

MEDIA RELEASE

CANCELLATION OF APEC ECONOMIC LEADERS' WEEK (AELW) 2019 11-17 NOVEMBER 2019, SANTIAGO, CHILE

1. The Ministry of International Trade and Industry of Malaysia would like to extend our consolation with the current unrest in Chile which has led to the cancellation of APEC Economic Leaders' Week (AELW) 2019, initially scheduled from 11-17 November 2019 in Santiago. We recognised the efforts and resources Chile has invested for its hosting year and fully understands the decision taken by President Sebastián Piñera, Chair of APEC Chile 2019. By putting its people's interest in the forefront and listening to their voices, Chile has proven seriousness in its undertaking of people-centered approach in line with APEC Chile 2019 theme "Connecting People, Building the Future". We hope that situation in Chile will return to normal soon.
2. Malaysia would like to acknowledge the efforts and leadership Chile has demonstrated throughout 2019 in pursuing the initiatives through its four priorities for the year, namely, Digital Society; Integration 4.0; Women, SMEs and Inclusive Growth; and Sustainable Growth.
3. Malaysia believes that the achievements made thus far by Chile this year will sustain the challenges that we are facing at this moment. Our work at APEC right now should be focused on preserving all the achievements made by Chile this year to ensure the efforts of the year will not be in vain. Malaysia stands ready to provide full support to Chile and other APEC economies to facilitate a satisfactory closure to the year.
4. From an incoming host economy's perspective, there are various deliverables in 2019 which will flow and contribute vastly into the plans we have for APEC 2020. Work on Bogor Goals and post-2020 APEC vision has made tremendous progress in 2019. This has set the stage for Malaysia to take over in leading the discussions towards charting of a new vision for APEC post-2020.
5. Throughout 2019, Chile has accorded the Malaysian delegation with utmost hospitality and facilitation. We would also like to express our appreciation to Chile for demonstrating its leadership and resilience in pulling through many difficult feats, including the successful issuance of the Ministers Responsible for Trade (MRT) Joint Statement.
6. APEC is about solidarity. It is at moments like this that all APEC economies have the opportunity to demonstrate how much could be done through our togetherness in addressing the challenges that comes our way. Malaysia hopes this will be the momentum that we will inherit as we take over the hosting of APEC in 2020.

**Ministry of International Trade and Industry
31 October, 2019**

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About MITI:

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry was established in April 1956 then was renamed as The Ministry of Trade and Industry in February 1972. On 27 October 1990, the Ministry was separated into two Ministries which are; Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) and Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (KPDN).

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

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