



Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute
Dedicated To Creating A Better Society

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE – LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN CONFERENCE 2018

KUALA LUMPUR, 29 March 2018 – The Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI) organized the Logistics & Supply Chain Conference, themed ‘Promoting Sustainable Transport and Logistics Value Chains’. The conference, held at the Hilton, Petaling Jaya, was themed ‘Promoting Sustainable Transport and Logistics Value Chains’ and focused on industry trends and the Logistics and Trade Master Plan. It also discussed new issues such as sustainability, green compliance and the minimal carbon footprint.

Trade has been the engine of Malaysia’s growth in the last four decades, with around 40% of jobs linked to export activities and a trade to GDP ratio of 148% (from 2010-2014). However, Malaysia’s progress in the logistics sector has been unable to keep pace with its booming growth in trade. As developing countries in the region are starting to catch up, faster domestic progress in logistics development and supply chain infrastructure is needed to sustain Malaysia’s competitive advantage. Our government believes that logistics, trade facilitation and competitiveness are at the forefront of policy discussions in Malaysia and has formulated the Logistics and Trade Facilitation Master Plan in 2015 to address these challenges.

YB Datuk Ab Aziz Kaprawi, Deputy Minister of Transport Malaysia, gave the opening keynote address and focused on ‘Malaysia’s Logistics & Trade Facilitation Master Plan: Promoting Sustainable Transport and Logistics Value Chains through Public-Private Partnership’. YB Datuk noted that Malaysia’s logistics industry is worth about RM181 billion and has seen a double-digit annual growth of 10-15%; he encouraged further cooperation from all stakeholders, not just the government, to work together to further improve the logistics and supply chain industry in the country.

Tan Sri Ramon Navaratnam, Chairman of the Centre for Public Policy Studies and Director, ASLI welcomed participants to the conference. In his welcome speech, he noted higher customer expectation for faster, flexible and transparent movement of goods and asked is Malaysia moving fast enough to keep up and has implementation of the Master Plan been effective or closely monitored? He also reminded Malaysians to reflect on whether we have taken advantage of opportunities like the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement and Belt and Road projects.

Other notable speakers include representatives from government ministries like the **Ministry of Transport Malaysia** and **Department of Standards Malaysia**, as well as **Datuk Michael Kang**, National President, **SME Association of Malaysia** and **Dato’ Nathan K Suppiah**, Vice President, the **Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers**. Organizations like **Universiti Malaya**, **Berjaya University College**, **The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malaysia**, and the **Malaysia Institute for Supply Chain Innovation at the MIT Global SCALE Network** were also represented at the conference.

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About Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI)

The Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI) is an independent, private and non-for-profit Think Tank headquartered in Malaysia. ASLI is committed to creating a better society and to help organisations enhance their competitiveness, leadership and strategic capabilities through its Public Programmes, Conferences, Publications, Policy Research, Business Councils and CEO peer groups. With over 20 years’ experience, ASLI is the super-connector between Government, Business and Civil Society, having managed high-level business partnerships in Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Japan, China, Australia, USA, Canada, Britain, Germany and South Africa. Further information of ASLI is available at www.asli.com.my

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