



MEDIA RELEASE

23rd BRUNEI DARUSSALAM-INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-THE PHILIPPINES EAST ASEAN GROWTH AREA (BIMP-EAGA) MINISTERIAL MEETING AND RELATED MEETINGS

The Ministry of Economic Affairs has successfully organised the 23rd BIMP-EAGA Ministerial Meeting and Related Meetings from 20 – 24 November 2019 in Kuching, Sarawak.

It is a privilege for Malaysia to host the Ministerial Meeting as 2019 marks the 25th year anniversary since the establishment of BIMP-EAGA cooperation. Prime Minister, YAB Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad was among the founding fathers during establishment of the BIMP-EAGA in 1994.

The chairmanship of BIMP-EAGA Ministerial Meeting this year is timely as it aligns with *Wawasan Kemakmuran Bersama 2030* or Shared Prosperity Vision 2030 launched by YAB Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad on 5 October 2019 in Kuala Lumpur.

As the host country, YB Senator Dr. Radzi Jidin, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs, chaired the Ministers' Retreat and 23rd BIMP-EAGA Ministerial Meeting as well as the 2nd BIMP-EAGA and China Ministerial Meeting. Deputy Minister also delivered a keynote address at the Opening Ceremony of the 4th Industrial Revolution Workshop.

The Ministerial Meeting was preceded by the 28th BIMP-EAGA Senior Officials' Meetings. Government officials and delegates from Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines deliberated issues and challenges as well as recommendations to further elevate cooperation among the member countries.

BIMP-EAGA's development partners were also present during the Ministerial Meeting, namely Asian Development Bank (ADB), Northern Territory of Australia and People's Republic of China that continuously supporting us. Also, BIMP-EAGA Business Council (BEBC) that always show their full commitments in the sub regional cooperation.

In response to seize opportunities and address challenges in the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR), the Workshop on Regional Cooperation in the 4IR are being held from 24-26 November 2019 at the side lines of the 23rd BIMP-EAGA Ministerial Meeting. ADB and its partners have structured the workshop to be more of a solution providing platform. This will enable industries and professionals to exchange ideas on challenges, success stories and 4IR implementation strategies.

Malaysia together with Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia and The Philippines are on the right track in driving the subregion towards achieving the BIMP-EAGA Vision 2025. BIMP-EAGA will continue to play its crucial roles as a building block towards realising the ASEAN Economic Community.

Ministry of Economic Affairs
24 November 2019