

MEDIA RELEASE

MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY OFFERS SYMPATHY TO AUSTRALIA, MEMBER ECONOMY OF APEC

Kuala Lumpur, 6 January 2020 – Minister of International Trade and Industry, YB Datuk Darell Leiking, on behalf of the Government of Malaysia as Host of APEC 2020, today expresses his sympathy to Australia for the devastating bushfire incidence that is ravaging the southeast part of the economy. His heartfelt sympathy is also extended to the people and wildlife affected by the disaster.

Malaysia recognises that global climate change brings about effects that have resulted in increased frequency, magnitude and scope of natural disasters like wildfires, earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions. Every economy has now become vulnerable to this threat and we must therefore be prepared in managing the situation individually as an economy and collectively as a region. These natural disasters present great challenges to our global supply chain, affect people's health and mobility as well as threaten the lives of animals and endangered species.

As the host of APEC 2020, Malaysia stands by Australia in support of its efforts to fight the wildfires and we pray that the situation will return to normalcy soon. We also call on all APEC member economies to come together in support of similar efforts to better mitigate, respond and recover from emergencies and natural disasters across our region.

Ministry of International Trade and Industry
6 January, 2020

-END-

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.

About APEC 2020 National Secretariat:

The APEC 2020 National Secretariat was established since February 2018 in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) to carry out the planning and implementation of APEC 2020. Consisting of Substantive and Logistics Unit, the APEC 2020 National Secretariat is responsible for both the substantive directions and logistical arrangements in preparation of APEC 2020 hosting.

Media enquiries

**Ministry of International Trade & Industry
Strategic Communications Unit**

Tel +603 6200 0083

Fax +603 6206 4293

E-mail allpegkomunikasikorporat@miti.gov.my