



PERSATUAN EKONOMI MALAYSIA
(Malaysian Economic Association)

2019 POST BUDGET DIALOGUE

Organised by :

Malaysian Economic Association

Date : 07 November 2018 – Wednesday

Time : 2.30pm – 5.00pm

**Venue : TPC Kuala Lumpur (formerly KLGCC)
Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur**

Fee : RM200 - member RM250 — non-member RM100 - student



Budget 2019, carries the theme 'Book of Hope: Building the Nation, Fulfilling Hopes'. It has great significance in the New Malaysia's macroeconomic management, in several ways. It shall be the maiden budget of the Harapan coalition which managed to wrest control from the Barisan Nasional, which had governed for nearly 61 years.

It will be the first budget to be presented by the newly appointed Finance Minister, the Honorable Lim Guan Eng. The finance minister's position was previously for a long time held by the Prime Minister. So this will be a departure from a practice initiated as early as 1981 when the current 7th prime minister was the 4th prime minister. This budget will set the important priorities for the tail end of 11th Malaysia Plan (2016-20) (11MP).

The new government has taken over the reins from the Barisan government which had built up public debt to over a trillion Ringgit Malaysia. The world economy is slowly strengthening albeit under a cloud of trade wars initiated by the current US Administration. The Malaysian Economy has been predicted to grow at a rate of over 5 per cent in 2019. Crude oil price are expected to rise in the coming year and thus may have positive influence on the budget and for the economy. However, the trillion ringgit debt and the on-going 1MDB saga may make the budget a conservative 'belt tightening' one.

Economists have said the budget should tailor the spending in line with income anticipated, taking into account the debt 'Damocles sword' hanging over the government's head. What are Budget 2019's macroeconomic assumptions? Can the fiscal deficit target set by the previous government be achieved if spending were to be decreased? How will belt tightening efforts in the budget impact on the B40 and M40 households? opportunity for participants to gain insights into the thought process and rationale that goes into the formulation of Budget 2019 under the new leadership of Malaysia. Participants will also benefit from the commentaries and discussion by specially invited panelists under the new open era.

For Enquiries :

Contact : Ms Normala/Nancee

Malaysian Economic Association

Tel: 603-79560075/79673647

Registration :

1.30 – 2.30pm

Welcoming Speech :

2.30 – 2.35pm

Prof. Dr . Datuk Norma Mansor

MEA President

Keynote Address :

2.35 – 3.15pm:

Datuk Ahmad Badri Bin Mohd Zahir

Secretary-General, Treasury of Ministry of Finance

Dialogue Session :

3.15 – 4.15pm

Moderator : (TBC)

Panelists :

1. Mr. Andrew Wood

Director , Sovereign Ratings
S&P Global (Ratings), Singapore

2. Dr. Cheong Kee Cheok

Senior Research Fellow Institute of
China Studies, UM

3. Mr ,TBC

MOF Team – (TBC)

Q & A

4.15 – 5.00pm

5.00pm - Refreshments