



KEMENTERIAN SUMBER MANUSIA

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### MALAYSIA'S STEVEN SIM HAILED BY ILO, ASEAN SECRETARY GENERAL FOR LEADERSHIP IN HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

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**KUALA LUMPUR, 27 May 2025** – Malaysia's Human Resources Minister, YB Steven Sim Chee Keong, has received high praise from both the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Secretary-General of ASEAN for his visionary leadership in advancing skills development and human capital investment across the region.

This recognition comes as Malaysia, under its ASEAN Chairmanship, hosts the ASEAN Human Capital Development Investment Symposium (AHCDIS) in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday. Organised by the Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia (KESUMA) through the Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp), the symposium brought together around 300 key stakeholders from across ASEAN to discuss strategic investments in skills and human capital development.

Themed *Investment in Human Capital, Sustainable Financing, Public-Private Partnerships and Social Inclusion*, the event is a flagship platform under the ASEAN Year of Skills 2025 (AYOS 2025), which aims to bridge skills gaps, foster talent mobility, and promote inclusive growth throughout the region.

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary-General of ASEAN, lauded Malaysia's commitment, stating: "I extend my sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Human Resources and the HRD Corp for their visionary leadership in launching the ASEAN Year of Skills 2025 as a flagship initiative under Malaysia's ASEAN chairmanship. This symposium provides a timely and meaningful platform to reaffirm our collective commitment to investing in our people, the true architects of ASEAN's growth and the foundation of ASEAN's resilience and progress."

As part of Malaysia's leadership efforts, YB Steven Sim announced that the annual National Training Week (NTW), scheduled for 14 to 21 June 2025, will for the first time be open for free to citizens from all ASEAN member states. Over 65,000 free courses will be offered nationwide and online, covering key growth areas such as artificial intelligence, digital transformation, green technologies, leadership, and soft skills. NTW 2025 is expected to reach at least 5 million participants from across the region, with an estimated training value of over USD 600 million (RM 2.5 billion).

“For the first time, we will be extending these high-quality training opportunities beyond our own border to our friends all over ASEAN. This is Malaysia's investment in ASEAN. It is an investment for human capital development. Our ambition is to make ASEAN the most skilled region in the world through deeper and more meaningful partnership with our fellow member states,” said YB Steven Sim at the event.

Highlighting the importance of integrated skills policies, Ms. Xiaoyan Qian, Director of the Decent Work Technical Support Team for East and South-East Asia and the Pacific, and Country Director for Thailand, Cambodia and Lao PDR, ILO, remarked: “Skills development cannot exist in isolation. To truly empower workers and support inclusive economic growth, investments in workforce skills must be integrated within broader employment and economic development frameworks. Such policy coherence is fundamental to preparing ASEAN's workforce for the rapidly evolving world of work.”

Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2025 marks a pivotal moment for the country and the region. As Chair, Malaysia is leading a year-long series of initiatives and high-level meetings focused on inclusivity, sustainability, and regional cooperation.

The ASEAN Year of Skills 2025, led by KESUMA, features seven flagship events, including the AHCDIS and the NTW, both designed to drive collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and innovation across the region. These efforts align with Malaysia's broader vision to position ASEAN as a global leader in skilled talent and sustainable development.

**MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE**  
**27 MAY 2025**

**LAMPIRAN****LATAR BELAKANG KESUMA**

Kementerian Sumber Manusia atau singkatannya KESUMA adalah kementerian yang bertanggungjawab kepada pembangunan kemahiran, pekerjaan, keselamatan dan kesihatan pekerjaan, kesatuan sekerja, perhubungan perusahaan, maklumat dan analisis pasaran buruh dan keselamatan sosial.

**PERANAN & TANGGUNGJAWAB KESUMA**

Membangunkan dan melahirkan modal insan yang kompeten, produktif, responsif dan berdaya tahan dalam pasaran buruh negara ke arah meningkatkan produktiviti negara. Memastikan kelancaran operasi pasaran buruh negara. Meningkatkan kebolehpekerjaan dan penggajian tenaga kerja tempatan bagi memenuhi keperluan pasaran kerja negara. Memastikan perhubungan perusahaan yang harmoni dan kondusif. Mengutamakan aspek keselamatan dan kesihatan pekerjaan. Memastikan jaringan keselamatan sosial yang komprehensif, dinamik dan progresif.

**JABATAN DAN AGENSI DI BAWAH KESUMA**

JABATAN	AGENSI
Jabatan Tenaga Manusia (JTM)	Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (PERKESO)
Mahkamah Perusahaan Malaysia (MPM)	Institut Keselamatan Dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan Negara (NIOSH)
Jabatan Pembangunan Kemahiran (JPK)	Human Resources Development Corporation (HRDC)
Jabatan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan (JKKP)	Talent Corporation Malaysia Berhad (TALENTCORP)
Jabatan Tenaga Kerja Semenanjung Malaysia (JTKSM)	Perbadanan Tabung Pembangunan Kemahiran (PTPK)
Jabatan Perhubungan Perusahaan Malaysia (JPPM)	
Jabatan Hal Ehwal Kesatuan Sekerja (JHEKS)	
Jabatan Tenaga Kerja Sabah	
Jabatan Tenaga Kerja Sarawak	