

#### **Ministerial Keynote**

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## 19 August 2025 International Green Build Conference (IGBC) 2025, One World Hotel

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim.

(Salutations)

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh,

Salam Malaysia Madani, and a very good afternoon.

- 1. It is my great pleasure to welcome this distinguished gathering of professionals, innovators, and thought leaders to the **International Green Build Conference (IGBC) 2025**. I have been informed by the organising committee, GreenRE and the REHDA Institute that we are joined today by delegations not only from across ASEAN, but also from China, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Brunei, Singapore, and many others.
- 2. Your presence reflects a collective resolve that extends beyond borders, and it inspires confidence in the path we are charting together.
- 3. This year's IGBC, themed "Adaptation Through Sustainable Innovation," resonates deeply with the mission of the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (PETRA), and with Malaysia's broader commitment to the ASEAN 2025 vision of inclusivity and sustainability.

#### **Shared Purpose**

4. Today's discussions represent a vital convergence of ideas and actionable solutions that will shape our journey towards a **low-carbon**, **resource-efficient**, **and climate-resilient future**.

- 5. The built environment is central to this transformation. Your active participation underscores a shared commitment to meaningful change. One notable innovation advancing this agenda is the **GreenRE Energy Certificate**, which supports the implementation of the upcoming **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act (EECA)** while complementing the **National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR)** by enabling more transparent and measurable energy performance across buildings.
- 6. I encourage all attendees to engage actively in these sessions, and to explore how your organisations can contribute. PETRA remains committed to working closely with GreenRE, the REHDA Institute, REHDA, as well as industry and financial institutions, to unlock the necessary investments and policy support for climate-resilient, sustainable building practices.

#### **PETRA's Role in Promoting Sustainability**

#### Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. PETRA plays a pivotal role in shaping a sustainable and resilient built environment for Malaysia, and its leadership is critical in driving this transformation forward.

Our responsibility goes beyond conventional energy supply and security. PETRA is the architect of integrated strategies that champion a just, inclusive, and sustainable energy transition — encompassing clean energy adoption, efficient resource utilisation, and the deployment of cutting-edge technologies.

- 8. Among our key priorities is accelerating the development of a sustainable and inclusive energy system to help Malaysia achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. Tools such as GreenRE, which enable energy benchmarking, carbon tracking, and renewable integration, are vital to accelerating this transition.
- 9. This transformation requires not only shifting to renewable energy but also promoting energy-efficient building designs and retrofitting existing infrastructure to reduce carbon footprints. Through the National Energy Awards, PETRA continues to recognise best practices in green building design and sustainable innovation.

#### **Energy Efficiency and EECA 2024**

10. Energy efficiency remains one of the most cost-effective ways of achieving Malaysia's Net Zero goals. The **Energy** 

Efficiency and Conservation Act (EECA) 2024 provides the legal foundation to advance our national energy efficiency agenda.

- 11. This Act covers both electrical and thermal energy, placing focus on managing demand comprehensively while promoting efficient energy use across industrial, commercial, and domestic sectors. For the building sector, the Act is especially significant as it encourages the adoption of energy-efficient designs in new constructions, as well as improved energy management in existing ones.
- 12. Building upon this, PETRA will soon launch the **National Energy Efficiency Action Plan 2026–2035 (NEEAP 2.0).** This comprehensive strategy will chart initiatives across all sectors to drive energy savings, once again encompassing both electrical and thermal energy measures.

#### **Expanding Green Electricity and Renewables**

13. We recognise that green electricity is a key enabler of future economic growth and development. The National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR) has set out a pathway to achieve 70% installed renewable energy capacity by 2050.

14. This includes the accelerated deployment of large-scale solar projects, expansion of biomass and biogas utilisation, and exploration of emerging renewable technologies such as hydrogen.

### The 13th Malaysia Plan (RMK13): Foundation for Green Growth

#### Ladies and Gentlemen,

15. Our efforts are firmly anchored in the **13th Malaysia Plan** (RMK13), which identifies sustainability and green growth as national priorities.

#### 16. RMK13 outlines specific targets, including:

- Increasing renewable energy share in the national mix to 35% by 2025,
- Improving energy efficiency across all sectors, and
- Promoting green building certifications such as GreenRE.

- 17. GreenRE itself has achieved a significant milestone, having certified over 400 million square feet of green building space across nearly 800 projects in Malaysia and beyond.
- 18. In line with RMK13, PETRA is also conducting a feasibility study on nuclear energy, including **Small Modular Reactors** (**SMRs**), to assess its potential as a stable base-load power source for regions where renewable deployment faces unique challenges. This study will carefully evaluate waste management strategies to ensure nuclear energy is integrated responsibly into Malaysia's sustainable energy ecosystem.

#### **Call to Action**

- 19. I commend the organising committee for championing sustainability through IGBC, which since 2019 has united stakeholders across ASEAN and beyond.
- 20. The transition to a green built environment requires collective effort. I urge each of you to:
  - Invest in innovation and new technologies that

- enhance building sustainability,
- Collaborate and share knowledge to spread best practices and overcome challenges,
- Support human capital development, such as through REHDA Institute's training and research initiatives, which are vital for building Malaysia's future sustainability leaders.
- 21. I also welcome the private engagement session later today, which will bring together industry leaders, lecturers, and students to foster knowledge exchange, internships, and talent recruitment, nurturing the next generation of sustainability champions.

#### **Closing**

21. Finally, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the organising committee, comprising GreenRE, REHDA Institute, and IGBC representatives for providing this important platform for dialogue and collaboration.

22. PETRA is committed to working hand in hand with all of you to create a sustainable, resilient, and prosperous Malaysia. Let us seize this opportunity to drive transformative change in the built environment, and contribute to a greener, more sustainable world for generations to come.

Thank you.

Wabillahi Taufik Walhidayah, Wassalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.