



## 144th IPU Assembly

Nusa Dua, Indonesia

20-24 March 2022

(Monday 21 March 2022)

***Getting to zero: Mobilising parliaments to act on climate change***

### Speaking Notes

Hon. Mr. Ma'mun Sulaiman

(3 minutes)

---

Good Afternoon and Peace Be Upon All of You.

His/ Her Excellency Hon. Chairperson of this session,

Excellency Speakers,

Honourable Delegates,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

[Introduction]

It is privileged for me, Maámum Sulaiman, Member of Parliament for Kalabakan, Sabah, to represent Malaysia and be part of this session.

---

*A. Despite increasing political will, what barriers continue to exist that hinder effective climate action and the implementation of climate agreements? What additional capacities are needed, including within parliaments themselves, to strengthen the response to climate change?*

---

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Malaysian Parliament actively attends international conferences and debates. Nonetheless, the collaboration should not just bind the declaration or resolution

on the paper. Still, it should continuously improve with more value in action based on mutual understanding to protect our environment.

2. Such engagement will bring two or more organisations together to share expertise in several areas, including parliamentary strengthening in discussing and debating climate change during a parliamentary sitting. Furthermore, we need to engage in productive discussions, share legislative experience, and work towards constructive approaches to achieving mutual consensus in reducing GHG emissions among neighbouring countries.
3. The parliamentary oversight function is vital to ensure democracy. The demands and complexities of oversight and budget on climate change come with significant challenges, such as the urgent need for bigger budgets and increased implementation capacities.
4. On 17 October 2019, Malaysia Parliament has initiated All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia (APPGM) to undertake an active role in localising SDGs at the Parliamentary Constituency level. Currently, 30 Members of Parliaments (MPs) have already joined APPGM to localise further and encourage their constituents' Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) efforts.

---

*B. How can the COVID-19 recovery period be used to accelerate the green transition? In particular, how can economic systems and approaches to energy and resource use be transformed for more sustainable outcomes, and how can parliaments support that transition?*

---

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Malaysia has executed strict lockdown measures. As a result, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the world and Malaysia

decreased significantly by 4.02 per cent and 9.7 percent in 2020.<sup>1</sup> Working from home also have an immediate impact on reducing emissions and saving energy.

2. Apart from that, the Government actively pursues MyDigital, a national initiative that symbolises the Government's aspirations to transform Malaysia into a digitally-driven and high-income nation. Digitalisation will naturally positively impact the environment that uses less paper.
3. Malaysia collaborates between sharing knowledge with other countries to add value to our society and encourage the Government to explore more opportunities for the green transition. At this time, Malaysia and Japan are exploring new areas in the Look East Policy (LEP), including disaster risk management, carbon-neutral development, health and ageing, digitalisation, and aerospace technology. We are proud to say that our Government is extremely concerned about climate action. Thus, the commitment to sustainability sits high on the national agenda. The Twelfth Malaysian Plan has included environment, advancing green growth for sustainability and resilience, enhancing energy sustainability and transforming the water sector.
4. In addition, we are highly committed to our target by focusing on the country's aspiration to achieve net-zero greenhouse gaseous (GHG) emissions as early as 2050 in which the achievement is subject to findings of the Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategy (LT-LEDS), which would be finalised by the end of 2022 by Ministry of Environment and Water (KASA).
5. The low emissions pathway approach is one of the country's strategies to reduce GHG emissions in the long run. Strategic planning and action plan to attain the low emissions pathway require commitment, involvement and cooperation from the ministries and Government agencies responsible for the key sectors of the

---

<sup>1</sup> 4.02 per cent (–1365.83 MtCO<sub>2</sub>) and 9.7 percent (–225.97 MtCO<sub>2</sub>). Tan, C.H.; Ong, M.Y.; Nomanbhay, S.M.; Shamsuddin, A.H.; Show, P.L. The Influence of COVID-19 on Global CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions and Climate Change: A Perspective from Malaysia. *Sustainability* 2021, 13, 8461. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13158461>

country's GHG emissions. Furthermore, we can encourage our society to adhere to the action plan and make it possible.

---

*C. What types of innovation are occurring within parliaments to make their practices and operations greener and what efforts are being made to reduce their own emissions at an institutional level?*

---

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. In order to support greener practices and operations, the Malaysian Parliament has developed online documentation systems to reduce paper printing and paper consumption.
2. Moreover, our new MPs building was built with a rain harvesting system for the irrigation system. The building also utilised solar panels to produce not more than sixty Kilowatt for power supply to supply about three thousand LED bulbs with twenty watts each.

---

*D. How can parliaments better ensure that the needs of the most at-risk members of the population, including women, youth and other underrepresented groups in society, are addressed as part of climate action?*

---

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Sixth Assessment Report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has stated that Asian countries could experience an increase of drought conditions from 5 to 20 per cent by the end of this century.<sup>2</sup> If the world warms more than 4 degrees Celsius by 2100, this will cause negative consequences such as reduced food production, higher food prices and climatically stressful conditions for outdoor workers.

---

<sup>2</sup> [https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg2/pdf/IPCC\\_AR6\\_WGII\\_FactSheet\\_Asia.pdf](https://report.ipcc.ch/ar6wg2/pdf/IPCC_AR6_WGII_FactSheet_Asia.pdf)

2. As Member of Parliaments (MPs), we are aware that the people most at risk of climate change are the poor people who depend on natural resources for their livelihood. It is essential to pay attention to the vulnerable people in our constituency by providing and assisting their needs. We have the capacity to point out environmental impacts and related issues in the Parliament and scrutinise the government action plan towards adaptation and mitigation measures on climate change and their rights.
3. In December 2020, The APPGM on SDGs had completed a pilot study of localising SDGs in ten parliamentary constituencies in seven states (Kedah, Selangor, Pahang, Terengganu, Johore, Sabah and Sarawak) with the theme of 'leaving no one behind'. On 14 September 2021, the efforts to localise SDGs continue in selected thirty parliamentary constituencies across Malaysia. Therefore, the most at-risk members of the population, including women, youth and other underrepresented groups in society, are addressed as part of climate action.
4. In January this year, the APPGM has proposed a Climate Change Commission to be established and would act as an independent oversight body to regulate matters related to climate change, including adaptation and disaster risk management. But not yet to decide by the Parliament. But we hope it will come true.

[Closing]

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. For moving forward, we should take benefit of this platform or any international network as we can learn from other jurisdictions. Furthermore, we could develop engagement with stakeholders to gain public support while listening to the public via e-petition and other forms of communication regarding the effect of climate change.

6. To conclude, the Members of Parliament need to encourage the vulnerable people in their constituency to come forward and assist them by providing free consultation and support mechanism. At the same time, the private sector and NGOs also need to support the implementation of the low emissions pathway to achieve the set targets in line with the whole nation's approach in addressing climate change issues.

Thank you.