



REMARKS BY
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FOR

OPENING CEREMONY OF
7TH CHINA INTERNATIONAL IMPORT EXPO (CIIE)

5 NOVEMBER 2024 (TUESDAY)
1015 – 1020 HRS

NATIONAL EXHIBITION & CONVENTION CENTRE,
SHANGHAI, CHINA

[Salutations]

Your Excellency Li Qiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China,

Leaders, friends and business communities of the People's Republic of China, and participants of CIIE, esteemed delegations from regional and international organisation.

It is of course my honour to address this esteemed gathering of the 7th China International Import Expo, with the theme "New Era Shared Future." This is relevant to the theme of shared future as referred to by Premier Li Qiang, in a period of unilateralism, of protectionism, of divisiveness and discord. And we have China, under the leadership of President Xi Jinping, promoting this aggressively that the world should benefit everyone, every country, big or small.

And the principle of the policy of shared future is well received by countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Global South, and that precisely the reason why we in Malaysia agreed to participate in BRICS. And I take special note to the spectacular address by President Xi Jinping in the recent BRICS Conference in Kazan, where he urged, in the spirit of shared future be

adopted, against forces of discord and protectionism, we must build the community with a shared future, to uphold global peace, global security, and to share the experience, the expertise, the technologies to the world. And take note also of the address by Premier Li Qiang, that the phenomenal success registered by China is an example of not only of issues of governance and correct policies, but promising attitude to ensure that the trades, investments and economic prosperity will be beneficial to the international communities.

And this is of course, not an easy remark because it is contrary to the expression of many powerful economies of the world. That's why I think, I would join many of my colleagues in commending China and its leadership for this departure from a very obscure, condescending and unfair trading practices.

This international Expo provides an opportunity, not only for Chinese companies, but also companies throughout the world, small companies, medium enterprises to showcase their capacity and capability, and to be able to attract import or new investment or an expansion.

Therefore, multi-country cooperation for free trade and sustainability goals must be used as a tool to advance global progress equitably, instead of as a weapon to quell competition, promote unfair advantage or create conflict.

As ASEAN Chair next year, Malaysia aims to enhance regional cooperation and inclusive rules-based regional framework. In this vein, we would like to reciprocate the forward looking, shared future principal promoted by China, so that when we organize the ASEAN GCC, we also include what is call the ASEAN+GCC+China Summit, which will be of great consequence to the trajectory of regional growth and will make significant contribution to moving the needle on greater global parity in economic trade, investment and economic advancement.

As the world's fifth largest economy, ASEAN too has the potential to be a driving force for inclusive socio-economic growth that paves the way for an unprecedented era of sustainable, shared prosperity.

We are leaving no stone unturned, as you have seen here in China, in promoting good governance and combating and rooting out corruption, as well as implementing socio-economic and industrial reform agendas.

We continue to be inspired, Premier Li Qiang, by your extraordinary success in battling poverty, which clearly signifies in major achievement in social reengineering.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In closing, let us be reminded that the future is shaped by our actions today. I can't compete with the brilliance Premier Li Qiang's reference to the fire and we all contribute to provide small woods, but you provide the basis for this huge fire exercise. But I would refer only to the Chinese saying: "前人栽树，后人乘凉" (Qián rén zāi shù, hòu rén chéng liáng) - "One generation plants the trees; another enjoys the shade," our efforts and sacrifices today will shape the course of our new era, creating a future that is inclusive, prosperous and sustainable – a future that truly reflects our shared aspirations for our children, and future generations.

Thank you, Xie Xie (谢谢).