our people, businesses, infrastructure and economy. Floods can disrupt businesses, transport and supply chains. Water stress can affect agriculture and industries. Extreme heat can affect the health and productivity of our workers. This is why adaptation is imperative.

5. **Mitigation action remains important and we must continue the effort to reduce emissions and contribute to global climate action**. At the same time, we must prepare Malaysia for the climate risks we are already facing and those that may become more serious in the future. Building resilience is therefore not only an environmental issue. It is about protecting our people, our economy, our investments and our future development.

6. **Met Malaysia has indicated a more than 90% chance of a very strong "Super El Niño" between October and December 2026**, with sea surface temperatures already more than 1.8°C above normal. For Malaysia, this could mean less rainfall and longer periods of hot and dry weather, affecting

water supply, agriculture and food security, energy demand, forests and biodiversity, public health, cities and infrastructure. These impacts could also put pressure on livelihoods, productivity and the wider economy.

MALAYSIA'S POLICY FOUNDATION

Distinguished guests,

7. The Government has taken important steps to strengthen Malaysia's climate policy and governance. **The National Climate Change Policy 2.0, NDC and NDC Roadmap, Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy** and other national development plans provide the direction for our climate action, including adaptation and resilience. The proposed National **Climate Change Bill** will further strengthen the legal and institutional framework. These policies provide a strong foundation, but our next priority is implementation turning policies and commitments into action on the ground through stronger coordination, financing and partnerships.

8. As part of this effort, the Government is currently developing the **Malaysia National Adaptation Plan (MyNAP)**, as a national strategy to strengthen Malaysia's climate resilience and guide adaptation action. MyNAP will provide a framework to identify climate risks, set priorities and guide adaptation measures across key sectors, including water, agriculture, forestry and biodiversity, cities and infrastructure, and public health.

9. It adopts a Whole-of-Government and Whole of Society approach, recognising that building climate resilience is a shared responsibility. **MyNAP will therefore help bridge the gap between policy and implementation moving from understanding climate risks and setting priorities to delivering practical actions and projects on the ground.** To make this happen, we need stronger collaboration, particularly from

businesses, financial institutions, investors and other stakeholders. This brings us to the critical importance of adaptation finance and private sector participation.

WHY ADAPTATION FINANCE MATTERS

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. Climate finance has been traditionally focused on reducing emissions. This remains important. But we must now give greater attention to financing adaptation and climate resilience. **The reason is simple: it is better to invest in resilience before a disaster happens than to pay the full cost of recovery afterward.** Investment in stronger infrastructure, water security, early warning systems, climate-resilient agriculture and nature-based solutions can help reduce future losses and disruption. **Adaptation should therefore be seen not only as a cost, but as an investment in our people, our economy and our future.**

11. The cost of climate adaptation in Malaysia is large and growing. **World Bank Group's Country Climate and Development Reports (CCDRs) which have been launched in April 2026 estimates that Malaysia may need USD852 billion to USD1.13 trillion by 2050 for climate resilience.** This includes about USD69.8 billion for water supply, USD33.5 billion for irrigation, and USD32.56 billion for disaster resilience. It also estimates that, without stronger climate action, climate impacts could reduce Malaysia's GDP by up to 16% by 2050.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS A KEY PARTNER

12. Government has an important role in providing policies, regulations, public investment and the right environment for adaptation, **but Government**

cannot build climate resilience alone. We need the private sector as a partner. Businesses, financial institutions and investors bring capital, technology, innovation, expertise and the ability to deliver and scale solutions. Climate risks are also business risks affecting operations, supply chains, assets and investments. **Private-sector action can therefore protect business interests while also strengthening national resilience.**

MOBILISING PRIVATE INVESTMENT

Distinguished guests,

13. The scale of the adaptation challenge means that public finance alone will not be enough. **We need to find ways to bring more private capital into adaptation, including through public-private partnerships, blended finance, guarantees and other suitable approaches**. At the same time, we need more good and investable projects with clear climate benefits, clear roles and suitable returns or wider economic benefits.

14. **Government can provide the policy direction and enabling environment**, while the **private sector can bring the capital, expertise, technology and implementation capacity**. Together, we can turn adaptation priorities into practical projects.

FROM DISCUSSION TO ACTION

Ladies and gentlemen,

15. This is why today's programme is designed to move from discussion to action. This morning, we discuss climate risks and their implications for Malaysia's economy, businesses and investments, including international perspectives from the UK Climate Change Committee. This afternoon, the

Adaptation Action Labs will focus on Adaptation Finance and Investment, and Public-Private Partnerships. **I encourage all participants to identify where private investment can make a difference, what barriers need to be addressed, what support is needed from Government, and most importantly, what partnerships and projects we can take forward through MyNAP**.

A CALL FOR STRONGER PARTNERSHIP

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

16. The success of our adaptation agenda will not be measured only by the policies and plans we develop, but by what we deliver on the ground. Malaysia has already established important climate policies and plans, and **MyNAP is an important next step to bring our adaptation priorities together and guide action across the country**. **But plans need finance, investment, technology and partnerships to become reality.**

17. Let us therefore **strengthen the connection between Government policy, MyNAP priorities, private-sector action and adaptation finance**. Let us **identify opportunities, build partnerships and, most importantly, turn our plans into action**. Together, we can build a Malaysia that is more resilient, more competitive and better prepared for a changing climate.

Thank you.

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