

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Joining Us in Our Purposeful Journey in Nation Building

December is almost over and soon a new chapter will begin when we welcome the much-anticipated Year of 2020. As we bid the year adieu and usher in a New Year and a new decade, it is most appropriate for us to reflect and reminisce over how far we have progressed over 2019. From our founding day, our purpose has been to create a better society, by bringing and connecting people from all walks of life for a better tomorrow. We are proud that ASLI has grown into a leading think tank in Malaysia; making it our purpose to reach out to the 'heart and soul' of the *rakyat* and amplifying their voices through our policy research and advocacy for a just and progressive society.

The past one year over in particular, has been exciting and challenging for us at ASLI as we went through a period of transition from 2 August 2018. Moving to our new home in Sunway Lagoon Club on 18 December 2018 marked a historical milestone for ASLI. We embarked into 2019 reinforcing the mandate in nation building in all our initiatives and activities. In June 2019, the founding Board of Directors made the magnanimous decision to donate their shares into the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF). Today, ASLI is owned and governed by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation and this has strengthened our commitment towards creating a better society.

ASLI being the definitive link between the public and private sector, academia, diplomats and the civil society have championed numerous issues of the day – engaging a multitude of industrial experts, policy makers and public figures in our conversations to discuss the state of the economy and on-going institutional reforms. We foster an avenue of key opinions and facilitate constructive conversations across a spectrum of national concerns; be it transforming the education policy, improving the healthcare, eradicating poverty, intensifying international trade, empowering women and promoting sustainable development agenda amongst others.

Leveraging on our renowned reputation, we present the research outcomes and key recommendations from these engagements to relevant stakeholders for policy decisions and implementations. We are proud to conclude our 2019 with two major engagements: 'ASEAN Sustainable Development Summit' and the launch of the research report on 'The Effectiveness of Existing Laws to Prevent and Curb Sexual Harassment'. We are confident that all our efforts and hard work this year will, in one way or another, create a difference in the society.

To conclude, we thank God for all that He has done in and through this humble outfit. And we are grateful for all the support and encouragement from the ASLI Board of Directors this past year. We also would like to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to all our stakeholders; whose continuous encouragement and support in our initiatives has enabled us to continue as the harbinger of hope for the *rakyat* and the future generations. We invite you to join and partner with us on our exciting and purposeful journey to bring change for a better and progressive Malaysia.

Wishing you and your family a blessed New Year!

Salam Sejahtera,

Melissa Ong
Chief Executive Officer
Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI)