



KEMENTERIAN KOMUNIKASI  
DAN MULTIMEDIA MALAYSIA

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**APT SYMPOSIUM ON CYBERSECURITY 2019**

**GRAND HYATT KUALA LUMPUR**

**08 OCTOBER 2019 (TUESDAY)**

## [SALUTATION]

1. Good morning and Selamat Pagi, as we say it here in Malaysia.
2. I am greatly honoured to join you today to deliver the inaugural address at this APT Symposium on Cybersecurity 2019.
3. Some of you may remember that Malaysia hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> APT Cybersecurity Forum in 2013; the name APT Symposium on Cybersecurity was known as back then. It is indeed a great pleasure to welcome everyone back to Malaysia for this year's event.
4. At the outset, I hope that it is not too late to extend my most sincere congratulations to APT on its momentous 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I certainly look forward to supporting APT to continue its excellent work in spearheading ICT development and innovation programmes within this region.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. The digital revolution, made possible by convergence of ICT and other emerging technologies, permeates and augments all aspects of life, work and doing business. As we move further into the era of Internet of Things (IoTs) and hyper-connectivity, the potential that technology offers is becoming obvious to speed up digitalisation and to create opportunities for smarter solutions. Lying underneath, though, is the concerns over cyber threats and attacks that may cripple businesses, government and even the whole nation.
6. Criminals and bad actors, have also learned to exploit ICTs for nefarious purposes, resulting in a constant battle between cyber- outlaws and security professionals. Globally, cyber security is rapidly becoming a key pressing issue. Time and again, reports from around the world do not only remind us of the risks and threats but also the level of increasing sophistication of the cyber-attacks as networking, data requirements and delivery becomes more abstract.

7. Adding to the complexity of our digital landscape is the introduction and proliferation of new technologies such as big data, IoT, cloud computing, artificial intelligence and soon enough, 5G networks. Positive Technologies has recently published its findings from the second quarter of 2019 in their Cybersecurity Threatscape Q2 2019 report, as follows:
  - a. unique cyber incidences were increasing, up three percent from Q1 2019;
  - b. targeted attacks were more common than mass attacks and made up 59 % of all cyber-attacks;
  - c. over half of all cybercrimes had data theft as their goal;
  - d. 42% of cyber-attacks against individuals and 30% of cyber-attacks against organizations were motivated by financial gain;
  - e. most stolen information from cyber-attacks on organisations involved personal data (29%) while for individuals, credentials and payment card information (44% and 34%, respectively, of all information stolen from individuals);
  - f. malware infections have become more common among government targets (62% as compared to 44% in Q1 of 2019). In fact, governments were most frequently hit by ransomware attacks.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

8. The Asia Pacific region is rapidly digitalizing; In the *ITU Measuring the Information Society Report 2018*, it was reported that the Asia-Pacific Region had shown the strongest growth in active mobile broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants. The report further showed the largest growth in mobile cellular subscriptions in the last five years were in countries in Asia and the Pacific.
9. Additionally, in “*The State of Broadband 2019 – Broadband as a Foundation for Sustainable Development*” published by the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, stated that of the 730 million people expected to subscribe to mobile service for the first time over the next seven years,

half will come from the Asia Pacific region while just under a quarter will come from Sub-Saharan Africa.

10. Furthermore, the Ericsson mobility report suggests that the Asia Pacific is on the cusp of a new digital revolution - 5G uptake will be fastest, firstly in North America follow by Northeast Asia then Europe. The report predicts Northeast Asia alone will see 47% of mobile subscriptions will be 5G by 2024.
11. Even as the Asia-Pacific region rapidly comes online, much more needs to be done to identify and counter cyber threats and cyber-attacks to secure our digital future. In fact, given the inter-connectedness of our systems and platforms any cyber incident could quickly escalate into a national catastrophe and regional emergency. It is crucial for APT Member States to increase the region's situational threat awareness by fortifying the national capabilities in detecting and mitigating cyber security threats by working together to ensure that we anticipate and protect ourselves against cyber threats and cyber-attacks.
12. In the South East Asian region, ASEAN has long recognized the need to work together, and as a matter of fact, the ASEAN Ministers responsible for ICTs and Cybersecurity just met in Singapore last week to find ways to collaborate and coordinate cybersecurity efforts.
13. Malaysia as one of the founding members of ASEAN has long recognised the value that comes from having multiple avenues of cooperation and collaboration. It is only through open dialogue amongst different stakeholders comprising the 4Ps - public, private, professionals and people, could we hope to identify solutions to the increasing sophistication of cyber threats and attacks, while strengthening trust and confidence in the same digital networks and systems which so much of our lives depend upon.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

14. In an ever-interconnected world, no man is an island, thus collaboration and cooperation becomes more and more important. It is only through events like this; which brings together the 4Ps of interest in cybersecurity to learn from each other, identify new and emerging cyber threats, provide solutions and share best practices with each other.
15. This Symposium promises to facilitate a compressive, focused and result-oriented dialogue to address this region's cybersecurity needs and issues. I call upon all APT Members and participants to pro-actively participate in this Symposium. These three days will be a very important platform for us to strengthen our collaboration and cooperation. Come ready and do not hold back to engage and exchange views, ideas and suggestions for the benefit of everyone here.
16. In closing, the Ministry of Communications and Multimedia Malaysia, is highly appreciative for the support rendered by APT Secretariat in organising this Symposium here in Malaysia. Malaysia, as always, will remain an active contributor to the APT and will continue to work hand-in-hand with the Secretariat and members to realise its strategic goals and plans.
17. As you are in the heart of KL's Golden Triangle and a stone's throw from Malaysia's iconic Twin Towers. I hope you will be able to find time to explore Kuala Lumpur in between sessions.
18. With this, I wish everyone a fruitful and engaging Symposium.

Thank you and terima kasih.