

## Media Release

# Malacca Malaysia to host historic 8<sup>th</sup> World Chinese Economic Forum in November

**Wednesday May 25, 2016.** Tan Sri Dato' Dr Michael Yeoh, Chairman of the World Chinese Economic Summit (WCES) and CEO, Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI) has confirmed that Malacca Malaysia will host the 2016 Summit that will be held November 16 – 17.

Commenting further on the 2016 WCES, Tan Sri Michael Yeoh said this will be the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the prestigious annual event that has grown in prominence and stature over the years. In recognition of the Summit's importance, YAB Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, Prime Minister of Malaysia\* has been invited to deliver the keynote address at the welcome dinner on Day one, Wednesday November 16.

*\*subject to confirmation at distribution of this media release*

Tan Sri Michael Yeoh also announced that the theme of the Summit is **China-ASEAN: Realising Opportunities, Strengthening Partnerships**. "The program will bring together policy-makers, entrepreneurs, researchers and thought-leaders from around the globe to discuss how China, the Chinese diaspora and ASEAN can forge closer business partnerships and relationships that will be the foundation for shared prosperity and mutually beneficial economic growth".

A special session of this year's program will commemorate 25 years of dialogue partnership between China and ASEAN – a significant and very important milestone.

Tan Sri Michael Yeoh continued, "China has had 25 years of close and harmonious relations with ASEAN as a Dialogue partner. Following the China-ASEAN FTA that came into force in 2002, China has become ASEAN's biggest trading partner through bilateral relationships that has further strengthened ties between China and the countries of ASEAN".

Some of the topics that will be addressed at the 2016 Summit include –

- The New Normal in China: China's Changing Economic Landscape
- Business and Investment Opportunities in Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand and Malacca State
- Urbanization, Property and Infrastructure Development – Building for the Future
- Education & Training – Driving Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Growth

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Family businesses have been the mainstay of the private sector in the ASEAN countries and this will be the subject on the final day of the Summit. The growing entrepreneurial class in China is also largely based on family owned businesses. What are the strategies for growth for family owned businesses – how can these enterprises expand and extend their networks?

The next generation of entrepreneurs and future captains of industry will come together for the Young Entrepreneurs and the Women Entrepreneurs Roundtables. The programs for these sessions will encourage the sharing of ideas, experiences and best practice. In addition, the programs will facilitate the building of networks and commercial opportunities for the future.

Tan Sri Michael Yeoh concluded, "The 8<sup>th</sup> World Chinese Economic Summit is a must attend event for those interested in learning first hand from policy-makers and business leaders from China, ASEAN and Asia Pacific that will be delivering thought provoking addresses and leading discussion on China's economic rise and its impact on the rest of the world.

"Furthermore, it will demonstrate the importance of the Chinese diaspora and the considerable links they can provide for commercial engagement with China".

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