

MALAYSIAN ECONOMIC CONVENTION 2019

17th - 18th June 2019

**EASTIN HOTEL KUALA LUMPUR
PETALING JAYA**



PERSATUAN EKONOMI MALAYSIA
(Malaysian Economic Association)

“MALAYSIA IN REFORM : BUILDING CAPACITY, DIGITALISATION AND GOVERNANCE”

INTRODUCTION

The 14th Malaysian General Election or GE14 held on the 9th May 2018 marked the historical defeat of the ruling party since the country's independence in 1957. The agenda of the newly elected government is reform. This agenda has sprung from a movement that started in September 1998 but since then has attracted a wide array of popular movements for social, political and economic change. The outbreak of the 1MDB scandal has exposed the many deficiencies in the existing governance of the Malaysia government. The result of the GE14 not only ended the myth of coalition politics in Malaysia, but also brought forth a democratic system that offers new hope for nation-building after 60 years of independence. The new Prime Minister has promised to restore the rule of law. A series of reforms have been announced. Restoring robust governance is vital in its own right but also in strengthening the foundations for an economy able not only to cope with but also leverage off new business innovations and disruptions that are occurring with increasing frequency. This convention provides a platform to analyse whether the reform process that has taken place thus far is on the right track, and whether the institutional governance now is on the way to face new challenges in the new industrial revolution. The sub-themes of this convention are therefore Governance and Reforms, and the New Business Environment.

Malaysian Economic Association is proud to host the **Malaysian Economic Convention 2019**.

THEME

Theme 1: Governance and Reform

Reform in Regulatory System
Good Governance
Government's Role in Business

Theme 2: The New Business Environment

Business Innovation and Disruption
Talent Development
Business Digital Transformation

Theme 1: Governance and Reform

The reforms that are underway cover many areas, but several of these are vital to good governance. These are separation of powers, public sector governance, and the state's role in economic activity.

Reform In Regulatory System

Separation of powers between the three main branches of government, the legislative, executive and judicial, is important to prevent the concentration and arbitrary exercise of power by any single branch. Arbitrary use of power leads to corruption. Malaysia had this separation written into its constitution but over time this has eroded. The emergence of corruption would hardly be unexpected. A prerequisite to sound governance is to reverse this decay. Measures need to be instituted to ensure this separation of powers regains its effectiveness, and also past steps to weaken this separation are not repeated. Reform in regulatory system is needed to ensure that legislative system stays relevant and provides the necessary laws to propel Malaysia to greater heights in business performance index and other indicators. What are these measures and the sequencing of their implementation is the areas that require discussion.

Good Governance

The recent historic general election on May 9 illustrates the concern of Malaysians about correcting the trajectory of the country. Malaysians have voted in a new government that holds out the promise of national reform. Hence, the issue of good governance is of great importance. In acknowledging this, research at many levels, including corporations, non-profit organizations, local and federal governments, as well as international organizations are crucial. This includes review of and suggestions for the internal organization of firms, corporate governance, private provision of public goods, local public policies and relations across levels of government. Furthermore, public expenditure and regulation, as well as implementation of international agreements need to be transparent to deter mismanagement and fraud

Government's Role in Business - Malaysia Inc 2.0

While there exists a legitimate role for government in the economy, such as the enforcement of a regulatory framework to ensure fair competition, the extent to which this role is expanded to other areas of business remains contentious. While the boundaries for government intervention depend to an extent on the nature of the economy, excessive intervention can have an adverse impact on private sector initiatives. As revealed in the book Ministry of Finance Inc., Malaysia's state involvement in business through GLCs is not only extensive but control of these GLCs is also highly concentrated. How does this affect the private sector's ability and incentive to function in the economy in general, and to respond to the rapidly changing business environment in particular is an issue of great importance.

Theme 2: The New Business Environment

Business Innovation and Disruption

Digitalization means revolutionizing interactions, communications, business functions and business models and transforming processes, products, and services. Cloud computing, the Internet of Things and big data are transforming Malaysian industry, both manufacturing processes and services, increasing efficiency in all sectors. This makes industrial value chains shorter and more vertically integrated than in the past. But it is not the only disruption that will change the very nature of how business is done. New payment systems, related to digitization and ride sharing services, have significant impact on existing businesses. To be able to manage, and even better, to leverage off these disruptions, Malaysian industries and companies must ensure that their business models enable innovation, as well as investment in the development of the necessary skills. What role should the state play in this rapidly changing environment?

Talent Development

It is well recognized that a trained, skilled and well-educated workforce is essential for raising labour productivity, boosting economic performance and ultimately raising income for the nation. In the light of an environment with heightened competition, the development of human capital becomes the main and most pressing task. Malaysia's problem has been eloquently assessed as: "We are not producing enough talent and those we trained are also leaving." The first priority is to pay attention to the education system. Given its many deficiencies permeating the entire system, nothing short of comprehensive reform will suffice. Attention needs also to be paid to strengthening technical and vocational education (TVE), long regarded as a poor cousin of academic education. Yet, TVE has anchored the technology upgrading in countries like Germany and Korea. A third area of focus is talent retention. While this is a major challenge, there are lessons to be learnt from the experiences of countries like China.

Business Digital Transformation

Industry 4.0 entails manufacturers will move from their traditional operation to digitalising their operation by acquiring the cutting-edge technologies to merge all departments on real time mode using IoT – Internet of Things. The Industry 4.0 business transformation is driven by smart technologies that are developing at an exponential rate and is continuously powered by new Technology Innovations. Due to the rapid change in the global business environment, the old business model cannot be sustained due to high operation cost. Here the industries of all sizes of all sectors will need to learn how to respond and adopt new technologies in order to remain strong and relevant in today's competitive world. This session will be an opportunity for participants to learn about industry digital business transformation through the convergence of physical and digital technologies.

CONFERENCE FEES

1. Regular : RM1,000.00
2. Members : RM900.00
3. Dinner : RM250.00

Registration fee include: Conference Kits, all refreshments and meals during the conference, but not including dinner.

CONTACT

Normala / Nancee
The Secretariat
Persatuan Ekonomi Malaysia
(Malaysian Economic Association)
C/O New Block, Faculty of Economics & Administration
University of Malaya 50603 Kuala Lumpur

Email : mgt@pem.org.my

Tel No : 603-79560075 / 603-79673647



PROGRAMME

MONDAY , 17 JUNE 2019	
8.00 – 9.00am	Registration of participants
9.00 – 9.15am	Welcoming Remarks and Official Opening by Emeritus Professor Datuk Norma Mansor (President of MEA)
9.15 – 10.15am	<p>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1: GOVERNANCE & REFORM</p> <p><i>YAB Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister, Malaysia – (invited)</i></p>
10.15 – 10.30am	Refreshment
10.30 -11.45am	<p>REGULAR SESSION 1: REFORM IN REGULATORY SYSTEM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dato' Dato Mah Weng Kwai (Retired Court of Appeal Judge)</i> • <i>Ybrs Dr. Azmi Sharom (Deputy Chairman, Election Commission of Malaysia)</i> • <i>Representative from Public Accounts Committee (invited)</i> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator <i>Emeritus Prof. Datuk Dr. Norma Mansor (President of MEA)</i></p>
11.45 – 1.00pm	<p>REGULAR SESSION 2: GOOD GOVERNANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram (Senior Advisor at Khazanah Research Institute)</i> • <i>YAM Tunku Zain Al-Abidin (President, Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs)</i> • <i>Representative from Malaysian Institute of Accountants) (invited)</i> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator <i>Tan Sri Dato Mohd Sheriff Mohd Kassim</i></p>
1.00 – 2.15pm	Lunch
2.15 – 3.30pm	<p>REGULAR SESSION 3: GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN BUSINESS: MALAYSIA INC 2.0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Prof. Dr. Edmund Terence Gomez (Professor of Political Economy, Faculty of Economics & Administration, UM)</i> • <i>Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Kamal Salih (Chairman, MIER)(invited)</i> • <i>Paper Presenter -Wong Wai Yan (USM) on "Politically Connected Firms and Risk-Taking"</i> <p style="text-align: center;">Moderator: <i>Tan Sri Dato Dr. Lin See Yan (Chairman & CEO, Lin Associates)</i></p>
3.30 – 4.00pm	Refreshments

4.00 – 5.30pm

SPECIAL PARALLEL SESSIONS:

1. INDUSTRIALIZATION, CAPITAL MARKETS & MALAYSIAN ECONOMY

- *Ms. Vimala Murugan (Director Sectoral Policy, Ministry of International Trade & Industry (MITI) Malaysia)*
- *Emeritus Professor Datuk Dr. Zakaria Abdul Rashid (MIER)(invited)*
- *Representative from Securities Commission (invited)*

Moderator:

*Mr Lee Heng Guie, Executive Director
Socio-Economic Research Centre (SERC)*

2. BANKING & CURRENCIES

- *Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid (Chief Economist, Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad)*
- *Mr. Huzaimie Dato Hamid (CEO & Founder, Ingenium Advisors)*

Moderator: (invited)

En Adnan Zaylani, Assistant Governor, BNM

3. ECONOMIC ISSUES (ASEAN)

- *Prof. Dr. Nguyen Quang Thai (President, Vietnam Development Research Institute)*
- *Dr. Abdul Rahim Ridzuan (UiTM)*
- *Mr. Ooi Teik Khim (KPRU)*

Moderator:

Dr lau Wee Yeap (Hon Secretary, MEA)

8.00 – 10.00pm

CONFERENCE DINNER:

*Dinner speech
and
the launching of Datuk Latifah Merican Cheong Memorial Award by*

YABhg. Tun Daim Zainuddin (invited)

TUESDAY , 18 JUNE 2019

9.00 – 10.15am	<p align="center">KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2: THE NEW BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT</p> <p align="center"><i>Mr Goh Peng Ooi</i> <i>Silverlake Axis Ltd.(Founder & Group Executive Chairman)</i></p> <p align="center">Introducer: <i>Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Sulaiman Mahbob</i> <i>(Immediate Past President, MEA) – (invited)</i></p>
10.15 – 10.30am	Refreshments
10.30 – 11.45pm	<p align="center">REGULAR - SESSION 4: BUSINESS INNOVATION AND DISRUPTION</p> <p align="center"><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Bryan Chung (CEO, Incitable Digital Asia Sdn Bhd)</i> • <i>Mr Liew Choon Lian (Group Chairman & CEO, MDT Innovations Sdn Bhd)</i> • <i>Paper Presenter – Mohd Sedek Jantan on “Disruptive Innovation (DI): Consulting On The Cusp”</i> <p align="center"><u>Moderator:</u> <i>Datuk Khairil Anuar Abdullah (Vice President, MEA)</i></p>
11.45 – 2.00pm	<p align="center">LUNCHEON TALK: <i>The Impact of 5G on Malaysian and Global Economy</i></p> <p align="center"><i>Mr Jerry Wong</i> <i>Chief Technology Officer, Carrier Network Business Group</i> <i>(HUAWEI Malaysia)</i></p>
2.00 – 3.15pm	<p align="center">REGULAR - SESSION 5: TALENT DEVELOPMENT</p> <p align="center"><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr Richard Record (Lead Economist, Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment Global Practice)</i> • <i>Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director - Sunway University</i> <p align="center"><u>Moderator:</u> <i>Distinguished Professor Dr Rajah Rasiah</i> <i>Asia-Europe Institute, University of Malaya</i></p>
3.15 – 4.30pm	<p align="center">REGULAR - SESSION 6: BUSINESS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION</p> <p align="center"><u>Speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Royce Tan (Director, Robert Bosch Sdn Bhd)</i> • <i>Muhamed Ali Hajah Mydin (CEO, PSDC Penang)</i> • <i>Paper Presenter – Megan Zellers Crowley on Digitizing Remittance-Sending Among Migrant Workers In malaysia: Challenges And Recommendations”</i> <p align="center"><u>Moderator:</u> <i>Dato' Dr. Thillainathan (Director, Genting Berhad) – (invited)</i></p>
4.30 – 5.30pm	Closing Ceremony & Hi Tea

