



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

TEXT SPEECH

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**MINISTER OF PLANTATION AND COMMODITIES, ACTING
MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY OF MALAYSIA**

**ASEAN PLUS THREE ENVIRONMENT MINISTERS MEETING
(APT-EMM)**

LANGKAWI INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER (LICC)

4 SEPTEMBER 2025 (THURSDAY)

[LIST OF SALUTATIONS]

Her Excellency Dandan Cui,
Deputy Director General
Ministry of Ecology and Environment People's Republic of China

His Excellency Keiichiro Asao,
Minister of Environment Japan

His Excellency Leejae Jang,
Deputy Director General
Ministry of Environment Republic of Korea

Their Excellencies the Heads of Delegation of ASEAN Member States,

His Excellency Dr. Kao Kim Hourn
Secretary-General of ASEAN,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentleman.

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.

1. It is my great honour and privilege to warmly welcome you all to the 19th ASEAN Plus Three Environment Ministers Meeting (EMM). Allow me, at the outset, to extend our sincere appreciation to all Excellencies and distinguished delegates from ASEAN Member States, as well as from our Plus Three partners – the People's Republic of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea – for your presence and commitment to this important gathering.

Excellencies,

2. This Meeting takes place at a time when our region continues to confront pressing and complex environmental challenges, including climate change, biodiversity loss, marine plastic pollution, transboundary haze, and the urgent need to advance circular economy solutions. These challenges cut across borders and demand collective action, solidarity, and innovation.

3. Over the years, the ASEAN Plus Three framework has served as a vital platform for dialogue, cooperation, and partnership in addressing these shared challenges. Through initiatives such as the ASEAN Plus Three Marine Plastic Debris Cooperative Action Initiative, ASEAN Plus Three Leadership Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production, capacity-building programmes, and support for ASEAN's environmental strategies, our Plus Three partners have demonstrated their steadfast commitment to advancing regional sustainability.
4. This 19th EMM provides us with the opportunity to review the progress of our cooperation, to exchange views on emerging and cross-cutting environmental issues, and to chart practical and forward-looking pathways that will further strengthen our collaboration. I am confident that our discussions today will further deepen our partnership and deliver concrete outcomes that benefit not only our region, but also contribute to the achievement of global environmental and climate goals.
5. With that, I look forward to our fruitful deliberations and to strengthening our collective resolve in building a greener, more resilient, and sustainable ASEAN Plus Three community.

Thank you.