

**Welcoming Remarks by YBrs. Mr Ahmad Khairuddin Abdul Rahim
Senior Executive Director of MIDA
i-incentives Seminar on Technology: Search. Submit. Succeed
2 October 2019, Perdana Hall, MIDA**

Acknowledgement

Ms Lim Bee Vian
Executive Director, Strategic Planning Services, MIDA

Our key stakeholders from:

- Ministry of Economic Affairs (MEA); and,
- Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI)

Our speakers from:

- Bank Pembangunan Malaysia Berhad (BPMB);
- Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change (MESTECC);
- Malaysian Green Technology Corporation (MGTC); and,
- Agensi Inovasi Malaysia (AIM)

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Good morning and welcome to this i-incentives Seminar organised by MIDA. We are pleased to see your presence today as we seek to raise awareness and promote wider adoption of MIDA's i-incentives portal, particularly among our business community.
2. Taking 'Technology' as the theme of this event, we hope to encourage participants to embark on technology adoption by familiarising themselves with technology-related incentives that are available in the portal.

3. For that purpose, we have our invited speakers from MESTECC, MGTC, AIM, SIRIM and BPMB who are here to share insights on their incentives offerings in the Research and Development (R&D), innovation, automation and green technology fields.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. As we progress into a high-income advanced nation, the services sector will continue to be the primary source of growth for the Malaysian economy. Recognising the need for the services sector to move up the value chain, the Government formulated the Services Sector Blueprint, which was launched in March 2015 to facilitate structural adjustment needed for the sector.
5. One of the four policy levers outlined in the Blueprint was the effective management of the existing incentive framework. The Incentives Coordination and Collaboration Office (ICCO) was established in the same year in MIDA to meet this objective. MIDA was best positioned to house ICCO for the key investment role it plays and the close networks that it has maintained with the industry sectors over the years.
6. As the saying goes “the new source of power is not money in the hands of a few but information in the hands of many”. The official launching of i-Incentive portal last year certainly underscores our unwavering commitment in enhancing the ease of doing business in Malaysia. ICCO seeks to improve the central coordination of all incentive offerings by the federal government and enhance the effectiveness of the government’s incentives mechanism by increasing transparency, eliminating duplication and linking to performance.
7. This Portal contains all incentives offering by federal ministries and agencies. I am pleased to share that as at to date, it features 126 incentive schemes that are managed by 13 ministries and 28 government agencies. These incentives include tax exemptions, grants, soft loans and equity financing.

8. We now have over 2,000 registered users of this Portal, and we definitely want to increase the number. We are intensifying our promotional efforts and reaching out to more businesses out there. I trust that some of you here have already subscribed to the portal. For those who have yet to do so, please register yourself as soon as you can as this portal is certainly an effective tool to access the available incentives offered by the federal government.
9. I also encourage all participating ministries and agencies to take full advantage of ICCO's platform and start making your incentives offerings available for access under a single i-incentive portal. We trust that such efforts will go a long way in generating quality investments that are aligned with our national aspiration.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

10. While many similar events out there charge for admission, the i-Incentive Seminar today is conducted free of charge. Perhaps, the only thing you need to 'pay' here is your attentiveness.
11. As today's tagline goes "**Search, Submit, Succeed.**", I hope you will go back **searching** for the right incentives in the portal and come back **submitting** your completed application forms. We wish you every **success** in your business journey in Malaysia!

Thank you.