



WELCOMING REMARKS

YBRS. MR. RAM GANESAN KARTHIGASU
CHAIRMAN
MALAYSIA PRODUCTIVITY CORPORATION (MPC)

PRODUCTIVITY CONFERENCE:
DRIVING PRODUCTIVITY OF THE NATION

21 JUNE 2022
9.00 AM – 12.00 NOON

Yang Berhormat Senator Datuk Lim Ban Hong
Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry

Eminent speakers and panelists
MPC Board of Directors
Senior Government Officers
Representatives from the industry
Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning and Selamat sejahtera

WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION

1. I am pleased to welcome everyone to Productivity Conference: Driving Productivity of the Nation and the official launch of Productivity Report 2022 and Subsector Productivity Reports.
2. My heartfelt appreciation to Yang Berhormat Senator Datuk Lim Ban Hong, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI), for your presence to grace this event.
3. My utmost gratitude to the eminent speakers and panelists for your willingness to share your experiences, knowledge, and expertise in deliberating the conference's theme, "Rising Above the Pandemic – Solidifying Productivity and Competitiveness". Indeed, I look forward to today's forum.
4. The theme is aptly coined to echo the state of economic recovery, globally and domestically. Productivity and competitiveness are two peas in a pod that characterise a country's economic growth. Both elements are paramount to nation-building.

PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS

Ladies and gentlemen,

5. The World Economic Forum (WEF) illustrates a strong correlation between productivity and competitiveness through the definition of competitiveness itself, that it determines the level of productivity of a country. Highly competitive economies such as Norway, the United States, and Singapore register high productivity.
6. Malaysia's global competitiveness matters as it exudes the country's overall competencies and international standing as a destination for trade, investment, and business.
7. Malaysia's economy and productivity are expected to continue growing this year after recording a rebound in 2021. The country is rising above the pandemic, solidifying its productivity performance and global competitiveness.

ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH

Ladies and gentlemen,

8. The first step in building a productive nation is acknowledging that there are barriers hindering robust productivity growth. MPC has identified issues and challenges in talent and workforce, technology and innovation, business environment, subsidy programmes, and productivity mindset, impeding productivity at all levels.

9. Henceforth, MPC's productivity improvement initiatives are geared towards addressing the challenges in the five areas. Among the toughest ones is shifting mindset towards becoming more productive.
10. We are positive that the 3.6 per cent productivity growth target in 2022 is achievable with the transition into the endemic phase, the reopening of Malaysia's international borders, and proactive and agile government policies.
11. MPC continuously supports the government's agenda through innovative collaborations and multiparty cooperation among the relevant government bodies, industry associations, businesses, academia, and industry experts in boosting productivity. Building a productive nation is not a one-man job.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Ladies and gentlemen,

12. This is what our two-day conference is about, learning from each other on how and what else can be done to enhance productivity and competitiveness. I hope the Productivity Report 2022 and Subsector Productivity Reports will give insights to everyone to move forward with better recommendations for improving productivity and competitiveness.
13. With that, thank you again for your participation. I look forward to learning from the conference.