



OPENING REMARKS BY

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PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

DURING A COURTESY CALL WITH PRESIDENT XI JINPING

AT GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE

7 NOVEMBER 2024 (THURSDAY)

Thank you President Xi Jinping.

1. It is always a privilege and an honor to meet you officially and also on the sidelines of conferences. May I first thank you for this hospitality and also for the friendship. I have made the decision, and the government, as you know, has given firm commitment to strengthen our collaboration and friendship.
2. I have followed very closely your brilliant speech in Kazan during BRICS. Thank you for the support for partnership. But what is more important, Mr. President, is your vision for the global security and global development. And I always emphasise a unique role that you have played in talking about values and civilization which no prominent leader has said. And I think that explains your passion for the people, for the poor and also for humanity.

3. That is why we choose to see you not only as a leader in China, but also a new voice for the Global South and internationally. Of course, our focus is business, trade and investment. You have been very supportive. And now in digital, energy and training, which China has done remarkably well to accept us as partners.
4. And I have said as in my address to Peking University this afternoon, how I see your vision, particularly the shared future, which not many rich countries or successful countries have done. You want China's success to be understood and shared by international community.
5. And we will, of course, assume ASEAN Chairmanship. And as I have indicated to you, Mr. President, one outstanding achievement of ASEAN is to have ASEAN plus Gulf Arab countries (GCC), plus China. As always, it is a difficult decision, like our 5G dual network which we have decided, as an independent country, we have decided what is best for our country. So we have adopted the policy of getting the Chinese technology, 5G, involved in the development of our country. And now we have ASEAN GCC plus China.

6. Many questions were raised, but I'm happy to say that I've been able to get our colleagues in ASEAN, the leaders, to agree on this whole consensus of 10 countries. And we of course look forward to your presence because your presence will be pivotal to ensure the success of ASEAN because this is unique, when we decided to have this first ever conference in Malaysia next year.

We thank you for your support.