

27/06/2001

Message from Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia

ON BEHALF of the Government and the people of Malaysia, I am pleased to welcome all participants to the 10th World Economic Development Congress to Malaysia.

This Congress, which will meet in South-East Asia for the first time, has enormous significance for the Asian region in the wake of the mid-1997 economic crisis which crippled almost all the South-East Asia's emerging economies. Malaysia too was not spared, though we have been lucky than most to have adopted non-conventional measures to tackle the attack on the currency and share market.

Though we have been vindicated by the positive results and rapid recovery of our economy based on the steps taken, the decline of the US economy in recent months is indeed a cause for concern.

The Congress provides an appropriate platform to discuss the problems and future directions of global economic development and the opportunities it provides. The exchange of ideas will certainly help decision-makers and planners in implementing many of the world's infrastructure projects and related developments in the next decade. It also provides a great opportunity for regional business leaders to network with world business leaders and to put their views on global development direct to world opinion makers.

It is my hope that this Congress and interlinked exhibition will be a major contributor and window of opportunity to an increased understanding of the economic issues facing our own individual nations and the world as a whole.

I wish all participants a fruitful discussion at the 10th World Economic Development Congress.

(END)