



**CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS BY
HONOURABLE ADLY BIN ZAHARI
DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE MALAYSIA**

**MALAYSIA – REPUBLIC OF KOREA
DEFENCE INDUSTRY COOPERATION SEMINAR
(7 minutes)**

**7 AUGUST 2024, WEDNESDAY
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR
1130 hrs – 1300 hrs**

SALUTATIONS

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim.

His Excellency XXX, DAPA

His Excellency Mr. Yeo Seung-bae, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Malaysia,

Dr. Bakhari bin Ismail, Deputy Secretary General (Development) of the Ministry of Defence, Malaysia.

Mr. Eris Jemadi bin Tajudin, Under Secretary of Defence Industry Division, Ministry of Defence, Malaysia,

Honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum, Salam Madani and a very good morning.

1. Let me begin by thanking our host, the Embassy of the Republic of Korea for hosting the forum, and giving me the honour to address the Malaysia – Republic of Korea Defence Industry Cooperation Seminar 2024.
2. It is important to acknowledge that Malaysia and the Republic of Korea have long-standing diplomatic relations. We are confident, that the good relations will continue to grow, as we celebrate the 41 years of the Look East Policy with the Republic of Korea this year.
3. Today, Malaysia and Korea are significant global partners, as we share a diverse and expanding partnership in trade, investment, education and cultural relations. Meanwhile, defence activities are conducted through bilateral and multilateral platforms.
4. We also have shared a long-standing defence industry relationship since 1982. Our bilateral cooperation includes procurement, meetings, seminars, workshops, and participation in international defence exhibitions and economic initiatives in the region.
5. Malaysia views the **MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Defence** sealed in April 2022 as an important catalyst in upgrading the existing bilateral relations to a new level.
6. It is also important to recognize the Republic of Korea's multilateral engagements in ASEAN through the **ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus**, the **ASEAN Regional Forum** and the **Seoul Defence Dialogue**. I believe these platforms are the key to enhancing joint efforts in addressing regional and global challenges of common concern.

7. Future forward, both Governments will continue to actively pursue, deepen and strengthen partnerships, exploring new areas of military-to-military engagements as well as collaboration in the defence industry.

Distinguish guest, ladies and gentlemen,

8. We view the Republic of Korea, as one of the leading nations in the defence industry. The evidence of this, can be seen in the growing participation of the Republic of Korea, in international defence exhibitions, as well as procurements received. A recent example is the Royal Malaysian Air Force procuring eighteen FA-50, light combat aircraft. We are hopeful this procurement will lead us to more meaningful cooperation in the future.
9. Malaysia's procurement of military assets from the Republic of Korea since 1982, has led to the expansion of defence industry engagements such as meetings, seminars and participation in DSA and LIMA, Malaysia's very own defence exhibitions. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Republic of Korea, for their generous participation in the last series of LIMA 23 and the recent DSA 2024.

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. The second series of the Malaysia – Republic of Korea Defence Industry Cooperation Seminar 2024, is a testament to our growing cooperation. I sincerely hope, that all local defence industry companies present today, can build engagement and establish collaborations, that can provide us with added value in terms of knowledge, expertise and resources in the latest defence industry technologies.

11. By working together as partners, I am confident that we can create a powerful synergy that will drive ground-breaking advancement in innovation, research and development.
12. Our combined strengths will allow us to overcome challenges and achieve remarkable results. We are also looking into new collaboration with the Republic of Korea in areas such as the Future Force Development Programme, and cooperation in developing new military satellites.
13. In future, we also welcome the Korean authorities to collaborate with our R&D agency, STRIDE, in unmanned and robotics systems, cyber security, and electronic and communication systems.

Distinguish guest, ladies and gentlemen,

14. Malaysia will be hosting the ASEAN Summit next year. Our vision is for Malaysia to become a leading regional Repair and Overhaul (MRO) hub in ASEAN. Perhaps, we can explore this opportunity starting with the Republic of Korea.
15. Therefore, I hope that all industry players present today, will seize the opportunity of today's program, to engage with Korean companies. I also hope that the Korean side will give trust to our local companies to show and prove their capability.
16. Last but not least, Malaysia looks forward to enhancing defence cooperation with any credible partners, and welcomes new cooperation, with interested parties all over the world. I hope that is the ultimate achievement, that we look for, at the end of this seminar.

17. To conclude, I would like to extend my appreciation to the Black Eagle's for their remarkable aerobatic show during LIMA 2023, which has become a sensation in Malaysia, thanks to the "Oppa factor" that trended widely online. I hope to meet more Korean companies in LIMA 2025 in Langkawi.

Thank you.