



MEDIA RELEASE

GOVERNMENT TO BE AGILE IN FACING CHALLENGES OF THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

KUALA LUMPUR - The speed of the Fourth Industrial Revolution is rapidly changing the world's landscape faster than ever. Industry players are moving ahead into Industry 4.0 adoption with policymakers looking into what needs to be done to support industries in their endeavour. It is imperative that the Government machinery redefines its role amidst the Fourth Industrial Revolution in order to ensure industries stay relevant. Increasing ease in manufacturing and services processes arising from autonomous mechanisation makes mass customisation possible and increases productivity. However, this also introduces unknown risks and the Government must study the impacts of the technological megatrends and ensure coordinated responses are done holistically.

The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) is organising an Industry 4.0 Seminar for Government Officials aimed at increasing Government officials' awareness about the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Industry 4.0. There is a need for policymakers to understand those concepts as new policies and action plans would need to be drawn up to address major challenges in adopting Industry 4.0. These include infrastructure, human capital development, regulations and incentives to ensure the nation remain competitive.

"MITI realises that a total Government approach has to be undertaken to realize the Industry 4.0 agenda. As such, the Industry 4.0 Task Force comprising key Ministries and agencies including Ministry of Communications and Multimedia, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Human Resources, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, SME Corp and MITI. The Task Force led by MITI Secretary General will be working together with the private sector in creating a conducive and comprehensive ecosystem to accelerate the move into Industry 4.0. We will also be continuing our outreach programmes in other locations in the country to heighten the awareness of Malaysians about Industry 4.0." said Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed.

MITI emphasises that its collaborative efforts for Industry 4.0 would feed into the overall scheme of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The attendance of more than 250 participants from various Government organisations at the seminar signified the whole of Government collaborative efforts in pursuing the Industry 4.0 agenda. This is to ensure that collective resources are being utilised efficiently and the public is aware that there is no duplication of roles for its forward looking policy. Public-private partnerships is crucial to ensure the effective adoption of Industry 4.0 on a larger scale.



MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Dato' Sri Mustapa emphasised, "we are bringing in people from the industry today to share with Government officials what is the reality happening on the ground for Industry 4.0. This is important to make sure the policies that we implement correctly address the needs of our stakeholders to maximise the use of our resources. However, Government cannot do this alone; we need the industry to move forward with us, with some going beyond on their own initiatives, and then provide feedback to the Government on what more needs to be done. Industry 4.0 has to be a team effort for it to take off."

A joint Cabinet Paper with Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and Ministry of Higher Education will be tabled soon to update Cabinet on the initiatives being undertaken and to seek further mandate from the Cabinet on Industry 4.0. Going forward, MITI in collaboration with other ministries is formulating the National Industry 4.0 Blueprint to be ready by the end of the year.

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Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI)

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About MITI:

MITI is the key driver in making Malaysia the preferred destination for quality investments and enhancing the nation's rising status as a globally competitive trading nation. Its objectives and roles are oriented towards ensuring Malaysia's rapid economic development and help achieve the country's stated goal of becoming a developed nation by 2020 .

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