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**MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

KEYNOTE SPEECH

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

FOR

MALAYSIA AVIATION GROUP (MAG) SUSTAINABILITY DAY

24 JUNE 2024 (MONDAY)

**MAB ACADEMY,
SEPANG, SELANGOR**

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Yang Berbahagia Datuk Captain Izham Ismail,
Group Managing Director of Malaysia Aviation Group

Yang Berusaha Encik Philip See,
Group Chief Sustainability Officer of Malaysia Aviation Group

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Salam Malaysia
Madani

INTRODUCTION

1. I am pleased to be delivering the Keynote for the MAG Sustainability Day. My thanks to MAG for inviting me to launch this auspicious occasion. The support of the private sector will be crucial in Malaysia's sustainability push and I am pleased to see the MAG playing your part in this regard.
2. The latest findings from the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) stated that human-induced global warming had driven global warming to 1.1° Celcius. The impact of this event is being felt in every corner of the world, increasing vulnerability and imposing significant and irreversible losses.

3. In line with the goals of the Paris Agreement, addressing global warming requires substantial and immediate reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions: a 43% reduction by 2030 and 60% reduction by 2035 compared to 2019 levels. Moreover, the IPCC findings also emphasised that it is imperative to achieve net-zero GHG emissions by 2050.
4. To achieve all of these is no easy feat. It requires a transition towards more ambitious climate actions and enhancement of cooperation. The UAE Consensus adopted at COP28 sets ambitious global targets: tripling renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency improvements by 2030. The consensus also emphasises the urgent need to reduce dependence on coal power, phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, and transition to cleaner energy sources in a just and orderly manner.
5. In this regard, we need to ensure that the efforts to reduce GHG emissions must be integrated into broader development strategies. By aligning our climate action with the developmental goals, we can accelerate emission reductions and transition to more sustainable pathways.

6. In our pursuit of sustainability, we must recognise that rhetoric alone is insufficient. It is imperative that our commitment be both comprehensive and ambitious, addressing not only environmental concerns but also social, safety, governance, and economic factors. Malaysia's transportation sector, particularly aviation, plays a crucial role in meeting our country's global climate objectives. As you may have heard, the National Climate Change Action Council (MTPIN) chaired by the Prime Minister on 14 June 2024 has agreed to confirm the country's aspirations to achieve net-zero carbon emissions **by 2050**. No more *as early* as 2050.
7. To drive our ambitions for a sustainable future, we must embrace a multi-faceted, whole-of-government approach. Every organisation and industry has a role to play in addressing climate action.
8. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES) applauds the Malaysia Aviation Group's continued efforts in driving change, innovation and advancing sustainable practices in Malaysia that not only safeguards our environment but also ensures the long-term viability of our aviation sector. Indeed, we see many other players also undertaking sustainability efforts, highlighting that the sector as a whole is seeking to lead the way in this undertaking.

9. For the aviation industry, sustainability entails enhancing aircraft operational efficiency, leveraging technological innovations, embracing sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), and participating in the carbon market mechanism; which the MAG is pioneering.
10. I admire MAG's commitment in leading numerous decarbonisation initiatives in the Malaysian aviation industry. Your robust programme to measure, monitor and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, coupled with innovative initiatives such as your voluntary carbon offset programme, exemplifies the kind of leadership we need to see across the industry. By empowering passengers to offset their flight emissions and facilitating collective action towards decarbonising aviation, the MAG is setting a commendable example for others to follow.
11. Furthermore, MAG's newly launched **Corporate Carbon Programme** and your ground-breaking partnership with **Petronas Dagangan Berhad (PDB)** to establish a commercial-scale **SAF production facility** are significant milestones that not only demonstrate Malaysia's commitment to reducing carbon emissions but also positions us as a leader in sustainable aviation practices regionally and globally.

12. I am therefore pleased to announce that NRES has agreed to be the **first government body to participate in the MAG Corporate Carbon Programme** as part of the Ministry's commitment to offset its GHG emissions from official travel. I also would like to thank MAG for offsetting the GHG emissions from the NRES delegation at COP28 Dubai last year, as part of a transaction under this programme. We of course hope that MAG also will consider offsetting our GHG emissions for the COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan at the end of this year—and beyond.
13. The Ministry believes in leading by example. This approach is one of many ways to promote sustainability and inspire others to do the same. By strategically investing in these pathways collectively, we can drive tangible progress and chart a course towards a more sustainable future for aviation in Malaysia.
14. While reducing emissions is crucial for our planet's health, it's equally important to tackle another pressing issue: namely plastic waste. Reducing the reliance on plastic in our daily lives is not just an environmental necessity, but a pivotal step towards creating a sustainable future for generations to come. This is something I would encourage the MAG to tackle moving forward, in all facets of your operations.

15. Together with industry stakeholders, government agencies, and civil society, we will work tirelessly to realise our vision of a greener, more sustainable aviation industry that serves the needs of our people and planet. Thank you for the great efforts shown and let us continue to collaborate and innovate to drive positive change for our environment.
16. I cannot conclude without commending the MAG for your unwavering commitment to sustainability, as evidenced by the consistent publication of the *MAG Sustainability Report* since the launch of the *Sustainability Blueprint* in 2021. The Group's dedication in integrating ESG principles into all your programmes and budgets is truly commendable. Congratulations once again to MAG, and I eagerly anticipate reading the latest *MAG Sustainability Report* for 2023.
17. I am also pleased to celebrate the many related milestones achieved by MAG, including this inaugural **Sustainability Day**. May it continue to grow from strength to strength. With that, I hereby launch MAG's Sustainability Day 2024. Thank you.