

33<sup>rd</sup> MAJECA-JAMECA Joint Conference  
Message from Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hassan  
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Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Azman Hashim  
President of Malaysia-Japan Economic Association (MAJECA)

Members of the business community  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to convey my sincere congratulations to JAMECA and MAJECA on convening their 33<sup>rd</sup> joint conference, today. I would like to take this opportunity to commend both JAMECA and MAJECA once again for their contribution in strengthening the economic relations between Japan and Malaysia as a bridge between our two countries since their inception in 1977.

Japan and Malaysia have built a strong and multi-layered bond based not only on people-to-people exchanges through the Look East Policy but also active trade and investment by Japanese companies in Malaysia under the Economic Partnership Agreement.

Under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, Malaysia has carried out a variety of economic policies including the liberalisation of the services and financial sectors to achieve its goal of becoming a high-income nation by 2020.

Japan, on its part, has also implemented the 'Japan Revitalisation Strategy' which is aimed at generating a positive growth cycle for the Japanese economy.

Furthermore, I hope to develop synergetic effects from both policies in order for us to progress together into the future. I had the pleasure of meeting Prime Minister Najib three times - in July and December last year and in May this year. I hope that these meetings serve as a catalyst for further strengthening the cooperative ties between our two countries and build a renewed bilateral relationship that captures the needs of the times.

Last but not least, I wish you a successful 33<sup>rd</sup> joint conference, and strongly hope that JAMECA and MAJECA will further prosper and their activities reinforce our bilateral economic relations.

Thank you.

Shinzo Abe  
The Prime Minister of Japan