



**MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
MALAYSIA**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**WORKING VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TO JAPAN  
(1-6 FEBRUARY 2020)**

YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Minister of Economic Affairs, will be leading a delegation of senior officials from the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MEA) for a Working Visit to Japan from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

The visit will comprise of a series of events, site visits and briefings as well as meetings with senior Japanese officials to explore new areas of cooperation and enhance economic ties between Malaysia and Japan. These areas include education, agriculture, infrastructure and defence as well as implementation of Fourth Industrial Revolution initiatives.

YB Minister is scheduled to meet with Dr. Hiroto Izumi, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Japan, to discuss progress of existing collaborations and identify how best to move forward on new areas of cooperation for both countries.

YB Minister is also scheduled to meet with counterparts from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism to strengthen trade and investment between both countries.

Among the site visits organised by the Japanese government, the Malaysian delegation led by YB Minister will be visiting the Kanazawa train construction site, which will showcase Japanese engineering capabilities and transit-oriented development.

The Malaysian delegation will also visit the National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO) to observe technologies that could be implemented in Malaysia for smart farming and precision agriculture initiatives towards ensuring food security and sustainability for the country.

The Working Visit will also include a site visit to Mitsubishi Electric's high-tech exhibition, which will showcase Japanese advancement in Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies and will be a valuable opportunity to obtain fresh perspectives as MEA is currently developing a National Policy Framework for the Fourth Industrial Revolution as an overarching framework to drive policy coherence and strategic directions.

With regard to industry development, YB Minister will witness the signing of an MoU between Halal Development Corporation Berhad (HDC) and its Japanese counterpart, Acrosx Japan Incorporated, to develop and establish a framework for strategic cooperation to create a vibrant and sustainable business landscape for the Muslim-friendly consumer segment in Japan. This will open new opportunities for Malaysian businesses to participate in the fast-growing halal economy in Japan. In 2018, Malaysian halal exports to Japan amounts to an estimated RM2.5 billion.

In addition, YB Minister will be hosting an engagement session with the Malaysian community based in Japan at the Malaysian Embassy.

This Working Visit to Japan is part of a series of proactive measures undertaken by the Government to enhance economic relations with Malaysia's partners.

**Office of the Minister of Economic Affairs  
31 January 2020**