

VERBATIM TEXT

OPENING REMARKS BY

THE HONOURABLE DATO' SERI ANWAR BIN IBRAHIM

PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

AT THE

ASEAN-NEW ZEALAND COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullah, selamat pagi. Terima kasih. Prime Minister Christopher Luxon New Zealand, Your Majesty, Excellencies, warm welcome to the Prime Minister. They've been here with us a few days and meeting bilaterally and sub regional with many of us. So thank you again.

And the country coordinator is of course Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh. We are here to celebrate the partnership not only have endured for so long, but to seek ways to enhance that sovereign relations. And we are celebrating, that's more important, and we've been promised a good lunch. Good luck.

The theme - inclusivity and sustainability is the practical lens through which we seek to shape this future, *Aotearoa* (ah-teh-ro-ah), right? *Aotearoa* New Zealand, we have found a partner who understands these imperatives.

New Zealand has stood with ASEAN through moments of prosperity and in times of trial, from humanitarian crises to global uncertainties. So, the conversations will, of course, open up new avenues to not only navigate but also explore new opportunities.

So, thank you again for your enduring friendship. *Kia Ora*, and welcome.

Now, let us begin with Prime Minister Luxon, the Co-Chair, to deliver his opening remarks.