



KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN KETERJAMINAN MAKANAN
JABATAN PERTANIAN

**OPENING ADDRESS BY
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DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MALAYSIA**

**IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE OPENING OF
THE 2ND WORKSHOP ON ASEAN PEST DATABASE**

**6 OCTOBER 2025 | MONDAY
MARRIOTT HOTEL, PUTRAJAYA**

1. First and foremost, allow me to extend a very warm welcome (Selamat Datang) to all of you to the **2nd Workshop on ASEAN Pest Database**. I hope your journey here has been pleasant and memorable.
2. This workshop builds upon the first workshop held from 7 to 10 October 2024 at this very venue, the Marriott Hotel, Putrajaya. Following that, we also convened an online TF-APD meeting on 11 June 2025.
3. Alhamdulillah, since those initial engagements, we have made significant progress towards establishing a harmonized and effective pest management system within ASEAN. These achievements include the harmonization of the A1 and A2 quarantine pest databases, the finalization of the Rules of Procedure for the TF-APD, and the development of the Action Plan for the ASEAN Pest Database Management System (APDMS).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. For this current workshop, our key objectives are to.
 - i. Review and approve the consolidated ASEAN quarantine pest database;
 - ii. Agree on and apply criteria for rapid, risk-based prioritization of pests in the database;
 - iii. Commence PRAs for high-priority pests and agree on the procedures; and

- iv. Develop the scope and plan for establishing an ASEAN emergency response framework.
- 5. With these important tasks ahead, I am confident that we will achieve our goals by the end of this workshop. This is made possible with the active participation of ASEAN Member States, represented here by the TF-APD national contact points and experts in pest risk analysis and plant biosecurity. We are also grateful for the strong support and collaboration from **Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI)** as well as **Canada's Indo-Pacific Agriculture and Agri-Food Office (IPAAO)**, who will continue to guide and facilitate us throughout this workshop.
- 6. Despite our tight schedule, a short field trip to the nearby **Taman Botani Putrajaya** has also been arranged, and I sincerely hope you will find the experience both refreshing and enjoyable.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- 7. Before concluding, I wish to express my deepest appreciation to CABI for funding and co-organizing this workshop, which has enabled the participation of experts from ASEAN Member States. My heartfelt thanks also go to **Dr. Chubashini Suntharalingam**, Strategic Partnerships Manager-SEA, CABI, and her dedicated team for their invaluable support in making this workshop a reality.

8. To the co-organizing committee and the TF-APD lead country, the **Department of Agriculture Malaysia**, thank you very much for your excellent work and commitment since the last workshop.
9. Last but not least, I wish all participants fruitful deliberations and a successful outcome from this workshop. Hopefully, we will achieve the desired results as Malaysia prepares to pass the baton to the next ASEAN lead country in January 2026.
10. With the words Bismillahirrahmanirrahim, I am pleased to officially declare open the 2nd Workshop on ASEAN Pest Database.

Terima kasih. Thank you.