



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FORUM ON ASEAN:
SHAPING A MORE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE**

**2 OCTOBER 2025
HILTON KUALA LUMPUR**

The Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) organised a forum entitled “*ASEAN: Shaping a More Inclusive and Sustainable Future*” at Hilton Kuala Lumpur on 2 October 2025, from 9:45 am to 6:00 pm. In conjunction with the forum, IDFR also launched its latest publication, “*ASEAN 2025: Fostering Resilient and Equitable Futures Through Inclusivity and Sustainability*.” The keynote address for the programme was delivered by YB Datuk Mohamad bin Alamin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia.

The forum aimed to explore sustainable solutions and inclusive strategies to strengthen stability and security across the political, economic, and socio-cultural spheres. It further examined the pressing challenges posed by global and regional uncertainties and considered measures to safeguard a stable and resilient Southeast Asia.

Three plenary sessions were held during the forum. The first session, “*ASEAN’s Security Dilemma: Can ASEAN Lead its Own Regional Order Beyond Major Power Politics?*” discussed ASEAN’s capacity to navigate geopolitical competition. The second session, “*Powering Through Uncertainty: Economic Security and ASEAN’s Role in a Fragmented Global Trade Landscape*,” focused on the region’s ability to adapt to shifting economic realities. The third session, “*Inequality and Sustainable Development: Can ASEAN Build a Future for All?*” addressed the need for inclusivity and equitable growth.

The forum featured panellists and moderators comprising distinguished local and international experts. It was attended by government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, policymakers, experts, think tanks, academicians, and civil society organisations, all of whom contributed to constructive discussions and generated viable solutions for the region’s future.

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