VERBATIM TEXT

SPEECH BY YAB DATO' SERI ANWAR BIN IBRAHIM
HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

Welcoming Remarks for Malaysia-China High-Level Trade and Investment Dialogue

18 November 2026, Shenzhen, China

Thank you. *Xièxie*.
Gèwèi láibīn, dàjiā hǎo. *Hǎo, hǎo*, thank you.

Tan Sri Low Kian Chuan, on behalf of the Malaysia-China Business Council (MCBC). Thank you, Tan Sri Low for coordinating this session.

1. I'm here with the Minister of International Trade and Investments, Datuk Seri Johari, who is of course, pivotal in getting and coordinating investment into Malaysia, and also from Malaysia outside. And I have MIDA Chairman, Tengku Zafrul, MIDA, MATRADE Chiefs, and sorry, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. So, thank you again for this session.

2. You know, I come here first—this is a very good news: the Central Bank just announced today at 12 o'clock that our growth is still maintained at 5.5 for the third quarter. So that means, we can reach up to 5.6. And hopefully, you know, which will be about the highest among emerging economies from a much higher threshold.

3. And I must also say this: that we have recorded this sort of achievement because of our strong collaboration and trade and investments with friendly countries. And China, of course, plays an important role, so I must say *xièxie* to all of you because you make it possible. Thank you again.

4. And as you know, I'm here for the APEC meeting on the invitation of President Xi Jinping. This morning, I met him briefly before the session, and thereafter I will still have a special session with President Xi. Because it means a lot in terms of getting investments, trade, economic relations, when relations between leaders are very good. And with China, as you know now, we have established excellent bilateral relations; we have an advanced level of collaboration through strategic partnership, comprehensive.

5. How do you cement it or make it work is through collaboration not only in terms of political leaders, but economic and business leaders. So to me, this sort of session is very important.

6. As we said this morning and we heard President Xi Jinping too, we can talk about all the problems in the world. And some people are born to create problems, but you and I and we here are committed to solve the problems, whether in governance or in business. And you see that when a business enterprise is successful after this collaboration, working relations between the two countries, and the business operates.

7. Where do we go from there? We have more employment? We have better wages and salary? Where then revenue is used to help the ordinary person. So that's why, in terms of my economic philosophy and political philosophy is very similar to what President Xi has been saying. You have to propel economic growth and use that with good governance, stop waste and corruption, and use the resources to help.

8. So we are here today, other than, you know, addressing, making you more familiar with Malaysia, our policies, and why we attract investments and business, and why Malaysia is part of ASEAN that now is bastion of peace. But our policy is we call it neutrality. They always ask me, "Why do you have these special, good, great relations with President Xi and China?" I said, "This is centrality. We make friends with everybody."

9. Last night I was with ASEAN leaders meeting President Donald J. Trump, you didn't seem to be nodding. But it was a good meeting because our focus is we want trade, we want investments, we want to have friendly relations.

10. In the morning I was in Kuala Lumpur receiving President Emmanuel Macron of France. You see. This morning I was with President Xi Jinping, and where President Vladimir Putin of Russia heard, he said, you know, just to say hello and have initial discussions. So you can imagine, when we have this policy of centrality making friends with everybody, this is good for business.

11. So can you imagine, in less than two days, I was with Macron of France, Trump of America, of course Xi Jinping of China, and Putin of Russia with all the 11 ASEAN leaders. Of course, we also met the Korean President and Japan. But why do I stress this? It's good for business. It is a precondition for business investments when we have stability, political stability, clear policies, and we have good incentives to attract business.

12. In brief, I want to say this: you know Malaysia, we are your friend. And please understand our policies too, and we will help facilitate whatever is necessary to make sure it works.

13. And I think the key minister, the International Trade and Investment Minister, is here he will then, you know, reflect and listen to you. If you want to complain, not to me, complain to him.

14. Then I will start listening to a few questions, then I will continue with my program, and the Minister of International Trade and Investments and the key officers from MIDA and MATRADE will respond to you. Is that fine? Is that okay?

Xièxie gèwèi.