



REGIONAL SOCIALISATION OF THE ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (AEC) STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2030 PAVES THE WAY FOR ASEAN'S FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND RESILIENCE

Malaysia, as Chair of ASEAN 2025, today hosted the Regional Socialisation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Strategic Plan 2026-2030 of the ASEAN Community Vision 2045. The session was organised in collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat, Australia for ASEAN Futures and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), as well as contributors from private sector partners, namely Air Asia, Deloitte, Grab, Huawei, Microsoft and Tech for Good Institute.

The event was officiated by H.E. Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Aziz, Malaysia's Minister of Investment, Trade & Industry, who is also the Chair of the AEC Council 2025. The event hosted almost 600 in-person and virtual attendees, representing the public sector, the business sector, academia, think tanks, non-governmental organisations, civil society organisations and the media from the ASEAN Member States and Timor-Leste.

The AEC Strategic Plan 2026-2030 – launched during the historic signing of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future, at the 46th ASEAN Summit on 26 May 2025 – is a deliverable for the Economic Pillar. The Regional Socialisation on the Plan held today represents MITI's continuous commitment for multi-stakeholder engagement, to promote awareness on how ASEAN will contribute to the development of the economy, local industries, as well as the people of the region, including in Malaysia.

The AEC Strategic Plan is the most substantive deliverable of the AEC, that will chart ASEAN's economic integration agenda in the next five years from 2026-2030.

Tengku Zafrul said, "The AEC envisions ASEAN as a single market and production base, a highly competitive region, with equitable economic development and one that is fully integrated into the global economy. It represents a shared commitment to shaping a resilient, inclusive and forward-looking ASEAN."

"Good coordination has seen ASEAN grow steadily over the past decade, averaging 4.4% annually. ASEAN has a 680-million strong market, natural resources and young talent. Coupled with its principles of neutrality and centrality, those considering doing business and investing in ASEAN can be assured of ASEAN Member States' continued commitment to support a transparent, free, fair and inclusive rules-based multilateral trading system with the WTO at its core," continued Tengku Zafrul.

Through the AEC Strategic Plan, ASEAN aspires to significantly enhance intra-ASEAN trade by building greater resilience against external shocks, and boosting interconnectedness of the single market for goods, services and investments. The AEC Strategic Plan strongly reinforces ASEAN's commitment to market openness and proactive engagement to establish targeted and mutually beneficial economic cooperation.

For Malaysia, the AEC Strategic Plan is yet another key milestone launched during our Chairmanship in 2025, succeeding the AEC Blueprint 2025 that was launched during Malaysia's previous Chairmanship in 2015.

Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry
12 June 2025

About MITI:

MITI is the key driver in making Malaysia the preferred destination for quality investments and in 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 helping to achieve the country's stated goal of becoming a developed nation.

 603-80008000  www.miti.gov.my  webmiti@miti.gov.my



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