

**VERBATIM TEXT**

**OPENING REMARKS BY**

**THE HONOURABLE DATO' SERI ANWAR BIN IBRAHIM**  
**PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA**

**AT THE**

**MALAYSIA — AUSTRALIA**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL LEADERS' MEETING**

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*Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, selamat pagi,*

1. Thank you, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese. Great to have you again. I mean, in my meetings, including in Australia and many places, you've been very candid, very frank, and very supportive. Thank you very much, we do appreciate this. That's why you have very high-level ministers, half the cabinet's here to show how important Australia is to us.
  
2. But I think the consensus that we reached is that we must not just give a nice statement about enhancing relations, but in trade, investments, education, culture, there are so many new areas.

3. I mean, High Commissioner is doing her best stuff, they have ladies. I forgot the media.
4. So, I think, really welcome and thanks for the support not only here but also at the ASEAN meetings. You've been a great friend, and I'm really truly privileged to have you.
5. And of course, I immediately called to congratulate you. I don't know how you did it, but you won very convincingly.

Thank you.