



**PLAN**Malaysia  
Perancangan Melangkaui Kelaziman  
*Planning : Beyond Conventional*



MALYSIAN INSTITUTE OF PLANNERS

## **SPEECH TEXT**

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**NATIONAL PLANNING CONGRESS 2022 (NPC2022)**

*In conjunction of*  
**World Town Planning Day 2022**

**7 NOVEMBER 2022 (MONDAY)**

**12 RABIULAKHIR 1444H**

**Marriot Hotel, Putrajaya.**



**HPBS 2022**  
Hari Perancangan Bandar Sedunia



Shaping Our Future  
Together

**#KELUARGA  
MALAYSIA**



**Bismillahirrahmanirrahim.**

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى أَشْرَفِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ  
وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ وَعَلَىٰ آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

Assalamualaikum wbt, Good Morning and Salam Sejahtera.

**Datin TPr Hjh. Noraida binti Saludin;**

Presiden of MIP

**H.E. Ambassador Brian D. Mcfeeters**

U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia

**Dr. Daniela Ottman**

Associate Professor,

BOND University, Australia

Our joint organiser of this congress - **Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP);**

Strategic partners of this event - **Petaling Jaya City Council** and **Subang Jaya City Council;**

My predecessors, the mantan – mantan Director Generals and Deputy Director Generals of PLANMalaysia,

**Distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. Alhamdulillah, praise be to Allah the most Merciful. It gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone to the **National Planning Congress 2022 (NPC2022)**.

## **NATIONAL PLANNING CONGRESS 2022 (NPC2022)**

2. Thanks for inviting me to officiate this event, congratulation to the secretariat of this event, the MIP, PLANMalaysia together with all strategic partners involved for the initiative to organise such a significant event. This annual congress brings together policy makers, practitioners, academia and consultants in urban planning and management to share their insights on challenges faced, potential urban solutions and directions in urban planning, management and national development planning in future.
3. With the theme of **LIVEABLE MALAYSIA – TRANSFORMING OUR CITIES FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE**, this year's NPC2022 is organized in conjunction with the World Town Planning Day (HPBS). This year, the celebration is **held together between PLANMalaysia and**

**MIP** to mark our commitment to urban planning and management in the country, where consolidated efforts are needed to make the profession stays relevant and thrives.

4. This is in line with the 4th Action that I have introduced towards the focus of urban planning after a century - **to strengthen COLLABORATION with all parties**. As I said in the opening speech of the 50th MIP Annual General Meeting, PLANMalaysia will continue to commit to collaboration programs with MIP and other relevant agencies to empower the field of urban planning and management, especially in this country.
5. Good relationships and partnerships that are always established both from the government and private sector, GLC and academia have strengthened our cooperation and complemented the needs of our profession over the years.
6. The celebration of HPBS this year is also very special in Malaysia because we are currently heading towards **a New Era of Urban Planning** after a century, and at the same time we are also celebrating the 50th Golden Jubilee of the establishment of MIP.

## **URBANISATION AGENDA**

7. As we all know, the New Urban Agenda (NUA) aims to create holistic and balanced planning in terms of economy, social, environment and urban management and at the same time to support a paradigm shift in urban transformation. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are also used as a benchmark where the main mission and vision of this agenda is to see city dwellers achieve a better quality of life.
  
8. In line with that, the Liveable Malaysia Agenda is also the main agenda of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) in realizing the goals of the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12th RM). The role and function of KPKT is to empower as a people-centric agency through this agenda.
  
9. The role of the urban planning and management requires us to be more imaginative and creative in improving society. We need to always be committed and agree to ensure that our profession is always relevant in facing the upcoming planning challenges.

10. Thus, the roles of all parties involved in urban planning and management need to be consolidated and not in silos to create a national planning ecosystem that complements each other completely.
11. I would like to take this opportunity too to pay **my tributes to all my predecessors**, our former Director Generals of PLANMalaysia who are with us today, XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX for building good foundation for me to continue their legacies to transform our cities for a brighter future. Let us have a round of applause to them.....

**Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,**

**THE THEME OF HPBS2022 - IN LINE WITH WUF11**

12. The 11th World Urban Forum (WUF11), which took place in Katowice, Poland on June 26 to 30, has become a platform for KPKT in promoting the national development agenda at the international level.
13. From WUF11, **follow through actions** from all are important to ensure urban transformation moves in a sustainable way that requires strong steps and actions at the national and local levels. Stronger multilateral

partnerships are essential, where government, industry, business, professionals, academics and communities identify real, tangible and actionable goals that drive them forward to respond to the crisis in developing our cities and communities in the future.

14. **LIVEABLE MALAYSIA – TRANSFORMING OUR CITIES TO A BETTER URBAN FUTURE** is chosen as the theme for World Town Planning Celebration in Malaysia this year, **to coincide with the WUF11 theme** and the direction of global planning towards greater insights and clarity on the future of cities based on existing trends, challenges and opportunities,
  
15. In line with that, the **Liveable Malaysia Agenda** is currently the focus of KPKT. **Malaysia Liveability Index (iDAM)** is developed is a high-impact measurement method to measure the level of well-being of residents at the city and community level (all localities). **iDAM will serve as a measure tool for us to transform our cities towards a liveable and sustainable nation.**

**Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,**

**DECLARED ACTIONS WUF 11**

16. WUF11 highlighted, in order to transform our cities, fast action is needed for cities to recover from multiple crises and embark on a rapid transition towards sustainable urban development.
  
17. President of the UN-Habitat Assembly Martha Delgado had presented the WUF11 Declared Actions in the closing ceremony as the participants declare their voluntary actions and commitments for the next two years and beyond, including to:
  - i) Focus on imminent urban crises such as **climate and biodiversity emergencies, pandemics, violence and conflicts, and other natural and man-made disasters, that all converge in cities and surrounding territories;**
  - ii) Reconfirm **culture as a core component of local identity;**
  - iii) Reconfirm that **accessibility and universal design** are an integral part of the solution to the challenges of urbanization



## THE CURRENT SCENARIO

18. Besides, the experience of 100 years of Urban Planning in Malaysia has taught us a lot, we need to be aware of current developments, especially what is happening at the global level that will shape the direction of urban planning and management in the future. Where, development activities are the biggest contributors to the deterioration of environmental quality and greenhouse gas emissions. So this is where the role of the Town Planner is assessed in planning development through development control.

### Urbanization

#### 19. **Urbanisation Rate**

- The world's future is undeniably urban.
- By 2050, 68% of the global population will live in cities, up from 55% today.
- The **National Physical Plan 4 (NPP4)** projected, 80% of urban population in Malaysia by 2030, and not more than **85% by 2040.**

20. Towns and cities currently generate 80% of global GDP and provide our creative hubs and centres of innovation. But they also bear the brunt of every kind of crisis and are home

to one billion urban poor living in informal settlements. It is therefore very important that we get cities right. Urbanisation process and economic modernisation activities will occur in parallel and continuously in Malaysia.

21. But how exactly? What kind of cities are needed to ensure greater sustainability, equity and shared prosperity in the future? What will those cities look like?

### **Senior Citizen Demography**

22. In addition, the 2020 Malaysian Population and Housing Census Key Indicators Report published by the Department of National Statistics (DOSM) has recently shown an increase in the number of elderly people from **8.0% (2.2 million) in 2010 to 10.4% (3.4 million) in 2020**. It is very clear that this trend has implications for urban development in terms of **the provision and design of housing, the need to provide community facilities and infrastructure**.
23. The scenario of the global agenda and in this country gives an overview and explains that the planning sector is closely related to the happening phenomenon that requires us to be ready to accept changes and be able to act quickly,

thoroughly and agilely to drive physical planning and national development.

## **Climate Change**

24. This year also witnessed that we are already in the Climate Emergency Phase with various natural disasters occurring. Various parties have given views through the media that urban planning in Malaysia is still less efficient and not climate proof to deal with flood issues. Elements related to **urban resiliency**, especially in the aspect of housing and public space should be prioritized.
25. **The great flood tragedy** that occurred on December 21, 2021 has had a great impact on the level of resilience in residential areas in 50 districts in Malaysia, which the Department of Statistics Malaysia has interpreted as a loss of approximately 50 billion.
26. The National Coastal Zone Physical Plan (RPP-2) launched on 18 June 2022 has outlined the approach that can be taken in issues related to climate change such as sea level rise, coastal erosion and the risk of tsunami disasters. The NCVI (National Coastal Vulnerability Index) has been outlined for the entire coastline in Peninsular Malaysia and

the Federal Territory of Labuan as a guide in planning, management, preservation and land use development on the National coastline.

27. This study also found that **sea level rise will impact the built-up area flooded by water**. It is projected that 20,670 hectares in 2030 will be inundated, and will increase to 23,120 hectares by the year 2050 and then to 33,562 hectares by the year 2100.
28. Where is our role? What steps need to be taken for the planning of areas that will receive the impact of sea level rise. Should we increase the platform level or avoid development in the impact area?

### **Modal Split**

29. The government is aiming to encourage a behavioural shift from private vehicles to public transport as part of its development structure for the country under the 12th Malaysia Plan (RMK-12). Presently, **the public transport modal share remains low (it was just 21% in 2018), with the general choice of mobility still very much centred around cars.**

30. Thus, what shall be the focus of urban planning and management in the years to come **to achieve the 50% modal share in public transport by 2030 and 70% by 2040**? What shall be the focus to increase first and last mile connectivity?

**Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,**

### **TRANSFORMATION OF URBAN FUTURE**

31. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic at the beginning of 2020 has shocked the whole world and impacted the economic shutdown as well as drastic changes in life. Among the major global impacts are economic instability, climate change, the food security crisis and inflation that we face today.
32. The impact of the pandemic clearly proves that the planning sector is closely related to the calamity that struck, especially elements related to urban resiliency. This situation is also an opportunity for a "The Great Reset" situation, which is through the implementation of initiatives according to priority.

## Greener Urban Future

33. H.E. Prime Minister, Dato' Seri Ismail bin Yaakob in the presentation of the 12th Malaysia Plan in parliament last year has pledged to make Malaysia a carbon neutral country by 2050. Although Malaysia only contributes 0.7 percent of greenhouse gas emissions globally, the government will always try to fulfill its commitment to reduce the greenhouse gas emission intensity of GDP by 45 percent by 2030.
  
34. Reshaping cities to be greener and more sustainable is one of the more urgent responses needed to combat climate change in Malaysia and the rest of the world. The main barriers to sustainable and green development are **legislation, financing and human behaviour**.
  
35. How can cities transition to sustainable urban futures characterised by **net-zero GHG emissions and reduced impacts on the environment**? Can new forms of governance frameworks provide stronger enabling environments? What are the investment pathways? How can cities foster innovations that build on enduring behaviour and institutional change that will secure green

urban futures? How can a coherent policy framework be developed to achieve this?

36. In order to achieve a greener urban future, sustainability agendas need to focus on both national and municipal levels to produce lasting change. National urban policies with green entry points need to integrate planning systems, legislation, and financing systems with broad local capacity for implementation.

## **Mobility**

37. Sustainable mobility is a key goal for urban planners, as cities increasingly grapple with a growing population and climate change issues. Urban mobility has been one of the most important and challenging issues in our times due to the increase in urbanisation rate. The problem is that urban mobility has never been easy. We must live with congestion, long distances, and poor infrastructure.
38. It's clear however, that when designing and planning the city infrastructure, we must prioritize urban mobility – it should be at the heart of urban policy. The future of urban mobility is not just reduction in cars and encouraging greater use of public transport, **but providing alternative**

**mobility such as walking, cycling and micro mobility.**

We must take into account how we design and build our urban locations.

### **Innovative Urban Solutions**

39. Innovative urban solutions are ways of adapting to the current challenges especially in major cities. The new technologies developed on innovative urban solutions offering a horizon of sustainability, social and economic convergence, participation, smart mobility and in general improve the quality of life in cities. Some of the most relevant urban innovations nowadays are **smart traffic lights, smart lightings, urban agriculture and smart homes.**

### **Urban Crisis Response**

40. **The climate emergency, the massive disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, the global housing crisis, growing inequality, the breakdown of the social contract and the increasing urban nature of conflict,** are having devastating impacts on cities, leaving some people and places behind.



41. At the same time, local action is critical for the achievement of multiple SDGs, including targets on housing and sustainable transport, reduced inequalities, food security, climate change mitigation, community resilience, and sustainable infrastructure.
  
42. Crises are affecting the physical fabric of our cities but, more importantly, displacing people at an increasing scale. This requires new thinking on how this will affect the urban landscape? How do we use the crisis response to **accelerate towards climate outcomes, more equitable cities that leave no one and no place behind, more healthy cities and more resilient urban environments?**

## **Equitable Urban Future**

43. The vision for an equitable urban future is **hindered by persisting poverty, discrimination, violence, and exclusion**. Inequity in rights and opportunities to live a peaceful, safe and dignified life is perpetuating multiple forms of marginalization – the homeless, immigrants, refugees and the displaced and disabled persons. Although the face of marginalization varies across countries, a common thread is limitations in basic human rights of universal social protection, health coverage, education, skills, decent work and housing, and universal access to internet.

## **Integrated Governance**

44. Thus, good and integrated governance is not just about protecting stakeholders' interests, or a compliance exercise to satisfy the requirements of regulators. Instead, good governance supports building sustainable value in society.

**Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,**

## **ROLES OF THE PROFESSION**

45. KPKT through **PLANMalaysia as the leader of urban planning in Malaysia** always plays a role in advancing the field of urban planning through its functions and roles. The cross-ministerial collaboration program is the main agenda of KPKT in an effort to implement projects to increase the buy-in of departmental products (EPU, KASA, KETSA, KDN, KWP, DOSM, JPS, JMG, PBT, i-KPKT).
46. **PBT is an implementing agency at the local level** that has the urban planning profession also plays a role in promoting and improving the urban planning profession at the local level. The role of urban planners in PBT is seen as very significant, especially in **implementing existing agendas such as the achievement of the SDGs, Local Agenda 21, the implementation of development plans (RS, RT & RKK) as well as the involvement of community engagement.**
47. While **MIP** as a registered organization and **LPBM** established under Act 538 (Town Planner Act) plays a major role in helping **the promotion of the profession and**

**supporting activities related to `research activities',  
`promoting new urban planning initiatives', organizing  
international forums, excellent planning awards etc**

48. Meanwhile, the **university's role** in producing graduates also helps in strengthening the urban planning profession in Malaysia. In Malaysia, there are 6 IPTAs involved in producing urban planning graduates, namely UTM, UiTM, UIA, UM, USM at the degree level and POLIMAS at the diploma level.
49. Strategic collaboration with the university in carrying out planning research such as **conducting applied research that is more relevant to industry** in addition to being able to provide research input in adding value to planning products based on **`evidence based study'**.

**Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,**

50. In line with that, the topics that will be discussed in the plenary session today coincide with the direction of the country's development. Well done to the organizers for having the courage to provide a discussion space together with panels from inside and outside the country related to the country's future planning framework by the year 2050

with an emphasis on the Liveable Malaysia Agenda, child-friendly cities, climate change and the application of aspects of urban planning in the early education system.

51. It is my pleasure, that the inter-agency collaboration that is closely intertwined today can be multiplied again, in an effort to stimulate a sustainable, holistic and habitable planning ecosystem, for the sake of national prosperity and the well-being of all of us.
52. I also hope that this conference platform will be used as best as possible to discuss, inspire and spark new ideas in development planning towards the transformation of a new township as is the theme of the congress today. A smart and innovative approach needs to be applied in creating urban planning products in line with the era of globalization and the 4.0 industrial revolution.
53. Last but not least, it is my hope that all urban planners and managers in Malaysia, especially industry players, can collaborate with the government to create a sustainable country and community. It is true that we want rapid economic and physical development in the city or even in the countryside, but we should not forget or neglect that rapid development will not be useful if the earth created by

ALLAH is damaged and the people who live in it lose their personality and identity.

54. Most important message is, **DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE FUNDAMENTAL OF PLANNING, EVERY FUTURE PLANNING INITIATIVE SHOULD COME BACK THE TOTAL PLANNING DOCTRINE.** Which are the relationship between:

**a. Man and Creator**

**b. Man and Man**

**c. Man and Environment**

55. The word of Allah SWT in Surah Ar-Rum verse 41 which means;

**"Various damage and calamities have arisen on land and in the sea because of what has been done by human hands; (such an occurrence) because Allah SWT wants them to feel part of the recompense of the bad deeds they have done, so that they return (repent and repent)."**

56. I hope that with all of our efforts, it can create a more conducive and balanced living environment can be benefited and enjoyed by all of us and can be passed on to future generations.

57. With those words and hopes, **I inaugurate the National Planning Congress for the year 2022 with Bismillahirrahmanirrahim** and wish you a wonderful and fruitful congress.

Wabillahi taufik wal hidayah, wassalamu'alaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.

Prepared by:

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