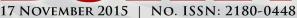


# MITIWEEKLY







# **National Interests Assured under TPPA**

The Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) does not involve any amendment to the constitution and will not threaten the country's sovereignty.

International Trade and Industry Minister Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed gave this assurance at a prime briefing on 1Malaysia Development Berhad (1MDB), TPPA and Budget 2016, at Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here, today. Instead, he said, the TPPA would make Malaysia a more competitive trading country.

"In addition, the TPPA also encourages the implementation of a high trade standard among member countries, in accordance with international standards such as better labour rights and more sustainable environmental care. "This may just involve improvements to the existing laws and regulations. TPPA does not involve amendments to our constitution," he said.

Malaysia and 11 other countries - Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Singapore, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, the United States and Vietnam successfully concluded negotiations for the TPP on Oct 5, 2015. Mustapa said the content of the TPPA and the two impact studies would be tabled in parliament in January.

"Parliament will debate and make a decision to sign (TPPA) at the end of January 2016 while the ratification of the agreement will be made two years after the signing," he said. Under the TPPA, the Malaysian industry would gain wider market access, particularly into Latin America, as well as enjoy tax exemption on exports to TPP member countries.



Taking the example of rubber products, he said, for the moment, duties between two and 14 per cent would be charged for exports to the United States, but after the TPPA, the duties would be abolished. On medicines, Mustapa said the patent protection on medicines in Malaysia under the TPPA would be retained for 20 years.

He said the government had also agreed to continue the five years' protection for biologic medicines as enforced since 2011. He added that if Malaysia wished to join the agreement later, the country would have to accept all of the terms and conditions set by the pioneer countries. If Malaysia is among the pioneer countries, it will have the power to negotiate and set the conditions. "Malaysia has participated in the negotiations in accordance with our own terms and conditions, and this will ensure that our national interests are protected," he said.

Source: BERNAMA

14 November 2015

# **ASEAN Economic Community What to expect?**

On 21st and 22nd November, leaders from the 10 ASEAN member states will meet at their second summit for the year. This Summit is especially significant as there will be the formal declaration of the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community, the AFC

But what exactly does this mean? Let's take a step back. In 2007, the Leaders endorsed the AEC 2015 Blueprint, which set out some 600 initiatives needed to deepen economic integration in the region. These covered measures to create a single market and production base, a competitive economic region characterized by equitable economic development, and integrated into the global economy.

Over the next eight years the progress of implementation of these measures were tracked through the AEC Scorecard, a country-by-country report card presented to the leaders of ASEAN each time they met at the Summit.

What has been achieved thus far? On trade in goods: duties on 95.99% of tariff lines across ASEAN have now been eliminated. So ASEAN businesses can now buy and sell, almost all goods, to each other without having to pay import duties.

But to get duty-free access businesses must comply with rules of origin. To make this easier, there is now the initiative (albeit at the pilot stage) for Self-Certification, where the onus is on the exporters to ensure that they satisfy the "Made-in-ASEAN" condition. This should save costs and time.

Member states are also on track with the liberalization of the services sectors. This process was undertaken in packages, or instalments, and to date covers almost all sectors, including financial services. There is also the Agreement to make it easier for ASEAN professionals to work temporarily in the region.

The ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement is in place. This covers liberalization, facilitation, promotion and protection of investments. Further, there is also the annual peer review to ensure compliance.

Other measures include cooperation in the areas of competition policy, consumer protection, patent examination, and harmonisation of standards.



What has all these led to? The numbers speak for themselves: From 2007 to 2014, GDP increased from USD1.33 trillion to USD2.57 trillion; GDP per capita from USD2,308 to USD4,136; total trade for the region from USD1.61 trillion to USD2.53 trillion; and FDI into the region increased from USD85 billion (5% of world FDI) to USD136.2 billion (11% of world FDI).

Clearly, businesses are increasingly looking at the ASEAN-dividend in their commercial decisions.

So what can we expect at the coming Summit? At least three important deliverables. The first, of course, is the formal announcement that ASEAN has met, substantially, its commitments spelt out in the AEC 2015 Blueprint.

Second, is the AEC 2025 Blueprint.

Drawn up in collaboration with the ASEAN business community, the AEC 2025 Blueprint has the following features:

A Highly Integrated and Cohesive Economy;

 A Competitive, Innovative, and Dynamic ASEAN;

 An ASEAN with Enhanced Connectivity and Deeper Sectoral Cooperation;

 A Resilient, Inclusive, People-Oriented, and People-Centred Partnership (RCEP). ASEAN; and

A Global ASEAN.

The lofty rhetoric aside, this means that ASEAN economic integration is on-going. AEC 2025 ensures that its economic development is credible and sustainable. And in the words of Prof Danny Quah of the London School of Economics, ASEAN remains "a wonderful story of optimism and hope".

Key in AEC 2025 will be making it easier, faster and cheaper to do business in ASEAN. Focus will be on Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) and Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) or, the barriers arising from legitimate laws and regulations.

This will be done through a number of initiatives, including:

^SFAN Solutions for

- the ASEAN Solutions for Investments, Services and Trade (ASSIST). Operational in Q1 2016, ASSIST is a consultative internet-based facility to resolve problems companies face when doing business in ASEAN. With a mechanism to track and trace the status of the complaints, it paves the way for a business-friendlier ASEAN.
- the ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR). This is a go-to place for trade-related information on ASEAN. It will include information on tariffs under all ASEAN agreements, rules of origin, non-tariff measures, national trade and Customs laws and rules, as well as procedures and documentary requirements, administrative rulings, and list of authorised traders.
- increased collaboration with the business community, specifically through the ASEAN Business Advisory Council.

The third deliverable is the ASEAN Strategic Action Plan for SME Development (2016-2025). Included in this Strategic Action Plan are measures for capacity building in ICT adoption, e-Commerce, and standards conformance and compliance; and facilitating interfirm networks and linkages within ASEAN for economies of scale.

In addition to internal economic integration, ASEAN is working to deepen integration into the global economy through the ASEAN+1 Free Trade Agreements. More significant is the negotiations for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

The RCEP will see a region comprising ASEAN plus its six FTA partners, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea and New Zealand. Parties are working towards the conclusion of the negotiations in 2016.

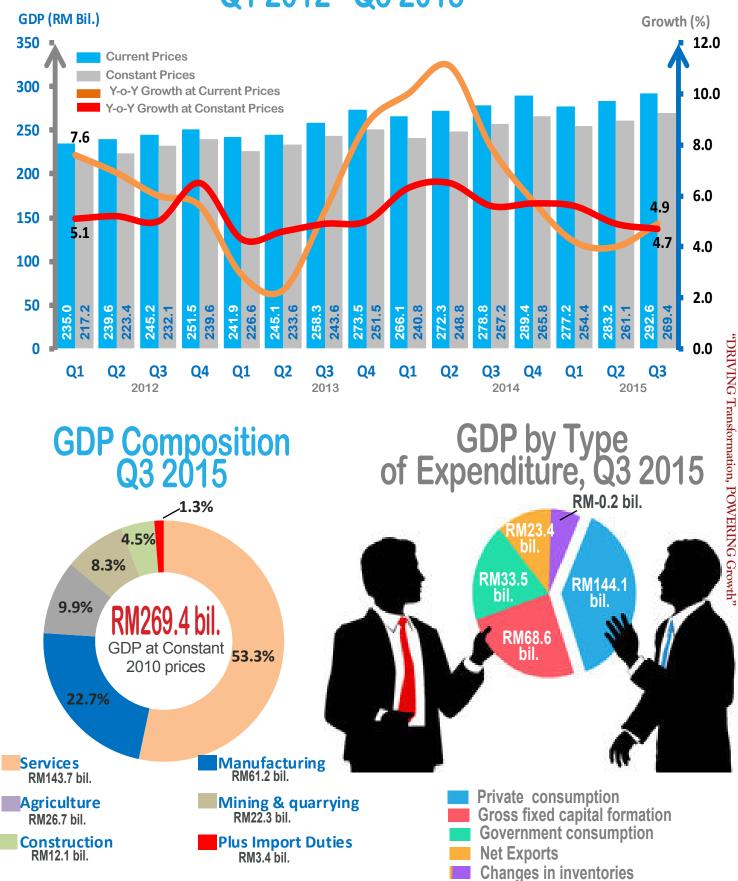
Clearly, the AEC 2025, the ASEAN SME Strategic Action Plan (2016-2025) and the work on RCEP tell us that as Malaysia's year as Chair of ASEAN draws to a close, we have laid the foundation for the beginning of another important chapter in the region's economic integration.

Tan Sri Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria Secretary-General Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia



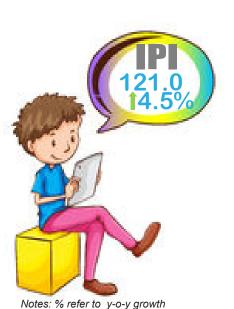
# **MALAYSIA**

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Q1 2012 - Q3 2015



# **MALAYSIA**

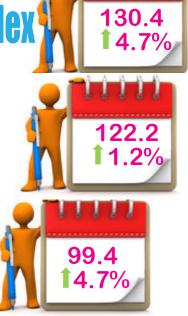
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEX (IPI)
Q3 2015



**Manufacturing Index** 

**Electricity Index** 

**Mining Index** 

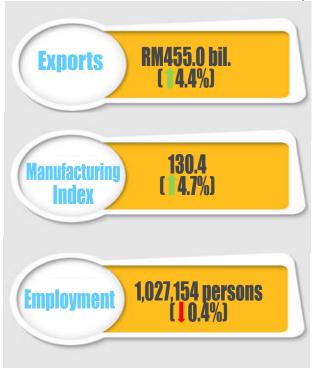


IPI by Sector Q1 2014 - Q3 2015



# **Manufacturing Sector Performance**

Indicators, Q3 2015





Notes: % refer to y-o-y growth



# Employment by Industry, Q3 2015



Electrical & Electronics 321,542 persons (1.3%)



Metal 87,438 persons (1.0%)



Chemicals 126,447persons ( **1**2.5%)



Rubber Product 79,044 persons (12.6%)



Wood & Wood Product 99,524 persons (■4.2%)



Others 313,159 persons (■1.1%)

Notes: % refer to y-o-y growth

Notes:Others include Transport Equipment, Processed Food And Beverages, Non-Metallic Minerals Products, Textiles & Apparel, Machinery & Equipment, Scientific & Measuring, Paper, Printing & Publishing, Medical Devices, Leather & Leather and Miscellaneous.

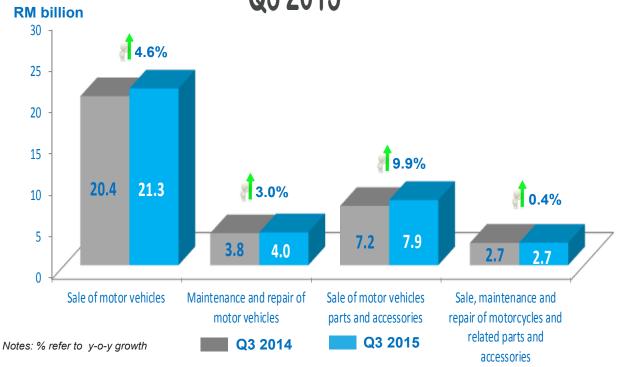
# Perfomance of Distributive Trade, Q3 2015





Notes: % refer to y-o-y growth

# Sales Value of Motor Vehicles sub-sector by Industry Q3 2015



Note:

Wholesale Trade: the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods to retailers; industrial, commercial, institutional or professional users; or to other wholesalers; or selling merchandise to, such persons or companies.

Retail Trade: the resale (sale without transformation) of new and used goods to the general public for personal or household consumption or

utilisation.

Motor vehicles: This activity covers wholesale and retail sale of motor vehicles and motorcycles, either new or used, sale of motor vehicle parts and accessories, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles including washing, polishing as well as commission agents.

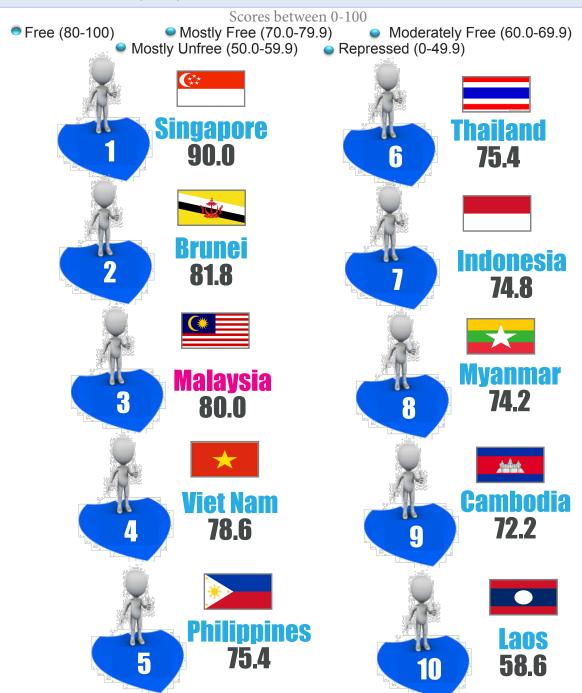




# **ASEAN** Index of Economic Freedom, 2015 (Trade Freedom Component)

Trade freedom is a composite measure of the absence of tariff and non-tariff barriers that affect imports and exports of goods and services. The trade freedom score is based on two inputs:

- The trade-weighted average tariff rate; and
- Non-tariff barriers (NTBs).



Source: http://www.heritage.org/index/monetary-freedom



### Germany Trade, Jan 2014 - July 2015



### Germany's Top Exports, 2014

- 1 Cars (incl. station wagon) (USD163.7 Bil)
- Parts & accessories of motor vehicles (USD60.2 Bil)
- Medicament mixtures, put in dosage (USD51.6Bil)
- Aircraft, (helicopter,aeroplanes) & spacecraft (satellites) (USD33.7 Bil)
- Human & animal blood; antisera, vaccines, toxins, micro-organism culture (USD21.8 Bil)

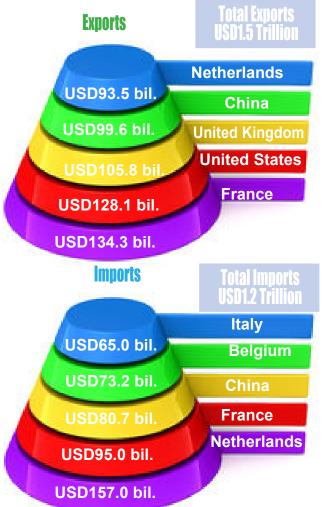
HS Code: 8703, 8708, 3004, 8802 and 3002.

### **Germany's Top Imports**, 2014

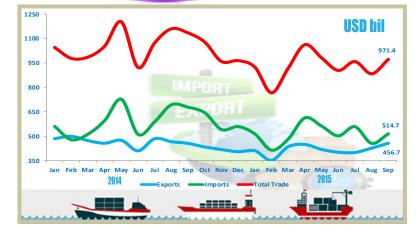
- 1 Crude petroleum oils(USD65.9 Bil)
- **2** Cars (incl. station wagon) (USD46.1 Bil)
- **3** Parts & accessories of motor vehicles (USD37.7 Bil)
- 4 Petroleum oils, not crude (USD32.9 Bil)
- Medicament mixtures put in dosage (USD163.7 Bil) (USD26.2 Bil)

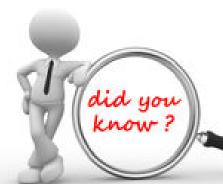
HS Code: 2709, 8703, 8708, 2710 and 3004.

### **Germany's Major Trading Partners, 2014**



### Malaysia's Trade with Germany Jan 2014 - Sept 2015





# Top 10 Richest Countries in the World 2015

GDP PPP (purchasing power parity) is gross domestic product converted to international dollars using purchasing power parity rates. An international dollar has the same purchasing power over GDP as a U.S. dollar has in the United States.













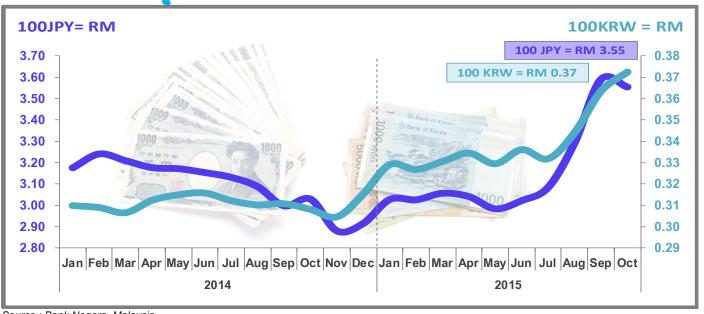






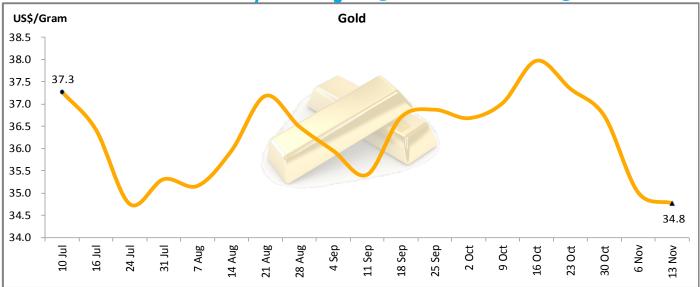


# Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with Japanese Yen and South Korean Won



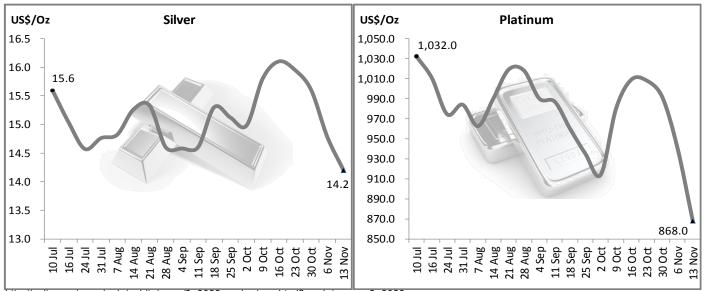
Source : Bank Negara, Malaysia

# Gold Prices, 10 July - 13 November 2015



Source: http://www.gold.org/investments/statistics/gold\_price\_chart/

# Silver and Platinum Prices, 10 July - 13 November 2015



http://online.wsj.com/mdc/public/page/2\_3023-cashprices.html?mod=topnav\_2\_3023



# Number and Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin (PCOs) Number of Certificates (Provisional data)

	20 Sep 2015	27 Sep 2015	4 Oct 2015	11 Oct 2015	18 Oct 2015	25 Oct 2015	1 Nov 2015	8 Nov 2015
AANZFTA	674	1,017	1,026	875	815	1,003	802	204
AIFTA	574	597	776	643	569	546	736	688
AJCEP	167	197	241	250	122	194	236	238
ATIGA	3,955	4,037	4,837	4,481	3,871	4,774	3,817	4,986
ACFTA	1,021	1,035	1,582	1,552	1,276	1,479	1,551	1,607
AKFTA	609	755	778	837	576	1,001	886	806
MICECA	274	302	311	338	235	309	314	306
MNZFTA	2	7	6	10	2	7	7	14
MCFTA	42	57	77	71	58	82	44	76
MAFTA	368	390	417	481	421	560	366	603
MJEPA	754	824	927	679	799	871	807	909
MPCEPA	115	130	153	113	150	172	134	175
GSP	122	159	176	103	127	146	123	150
MTFTA	141	172	202	217	125	209	160	223

Notes: The preference giving countries under the GSP scheme are Cambodia, the Russian Federation, Japan, Switzerland, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Norway.

Free Trade Area

AANZFTA: ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2010)

**(2)** 

ATIGA: ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (Implemented since 1 May 2010)

AJCEP: ASEAN-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership (Implemented since 1 February 2009)

\*

ACFTA: ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement

(Implemented since 1 July 2003)

AKFTA: ASEAN-Korea Free Trade Agreement

(Implemented since 1 July 2006)

AIFTA: ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2010)

MPCEPA: Malaysia-Pakistan Closer Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2008)

MJEPA: Malaysia-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (Implemented since 13 July 2006)

MICECA: Malaysia-India Comprehensive Economic
Cooperation Agreement (Implemented since 1 July 2011)

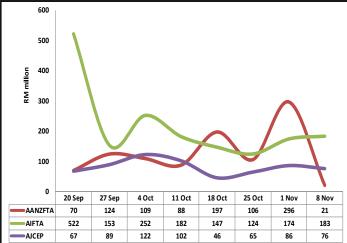
MNZFTA: Malaysia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 August 2010)

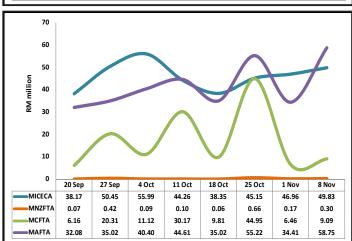
MCFTA: Malaysia-Chile Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 25 February 2012)

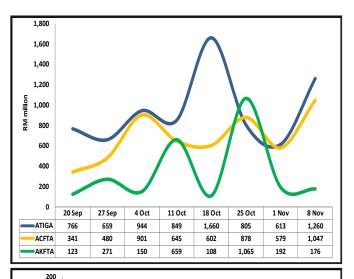
MAFTA: Malaysia-Australia Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 January 2013)

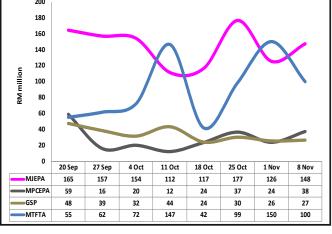
MTFTA: Malaysia-Turkey Free Trade Agreement (Implemented since 1 August 2015)

### **Value of Preferential Certificates of Origin**

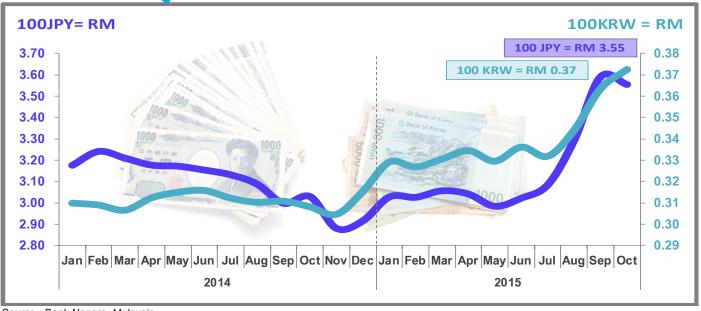






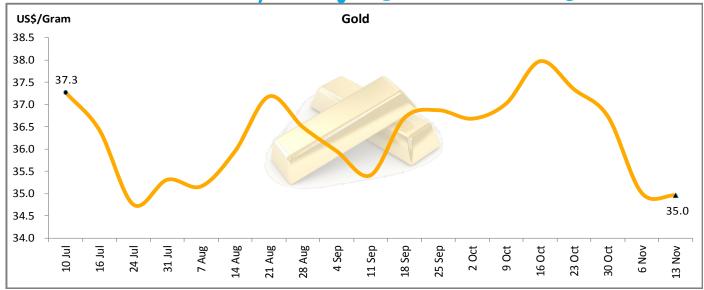


# Malaysian Ringgit Exchange Rate with Japanese Yen and South Korean Won



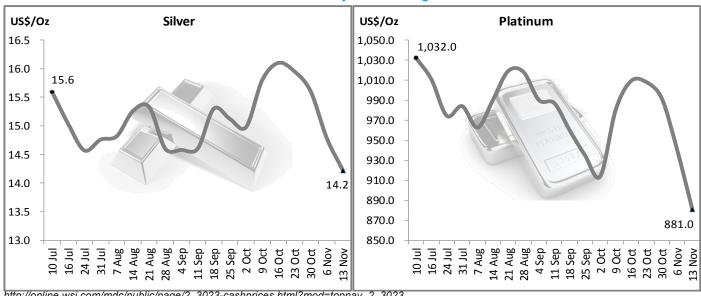
Source: Bank Negara, Malaysia

## Gold Prices, 10 July - 13 November 2015



Source: http://www.gold.org/investments/statistics/gold\_price\_chart/

# Silver and Platinum Prices, 10 July - 13 November 2015



http://online.wsj.com/mdc/public/page/2\_3023-cashprices.html?mod=topnav\_2\_3023

## **Commodity Prices**

			SUGAR	SMR 20			
	Crude	Crude	Sugar	Rubber	Cocoa	Coal	Scrap Iron
Commodity	Petroleum	Palm Oil	(per lbs.)	SMR 20	SMC 2	(per MT)	HMS
	(per bbl)	(per MT)	(per lus.)	(per MT)	(per MT)	(per wrr)	(per MT)
13 Nov 2015 (US\$)	40.7	565.0	15.0	1,197.0	2,058.6	46.3	190 (high) 170 (low)
% change*	₹ 8.0	1.2	1 4.0	<b>1</b> 2.1	1 0.3	1 0.3	unchanged unchanged
2014 <sup>i</sup>	54.6 - 107.6	823.3	352.3	1,718.3	2,615.8	59.8	370.0
2013 <sup>i</sup>	88.1 - 108.6	805.5	361.6	2,390.8	1,933.1		485.6

Notes: All figures have been rounded to the nearest decimal point

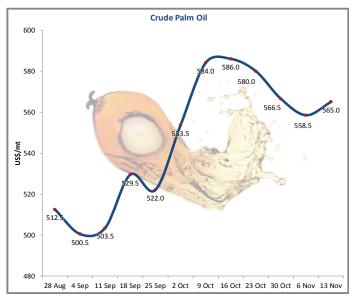
- \* Refer to % change from the previous week's price
- i Average price in the year except otherwise indicated
- n.a Not availble

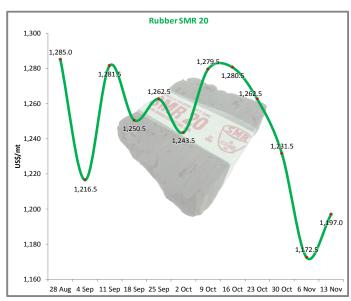


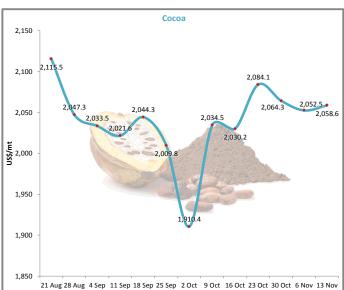


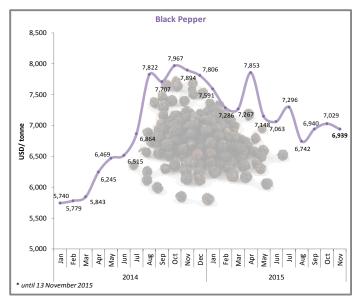
Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group.

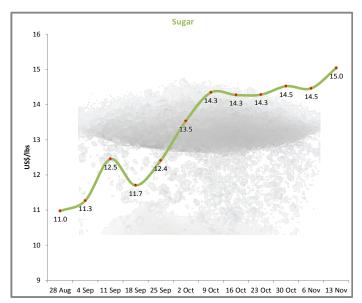
# **Commodity Price Trends**

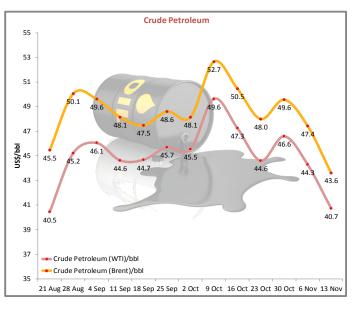










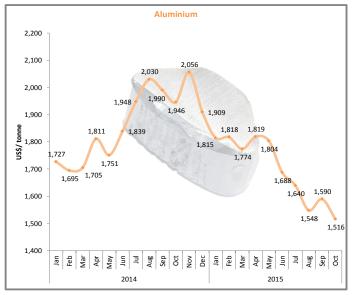


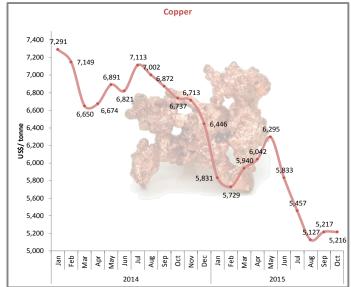
Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Pepper Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group, World Bank.

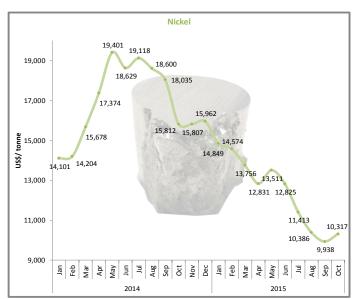


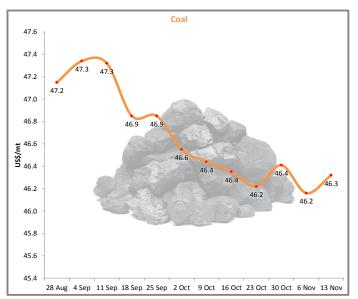
# "DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

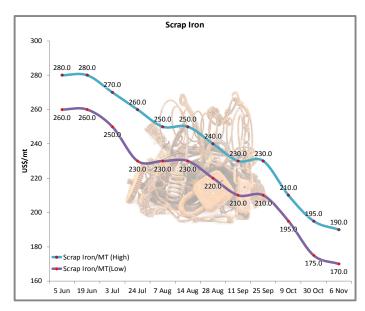
# **Commodity Price Trends**

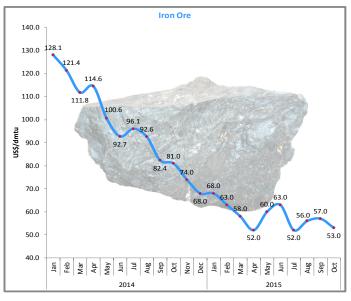












Sources: Ministry of International Trade and Industry Malaysia, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Malaysian Rubber Board, Malaysian Cocoa Board, Malaysian Pepper Board, Malaysian Iron and Steel Industry Federation, Bloomberg and Czarnikow Group, World Bank.



Syarikat Borcos Shipping Sdn Bhd (Borcos Shipping), was incorporated on 8 November 1980. Its registered office is in Miri, Sarawak with branch offices in Kuala Lumpur, Kota Kinabalu (Sabah) and Kemaman (Terengganu).

The company currently owns and manages a fleet of 25 marine vessels comprising various types of vessels such as General Purpose Vessels, Anchor Handling Tug Supply Vessels, Mooring Launches, Barges, Safety Standby Vessels, Fast Crew Boats, Utility Vessels and Straight Supply Vessels. The company specialises in the provision of marine transportation and support services for the offshore oil and gas industry.

### **CORE BUSINESS:**

Barcos Shipping's main clients are major oil and gas companies such as Petronas Carigali Sdn. Bhd, Sarawak Shell Bhd, Sabah Shell Petroleum Company, ExxonMobil Exploration and Production Malaysia Inc. Other clients include construction and engineering companies involved in the provision of services to the offshore oil and gas industry.

Country	Client(s)	Project Name and Summary of Work Scope
Malaysia	Petronas Carigali	Spot Charter Crew Boat
Malaysia	Sarawak Shell Berhad	Provision of Two Fast Crew Boats
Malaysia	Petronas Carigali	Provision of One Unit Fast Crew Boat
Malaysia	Sarawak Shell Berhad	Provision of Fast Crew Boats
Malaysia	Petronas Carigali	Provision of Two Fast Crew Boats





Add: Syarikat Borcos Shipping Sdn Bhd, No.3, Jalan Krokop, P.O Box 687, 98007 Miri, Sarawak, Malaysia

Tel: 085 419 954 / 603 2604 0134 Fax: 085 418 854 / 603 2602 1826 Email: azhan@borcos.com.my Website:www.borcos.com.my



# MITIPROGRAMME SHOWCASE & FORUM ASEAN Market









"DRIVING Transformation, POWERING Growth"

















### RESPONSE TO ISSUES RAISED BY YB NURUL IZZAH on TPP

### On data protection for biologics

- 1. MITI would like to respond to YB Nurul Izzah's statement which appeared in the Malaysian Insider, alleging that MITI Minister has been misleading the public on data protection under the TPP.
- 2. The point that needs to be corrected is that the TPP does provide for a 5-year data protection for small molecules (referred to in the article as conventional drugs).
- 3. For biologics, the TPPA recognizes that the protection for biologics can be achieved through different means. The TPPA provides options for counties to choose from: to provide 8 years of data protection, or alternatively, countries can choose to provide 5 years of data protection, along with other measures while recognizing market circumstances for biologics. These measures and circumstances may include existing regulatory and patent approval for biologics and biosimilars. Malaysia chose the alternative option of providing 5-year data protection, which reflects Malaysia's existing regime in providing data protection for conventional drugs.
- 4. The agreement on data protection on biologics will be reviewed in 10 years. The TPP further allows a reasonable transition period for countries to implement. For Malaysia, we have 5 years from the date of entry into force of the Agreement, which means that the TPP provision on biologics will take effect only after 5 years after entry into force.

### On extension of patents for old but modified medicines

- 5. It has been explained a number of times before to the Parliamentary Caucus members as well as other stakeholders, but we would like to repeat that the issue of 'modified' medicines is consistent with Malaysia's current practice.
- 6. We would like to again clarify that all discoveries, including new uses (or mischievously referred to by YB Nurul Izzah as 'modified'), will meet the strict scrutiny of the patent office for novelty and obvious use. Regardless of whether subsequent patents relating to the known product can be applied for, no later-granted patents can extend the term of an earlier one. What this means is that each application and the protection granted is based on its own merit of novelty and new use and shall not be construed as an extension of the existing patent period.

On claim that the New Zealand government has said TPPA will increase medicine price

- 7. The main documentation that the New Zealand government have put out on TPP is the intellectual property fact sheet which can be found here at: <a href="http://tpp.mfat.govt.nz/assets/docs/TPP\_factsheet\_Intellectual-Property.PDF">http://tpp.mfat.govt.nz/assets/docs/TPP\_factsheet\_Intellectual-Property.PDF</a>
- 8. It is clear that there are no comments by the New Zeland government acknowledging that the TPP will lead to the increase in the price of medicines.

Ministry of International Trade and Industry 14 November 2015



### MALAYSIA APPALUDS APEC'S SUSTAINED MOMENTUM IN PURSUING INCLUSIVE REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

Minister of International Trade and Industry, YB Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed attended the 27th APEC Ministerial Meeting held in Manila today. Ministers discussed how APEC economies can work together to sustain the momentum towards achieving inclusive regional economic integration amidst the current state of regional and global economic environments.

Minister Mustapa began his intervention by sharing his grief over the atrocities that struck Paris. He reiterated that as a moderate Muslim country, Malaysia stands united with the rest of the world in condemning any acts of terrorism.

Minister Mustapa further stressed on the need for APEC to continue to ensure regional economic growth, prosperity, sustainability and security, amidst the challenging global economic developments. "This is to guarantee that trade and investment activities continue to grow and benefit not only the business community but also the people at large in a balanced, inclusive and sustainable manner" he said.

Minister Mustapa drew attention to the launch of the ASEAN Economic Community next week. This effort, combined with the opportunities under APEC, will accelerate the growth and development of a highly competitive and inclusive Asia Pacific region. He further highlighted Malaysia's initiatives towards ensuring quality growth by putting in place people-centric budget that will address the needs of both the Bottom-40 and the Middle-40 groups of the society.

Minister Mustapa continued to stress that APEC needs to maintain top priority on realising the Bogor Goals of free trade and investment by 2020. This can be accelerated through tariff reduction commitments and resisting all forms of protectionist measures. He emphasised that both efforts are key to facilitate business within and across the borders.

Minister Mustapa expressed his optimism that deeper regional economic integration will be achieved with the implementation of regional undertakings among APEC members and beyond. "The work on the Collective Strategic Study on APEC's Contribution towards the Realisation of the Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP) is important given that negotiations on the TPP have been concluded. We recognise that TPP and RCEP are the building blocks for FTAAP but this will not diminish our support for the multilateral trading system", he emphasised. Malaysia is part of the drafting committee of the FTAAP Collective Strategic Study.

Malaysia commended the Philippines for its focus on MSMEs this year. "It is important for the bigger companies to ensure that MSMEs are included in their global value and supply chains, and perhaps we must encourage multinationals to mentor MSMEs, thus assisting in their capacity building and enabling them to become global players," said Minister Mustapa.

In 2014, APEC economies accounted for 40% of world population (2.8 billion people), 57% of world GDP (US\$ 44.1 billion), 48.5% of global trade (US\$ 18.5 billion), and 53.1% of global FDI inflow (US\$652 billion). For Malaysia, APEC economies constitute 75.9% (RM1.1 trillion) of our total trade, and 34.4% (RM12.2 billion) of total FDIs in Malaysia (while approved projects with APEC participation in the manufacturing sector amounted to RM27.7 billion (70.1%)).

Ministry of International Trade and Industry 16 November 2015, Manila





### **Comments & Suggestions**

Dear Readers,

Kindly click the link below for any comments in this issue. MWB reserves the right to edit and to republish letters as reprints.

