

**H.E. DATO' DR. SHAMSUL ANUAR NASARAH**  
**MINISTER OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, MALAYSIA**  
**IN CONJUNCTION WITH**  
**THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (IDB)**  
**22 MAY 2020**

---

Salam Sejahtera, I would like to thank the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for providing me the opportunity to deliver the message from Malaysia during this special occasion of celebrating the International Day of Biological Diversity (IDB) 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic, a zoonotic disease, has caused many nations to bear socioeconomic brunt. While Malaysia is also one of the countries affected, I hope we can take this as an opportunity to reexamine our relationship with nature. History has shown that it is important to conserve nature to avoid tragic pandemics.

As one of the 17 megadiverse countries in the world, Malaysia has always been committed to maintaining at least 50 percent of its land area under forests and tree cover. This represents the nation's will and commitment to conserve and sustainably manage its biodiversity. Malaysia's progress in biodiversity conservation has been highlighted in the Sixth National Report to the Convention.

The formulation of Malaysia's long-term blueprint of Shared Prosperity Vision 2030 reaffirms Malaysia's continued commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG). SDG sets out an ambitious framework for supporting the three objectives of CBD, which lead to higher productivity, more efficient resource use, and long-term viability of resources, thus improving the well-being of people.

This year's International Day of Biological Diversity highlights the theme, "Our solutions are in nature." It is important for us to look into nature to find solutions to world disasters such as climate change, pollution, flood, the threat to human health, global warming, poverty, and many more due to human-caused.

Finally, let us strive towards achieving the overall goal of nations living in harmony with nature by 2050, and nothing summarize this better than the theme for this year. Biodiversity is our life, our heritage and our future.

Happy International Day of Biological Diversity 2020.

Thank you.