



**MINISTRY OF  
INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

**WELCOMING REMARKS BY**

**YB SENATOR TENGKU DATUK SERI UTAMA ZAFRUL  
TENGKU ABDUL AZIZ,  
MINISTER OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

**AT THE KEYNOTE SPEECH OF  
MAIA PRESIDENT'S DINNER 2025**

**08.25 p.m. – 08.35 p.m**

**10<sup>th</sup> JULY 2025 (THURSDAY)  
M RESORT & HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR**

Yang Berusaha Naguib Mohd Nor,  
President of Malaysia Aerospace Industry Association (MAIA)

Yang Berusaha David Jones,  
Managing Director of Malaysia Aerospace Industry Association (MAIA)

Yang Berusaha Professor Technologist Shamsul Kamar Abu Samah  
National Aerospace Industry Corporation Malaysia (NAICO Malaysia)

Captains of the Aerospace Industry

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Salam Malaysia MADANI and a very good evening to all.

1. It is truly a pleasure to join you this evening at the **MAIA President's Dinner 2025**. Events like this offer not only an opportunity to celebrate, but also a platform to reflect on our collective progress and reaffirm our shared ambition for the aerospace industry.
2. First and foremost, allow me to express my sincere appreciation to **MAIA**, Malaysia Aerospace Industry Association, for your effort in convening the aerospace community — from OEMs and MRO providers, to SMEs, start-ups and technical institutions. Your efforts in shaping a cohesive and collaborative aerospace ecosystem are truly commendable.

3. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the **National Aerospace Industry Corporation Malaysia**, for being the **strategic partner of this dinner**. As the agency spearheading the aerospace industry under MITI, NAICO Malaysia has played an integral role in driving the national aerospace development agenda — facilitating industry dialogue, enabling talent development and promoting Malaysia’s aerospace capabilities internationally.
  
4. My gratitude also goes to **Invest Selangor** and all of the supporting partners for their invaluable support in making this evening’s dinner a reality.

## **MALAYSIA AEROSPACE INDUSTRY ALIGN WITH NEW INDUSTRIAL MASTER PLAN 2030**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. The aerospace sector plays a strategic role in Malaysia’s transition towards an innovation-led and high-value economy. Under both the **Malaysian Aerospace Industry Blueprint 2030 (MAIB2030)** and **National Industrial Master Plan 2030 (NIMP2030)**, the aerospace industry is recognised as a high-growth, high-value sector that will contribute significantly to increasing our economic complexity and global competitiveness.
  
6. These national frameworks position aerospace as a high-impact sector to drive technological advancement, skilled job creation, and integration into global value chains.

7. With clear policy direction through NIMP2030 and MAIB2030, we are well-positioned to elevate our aerospace ecosystem to the next level. It's not just in terms of revenue, but also in strategic capabilities, sustainability, and talent.
8. Just recently, I had the honour of accompanying YAB Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim on his official visit to Brazil for the **17<sup>th</sup> BRICS Leaders' Summit**, where he clearly articulated Malaysia's commitment to strengthening the aerospace ecosystem and positioning the country as a leading aerospace hub in the ASEAN region.
9. The Prime Minister's message was clear: Malaysia is ready to support and attract global investors through **investor-friendly policies**, robust **development of local talent** and **high-impact technological collaboration**. These principles guide MITI's work and we welcome the industry's continued engagement to ensure effective execution.

## **STRENGTHENING MALAYSIA'S AEROSPACE ECOSYSTEM – INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK**

10. Allow me to share a few key highlights on Malaysia's aerospace industry. In 2024, the sector recorded a total revenue of RM25.1 billion (USD 5.93 billion), with projected growth of 20% to 25% in 2025. We also secured RM1.5 billion in approved investments and achieved export values of RM8.17 billion—clear indicators of growing global confidence in Malaysia's capabilities, resilience, and talent pool.
11. Our 30,000 strong aerospace workforce continues to demonstrate excellence across the entire value chain, from aircraft structure

manufacturing and engine components to avionics, Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO), and systems integration. These are the individuals powering Malaysia's competitiveness in a highly specialised global industry.

12. Such achievements are only possible through the strength of the triple helix model—government, academia and you, the captains of industry—working in unison to propel Malaysia's aerospace sector to greater heights. So, thank you again MAIA and the aerospace industry players!
  
13. In fact, we are already witnessing positive signals of industry confidence. When I was accompanying the YAB Prime Minister to France recently, **Malaysia Airlines** has **doubled its commitment** to the Airbus A330neo, exercising options for **20 additional aircraft**, bringing its total order to **40 A330neo** units. These will be delivered progressively from 2029 to 2031, strengthening Malaysia Airlines' long-haul capabilities and boosting the national carrier's global reach.
  
14. **AirAsia**, on the other hand, has signed an agreement to purchase **50 Airbus A321XLR** aircraft — with options for 20 more. This move supports its ambition to expand into long-haul low-cost markets, especially in Europe and North America, powered by more fuel-efficient and range-optimised aircraft. These fleet expansion efforts are not only a strong vote of confidence in **Airbus** — but also in positioning **Malaysia as a regional hub** for MRO, parts supply, and aerospace talent.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Ladies and Gentlemen,

15. The regional and global aerospace industry is entering a period of accelerated transformation and growth — with increasing demand for green aviation solutions, digital systems integration, and resilient supply chains.
16. Malaysia must continue to adapt, lead and innovate. To remain competitive, we must strengthen our position not just as a supplier — but as a strategic partner in global aerospace supply chains, capable of co-developing future technologies.
17. This is where the alignment between NIMP 2030, MAIB 2030 and real-time industry feedback is so important. And I encourage MAIA and NAICO Malaysia to continue this close collaboration — especially in areas such as talent pipeline planning, technology localisation and SME development.

## IN CLOSING

18. Tonight is a celebration of milestones achieved — but more importantly, a call to sustain the momentum. I am pleased to be here to honour the award recipients tonight — individuals and companies whose excellence, leadership and innovation are driving Malaysian aerospace forward.
19. To all industry players — thank you for your partnership and your belief in Malaysia's aerospace potential. With continued collaboration, I am confident that **Malaysia will soar as a leading aerospace nation by 2030.**

Thank you and enjoy the evening.