

## Media Release

# Stellar keynote speakers, VIPs, guests & program confirmed for 8<sup>th</sup> World Chinese Economic Summit

**Wednesday September 21, 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 this year's program comprising a stellar array of speakers of former heads of state, current and past ministers, trade and business experts reflects the immense importance of China in the future of both the region and global economies.

The theme of the 2016 WCES is "**China-ASEAN: Realising opportunities, strengthening partnerships**", and the opening address will be delivered by Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, **Ahmad Zahid Hamidi**.

Over the next two days of the Summit, a major highlight will be the presence and unique insights of –

**H.E. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono**, Former President of Indonesia

**H.E. Kevin Rudd**, Former Prime Minister of Australia

**H.E. Dominique de Villepin** Former Prime Minister of France

**H.E. Shaukat Aziz** Former Prime Minister of Pakistan

**H.E. Ma Ying-jeou** Former President of Taiwan

**HE Professor Dr Surakiart** Former Deputy Prime Minister Thailand

In addition, **The Hon Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai**, Minister of Transport of Malaysia, **The Hon Dato Mah Siew Keong**, Prime Minister's Department Malaysia, **Ambassador Delia Albert**, former Foreign Secretary of the Philippines will lead a thought provoking Summit program and array of speakers.

Commenting on the upcoming Summit, Tan Sri Dato' Dr Michael Yeoh said "2016 marks the 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the WCES that was created by ASLI to enhance connectivity and business linkages between China and Southeast Asia and China and Europe in line with the Chinese leadership's Belt and Road initiatives.

"The WCES also promotes global and regional dialogue on the emergence and role of China as the world's 2nd largest economy. It also brings together the global Chinese diaspora and promotes entrepreneurship and innovation through business networking and sharing of knowledge and best practices".

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Over the past 7 years, the WCES has been held in Malaysia, China, Australia and Britain and is an internationally recognised high level event and platform for business, trade facilitation and investment – and for facilitating friendships and connections with dynamic individuals and entrepreneurs attending the Summit during the social and networking activities.

The historic 8th Summit will be held in Malacca Malaysia November 16 – 17 with over 300 delegates expected to attend from around the globe to participate in a program of international speakers and China experts of the highest calibre providing visionary keynotes, insightful panel discussions and roundtables.

Commenting further on the program, Tan Sri Dato' Dr Michael Yeoh said anchored by high level keynote sessions and closely tied to other key components of the Summit, the program is structured around a series of streams and themes including –

Shared Prosperity with China	Women Entrepreneurs
Young Entrepreneurs	Family Businesses
Innovation	Education & Training
Sustainable Growth	Europe-China-ASEAN partnership
Corporate Philanthropy	Urbanisation, Property & Infrastructure
And many others	

Tan Sri Dato' Dr Michael Yeoh is confident the 2016 WCES will be recognised as a major landmark event as thought leaders, policy-makers and business leaders from China, Southeast Asia and Europe come together to discuss the prominence of China's economic rise and its impact and benefit on the rest of the world.

"A key outcome of the Summit will be the reaffirmation of the importance and crucial role of the Chinese diaspora in facilitating commercial opportunities and engagement whilst providing a platform for greater understanding, awareness, insight and appreciation of Chinese culture", concluded Tan Sri Dato' Dr Michael Yeoh.

**PLEASE NOTE:** 2016 WCES registration is now open and can be made via the official Summit website [www.wceforum.org](http://www.wceforum.org)

*Details of the agenda, speakers, sponsors, partners and other important information can be obtained on the Summit website.*

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