

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **POSTPONEMENT OF UPCOMING ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC) MINISTERIAL MEETINGS**

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As the host for APEC 2020, Malaysia wishes to announce the postponement of the upcoming APEC Second Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM2) and Related Meetings, the 2020 APEC Tourism Ministerial Meeting, and the 2020 APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade Meeting, which were scheduled for April this year. The new tentative dates for SOM2 and Related Meetings are 15 to 26 June 2020, which will be followed by the MRT Meeting on 27 and 28 June 2020. These dates will be reassessed in May, subject to the developments surrounding COVID-19.

The decision to postpone was made after extensive consultations with all the relevant stakeholders and having considered the announcement by the World Health Organization (WHO) of the pandemic status of COVID-19, as well as recent domestic developments. Malaysia also believes that this decision is a necessary and appropriate one, in order to protect the health and safety of all APEC delegates.

Malaysia remains fully committed to host APEC in 2020. We will continue to work closely with all APEC economies to deliver on this year's theme, Optimising Human Potential towards a Future of Shared Prosperity. Malaysia will also intensify efforts to ensure that there is continuity in the work undertaken by APEC, for this year and beyond, particularly in advancing the inter-sessional work on Post-2020 Vision.

**Ministry of International Trade & Industry**

17 March 2020

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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.

### **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.

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