

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**PRIME MINISTER OFFICIATES INAUGURAL  
PNB CORPORATE SUMMIT**

**KUALA LUMPUR, 30 OCTOBER 2019:** The Yang Amat Berhormat Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad today officiated the inaugural PNB Corporate Summit 2019 (PCS 2019) where he delivered a special address emphasising the role of Corporate Malaysia as a market changer and economic driver for the nation.

Themed “Rebooting Corporate Malaysia”, The summit which is organised by PNB Research Institute Sdn. Berhad (PNBRI), the wholly owned research arm of Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is aimed at creating a trigger point for the transformation of Corporate Malaysia by bringing together local, regional and international perspectives and insights.

PNB Group Chairman, Tan Sri Dr. Zeti Aziz in her welcoming speech said “this Summit aims to surface the important issues relevant to the corporate sector. In particular, on the issues that relate to the need for modernisation and transformation of the corporate sector in an economic and financial landscape that is dramatically changing, and in an environment where geopolitical and social developments now have economic and financial implications, and where the rapid advancement in technology is also having their transformative effect. Additionally, where climate change and aspects of the environment are also having an economic and financial impact.”

“In this highly dynamic environment, Corporate Malaysia needs to be well-positioned to build the potential to rise up to face the complex challenges that this environment brings, to ensure sustainability to support the progress and development of our nation,” she elaborated further.

PCS 2019 featured a line-up of thought leaders from diverse fields of expertise, with a view to inspire Corporate Malaysia to embark on this transformational journey and the ultimate goal of driving Malaysia’s growth and prosperity in a sustainable manner.

Among the speakers were World Bank senior economist Smita Kuriakose, activist investor David Webb, futurist Brett King, IQI Global chief economist Shan Saeed, financial technology experts, investment experts, as well as heads of government-linked investment companies and public listed companies, and many more.

Driven by a series of talks and panel discussions during the day, the summit saw delegates exchanging perspectives on relevant economic factors and evolving market dynamics, while exploring opportunities to propel a more robust Corporate Malaysia. This encompassed a range of relevant topics such as “Globalisation and Industry 4.0 – Navigating Uncharted Waters”, “Life and Work in the Augmented Age”, and “The Future of Business in the Face of Industrial Revolution 4.0”, amongst others.

During the luncheon talk, Tan Sri Dr. Zeti shared an update on PNB’s landmark development, the prestigious Merdeka 118 precinct which is set to become an extraordinary integration of the historic and contemporary architecture that is located in a formerly celebrated yet vibrant enclave of Kuala Lumpur. The Merdeka 118-storey tower overlooks Malaysia’s two national landmarks – Stadium Negara and Stadium Merdeka, where Malaysia’s independence was declared in 1957. Having commenced construction in 2016, the Merdeka 118 tower is currently more than 42% completed, standing at 84 floors. Upon completion by 2021, the 118-storey tower at a height of 635m will be a new landmark in the Kuala Lumpur skyline.

The tower is also targeting the triple platinum rating with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), GreenRE and Green Building Index (GBI) certification, which will make Merdeka 118 the first in Malaysia to earn such a rating.

The summit was concluded by PNB President & Group Chief Executive, Jalil Rasheed who shared that PNB Corporate Summit was organised with the specific purpose of starting the conversations to prompt corporations and entities to come together and bring about tangible change to further strengthen Corporate Malaysia.

PCS 2019 was attended by over 500 participants, comprising senior policy makers, key leadership and senior management of Government-linked Investment Companies (GLICs), Government-linked Companies (GLCs) and public listed companies. Also present were economists, rating agencies, fund managers, financial technology experts, investment analysts, along with institutional investors and regulatory authorities.

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**About Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB)**

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is one of the largest fund management companies in Malaysia with assets under management (AUM) exceeding RM300 billion. PNB's portfolio covers strategic investments in Malaysia's leading corporates, global equities, private investments and real estate. For more information, please visit [www.pnb.com.my](http://www.pnb.com.my).

**Issued by Permodalan Nasional Berhad**