



**OPENING REMARKS BY SECRETARY GENERAL
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

READ BY

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**DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**

FOR THE

**OPENING CEREMONY OF
NUCLEAR LEADERS FOR ENERGY TRANSITION (NLET)
2025**

**8th SEPTEMBER 2025 (MONDAY) | 09.00 AM
HOTEL DORSETT, PUTRAJAYA**

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh,
A very good morning, distinguished guests, ladies and
gentlemen.

Salutation:

1. First and foremost, I would like to extend greetings from YBhg. Datuk Seri Hj. Hasnol Zam Zam bin Hj. Ahmad, Secretary General of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. He's unable to attend this morning's ceremony due to other official matters, so I will be reading this speech on his behalf.
2. It is with great honour and gratitude to Allah Almighty that I welcome all of you this morning to the Opening Ceremony of the *Nuclear Leaders for Energy Transition (NLET) 2025*, organised by Malaysian Nuclear Agency under Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) within the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP).
3. The MTCP, an initiative under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia, was established in 1980 as part of our commitment to South-South Cooperation. It serves as a platform for Malaysia to share its development experiences, knowledge, and expertise with other developing nations in leadership for nuclear technology.
4. Over the years, MTCP has benefitted thousands of professionals globally, and today, NLET proudly continues this mission by focusing on nuclear energy leadership in the context of energy transition. I am pleased to note that

this year's programme has drawn 25 participants from 17 countries, including Malaysia.

Ladies and gentlemen,

5. The world is at a critical juncture. We are striving to balance growing energy demands with the urgent need to reduce carbon emissions and protect our environment. The global commitment to achieve Net Zero Carbon by 2050 is not just an aspiration, it is a responsibility.
6. The Asia-Pacific region is at the very heart of the world's energy challenge. In 2024, this region accounted for 50% of global energy consumption and contributed around 60% of global emissions.
7. As our economies continue to grow rapidly, so too does our energy demand. From the needs of industries and households to the expanding requirements of data centres, artificial intelligence, and emerging technologies.
8. Despite these challenges, our commitment to climate action remains resolute. At COP28, ASEAN Member States reaffirmed this commitment by pledging to triple global renewable energy capacity to 11,000 GW by 2030.

9. This ambition is aligned with the National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR), launched in 2023, which provides Malaysia with a pragmatic and realistic framework to balance sustainability, energy security, and social equity.
10. In this context, the role of nuclear energy becomes increasingly important. Nuclear offers a proven, low-carbon source of power that can provide baseload stability, complementing the intermittent nature of solar and wind. For a just and equitable energy transition, we cannot afford to exclude nuclear from the equation.
11. As one of the IAEA Regional Training Centres in Nuclear Safety and Security, Malaysia is strongly committed to disseminating knowledge, sharing expertise, and building human capital. Through initiatives like NLET, we are ensuring that future leaders are not only technically competent, but also responsible stewards of safety, security, and sustainability.
12. For Malaysia, through MOSTI, the exploration of nuclear energy remains an option in our long-term energy transition strategy. Our commitment is not only to technology, but also to developing human capital capable

of leading this transition with safety, security, and sustainability as guiding principles.

13. In line with this broader commitment, MOSTI has also developed the Hydrogen Economy and Technology Roadmap (HETR). The central focus of HETR is to advance Malaysia's hydrogen economy through an innovative and comprehensive ecosystem, driven by high technology to enable the transition towards hydrogen usage. This will play a key role in achieving our decarbonisation targets and ensuring a more sustainable socio-economic development agenda.
14. However, advancing the energy transition, whether through nuclear, hydrogen or renewables, requires more than commitment; it demands resources. Despite its vast renewable potential, Southeast Asia attracted only 2% of global clean energy investment in 2023. This is a stark contrast for a region rich in hydropower, solar, wind and geothermal potential.
15. At the regional level, ASEAN is moving forward with the ASEAN Power Grid (APG), backed by new financing facilities. In Malaysia, Tenaga Nasional Berhad has committed RM43 billion to upgrading our national grid,

integrating AI and battery storage systems to enhance flexibility, resilience, and connectivity.

Ladies and gentlemen,

16. At the same time, we must recognise that energy transition should be just and inclusive. Decarbonisation efforts that ignore the poor and vulnerable risk deepening inequality. Ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable energy is not just a policy choice, it is a moral imperative.
17. This is particularly relevant in Asia, where energy security remains a prerequisite for economic progress. Therefore, our approach must be balanced. Renewables, complemented by nuclear and emissions-abated traditional fuels, to ensure affordability and stability while advancing towards net zero.
18. This is precisely why the NLET programme is vital. By engaging young professionals from 17 countries, it creates a diverse network of future leaders equipped to guide nuclear energy responsibly in the wider context of energy transition.

19. With its blend of lectures, technical visits, and the capstone project, NLET offers not only knowledge but also real-world experience and collaboration. These opportunities will enrich participants and enable them to play leading roles in shaping their countries' pathways towards sustainable energy.

Ladies and gentlemen,

20. There is much yet that we must do. With your diverse expertise, I look forward to the practical solutions and pragmatic initiatives that will contribute towards delivering global energy transition.
21. In conclusion, I encourage all participants to learn, connect, and share openly. The friendships and networks you build here will be invaluable in strengthening global cooperation and driving a sustainable, secure, and carbon-neutral energy future.

With that, and with *Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*, it is my great pleasure to officially declare the opening of the **Nuclear Leaders for Energy Transition (NLET) 2025**.

Thank you.

Wassalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.