



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

TEXT SPEECH

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MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY OF MALAYSIA**

**1ST ASEAN-EU MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE ON ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE (MDEC)**

LANGKAWI INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER (LICC)

4 SEPTEMBER 2025 (THURSDAY)

[LIST OF SALUTATIONS]

Her Excellency Jessika Roswall

European Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy

His Excellency Wopke Bastian Hoekstra

European Commissioner for Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth

Their Excellencies the Heads of Delegation of ASEAN Member States,

His Excellency Dr. Kao Kim Hourn

Secretary-General of ASEAN,

Distinguished Delegates,

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.

Good morning and welcome to this historic first ASEAN-EU Ministerial Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change here in Langkawi, Malaysia.

1. It is my great honor to serve as your co-chair alongside our esteemed colleagues from the European Union for this groundbreaking dialogue. Today marks a crucial moment as we inaugurate a new chapter in ASEAN-EU cooperation on environmental sustainability and climate action.
2. Our two regions - ASEAN and the EU represent diverse ecosystems, economies and communities, yet we share common challenges and aspirations for a sustainable future.
3. Both ASEAN and the European Union are committed to ambitious climate targets and environmental protection. The EU's leadership in global climate action, through initiatives like the European Green Deal and its commitment to carbon neutrality, complements ASEAN's growing environmental agenda and our collective efforts toward sustainable development.

4. This inaugural dialogue provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to:
 - Establish a robust framework for ASEAN-EU environmental cooperation
 - Share innovative solutions and best practices from both regions
 - Explore synergies in addressing plastic pollution, biodiversity loss and climate change
 - Strengthen capacity building and technology transfer initiatives
 - Align our efforts with international agreements and frameworks
5. From circular economy initiatives to marine environment protection, from biodiversity conservation to climate resilience - our agenda today reflects the breadth and depth of cooperation possible between our regions.
6. The challenges we face - whether it's ending plastic pollution, protecting our oceans, or building climate resilience - require collective action that transcends geographical boundaries. Today, we begin building that collective response.
7. I look forward to productive discussions, innovative partnerships, and meaningful outcomes that will benefit not only our regions but contribute to global environmental sustainability.

Thank you.