



**MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

CLOSING REMARKS

**NIK NAZMI NIK AHMAD
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

FOR

ASEAN YOUTH ECONOMIC FORUM 2025

14 FEBRUARY 2025 (FRIDAY)

SWISS GARDEN HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Salam Malaysia MADANI.

1. **Your Excellency Mr. Fujioka Ryosuke**
Chief Representative of AMEICC Secretariat
2. **Mr. Senjaya Mulia**
Founder of ASEAN Youth Organization
3. **Ms. Sarah Rauzana**
Chairperson of ASEAN Youth Organization

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

INTRODUCTION

1. I am pleased to have been invited to speak to you all today. As we conclude this ASEAN Youth Economic Forum, I believe you have witnessed the incredible passion, dedication, and innovative thinking that you, the youth, have brought to the discussions. Your commitment to shaping ASEAN's more resilient, sustainable, and prosperous future is commendable.
2. I commend the organisers of this youth forum for creating such a powerful platform for dialogue on climate change. The energy and innovative ideas I have witnessed are genuinely inspiring. Your voices are crucial in shaping a sustainable future. Please continue these vital discussions and translate your passion into concrete actions. The future of our planet depends on your engagement and leadership.

Ladies and gentlemen,

MALAYSIA'S VISION FOR ASEAN 2025

3. Assuming the ASEAN Chairmanship this year is a significant milestone for our nation and the region. Our vision is clear: strengthening regional stability, enhancing economic resilience, and driving environmental sustainability. These three pillars will serve as the foundation for our leadership and guide our initiatives:

- a) **Regional Stability** – Strengthen ASEAN's collective voice in global affairs, promote peace and foster deeper regional cooperation.
- b) **Economic Resilience** – Advancing economic integration, boosting digital transformation, and ensuring an inclusive and innovative economy.
- c) **Environmental Sustainability** – Active participation and engagement in COP29 underscores a steadfast commitment to robust climate action and the integration of sustainability into national and regional agendas. This momentum is set to be further advanced at COP30 in Belém, Brazil.

4. Under Malaysia's chairmanship, we will introduce key initiatives focused on digital transformation, sustainable economic growth, and climate resilience. We aim to create a highly competitive, innovative, and inclusive region prepared to navigate the uncertainties of the global economy.

Ladies and gentlemen,

ASEAN-JAPAN PARTNERSHIP: 50 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP

5. This year marks five decades of ASEAN-Japan cooperation, a relationship built on trust, economic collaboration, and cultural exchange. Japan has played a pivotal role in developing infrastructure, the digital economy, and green technology in our region. As we look to the future, there is immense potential for deeper collaboration in emerging sectors such as artificial intelligence, renewable energy, and innovative city development.
6. Cultural and educational exchanges remain essential, as they foster mutual understanding and unity among our nations. The strong ties between ASEAN and Japan exemplify how strategic partnerships can drive regional prosperity and innovation.

Ladies and gentlemen,

THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN ASEAN's FUTURE

7. You, the youth, are not just tomorrow's leaders—you are today's changemakers. Your innovation, entrepreneurship, and digital fluency already shape ASEAN's economic and political landscape. I urge you to take ownership of our challenges, particularly climate action, social justice, and technological advancements.
8. Stay hungry for knowledge, stay passionate about change, and remain engaged in the pressing issues of our time. Your energy and vision are catalysts for transformation.

Never take that responsibility lightly. The future of ASEAN will be determined by how well we integrate technological advancement with social responsibility.

9. As part of our commitment to environmental sustainability, I encourage you to participate in Earth Hour Malaysia on Saturday, March 22, 2025, from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM. This global initiative is a simple yet powerful act to raise awareness about climate change and the need for sustainable energy practices. Switching off non-essential lights for one hour demonstrates our collective dedication to preserving our planet.

Ladies and gentlemen,

CONCLUSION

10. As we progress, I encourage you to be proactive, visionary, and adaptable. Champion sustainability, embrace digital inclusivity, and uphold regional solidarity. Together, through forums like this, we can co-create solutions that ensure regional peace, economic prosperity, and environmental resilience.
11. As Malaysia prepares to lead ASEAN this year, we reaffirm our commitment to prioritising climate change and sustainability. We will continue updating policies, engaging communities, and accelerating our climate ambitions, knowing that our actions today will shape the world for generations.

12. Your ideas, leadership, and determination are crucial in building a resilient and prosperous ASEAN. With confidence and collaboration, let us move forward together towards a brighter future. Thank you.