



MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

CLOSING ADDRESS

YBHG. DATUK DR. CHING THOO A/L KIM
SECRETARY GENERAL
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

FOR

ASEAN CONFERENCE ON COMBATING PLASTIC POLLUTION
(ACCPP) 2025

14 OCTOBER 2025 (TUESDAY)

MANDARIN ORIENTAL, KUALA LUMPUR

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

SALUTATIONS

Good evening and Salam Malaysia MADANI.

INTRODUCTION

1. It is indeed my honour to be here to deliver the closing remarks for the ASEAN Conference on Combating Plastic Pollution 2025. I'm confident that today's conference has been both inspiring and productive, driven by our shared commitment to addressing one of the most pressing environmental challenges of our time.
2. ACCPP 2025 with the theme "All hands on Deck: Uniting Forces for a Sustainable Plastic Future" comes at no better time to reaffirm the need for inclusive and coordinated cooperation among regional institutions, national authorities, industry players and civil society organizations. Despite the collective progress we have achieved, the magnitude of the plastic waste challenge continues to grow.
3. Throughout today's sessions, we have learned how actions against plastic pollution can be strengthened through regional collaboration, partnership initiatives, international instruments, upstream and downstream interventions, and the use of social science tools. The knowledge we have gained is invaluable—but what matters even more is how we translate these insights into concrete actions. Let us continue to build on this momentum and strengthen the regional platforms to enable real and measurable progress.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. While we are making strides, the challenge of plastic waste is escalating. ASEAN and neighbouring East Asia regions generated over 113 million tonnes of plastic waste in 2022, and this figure is projected to more than double by 2050. In Malaysia, it is estimated that an average of nine billion plastics are consumed by Malaysians each year. Yet, studies indicate that approximately 75% of plastic waste is not recycled – meaning only about a quarter are actually recovered. This underscores the urgency of strengthening infrastructure, policy and behavioral change across all levels.
5. Malaysia reaffirms its commitment to this cause and will continue to work closely with our ASEAN counterparts and partners. In doing so, Malaysia also recognizes the pivotal role of the ACCPP in promoting innovation, strengthening collaboration, and supporting sustainable solutions across the entire plastic life cycle – from design and production, to consumption, recycling and waste management.
6. Together, we must ensure that the fight against plastic pollution becomes a catalyst for positive change – driving innovation, creating green economic opportunities and ensuring a cleaner, more resilient environment for all.
7. On behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, I wish to extend our sincere appreciation to the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) for co-hosting this event, in collaboration with the French Agency for

Development (AFD) and the Global Plastic Action Partnership (GPAP). Your continued support and dedication to this regional initiative are deeply valued.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

CONCLUSION

8. To all distinguished delegates and participants – thank you for your active engagement and valuable contributions. May the spirit of collaboration and solidarity that has guided us today continue to inspire stronger regional cooperation and more effective actions in the years ahead.
9. Let us conclude this conference with optimism and unity—putting all hands on deck to shape a sustainable plastics future for ASEAN and beyond.

Thank you.