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The EXPO 2017 so far

Week 4

ASTANA, Kazakhstan: Climate change will be the hot topic at the Malaysia Pavilion during the fourth week of EXPO 2017, with pocket talks and panel discussions promising to give worthwhile insights into Malaysia's status after the 2015 Paris Agreement.

The Climate Change and Sustainability Week from 3-7 July will have speakers from government, NGOs, international organisations and private sectors discussing the initiatives and strategies in addressing climate change and sustainability in Malaysia, roles of key players and each level of stakeholders, as well as progress in pursuing green initiatives.

Malaysia has committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions intensity of the GDP by 45% by 2030, relative to the 2005 base year levels.

This involves a 35% voluntary reduction, while 10% is contingent upon receipt of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building from developed countries, a statement from Malaysia Green Technology Corporatin said.

Climate Change and Sustainability Week will kick off with talks by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia (NRE) on Malaysia's commitment after the 2015 Paris Agreement, with emphasis on the policies and mitigation actions that have been initiated and implemented by Malaysia.

This is followed by a talk on "Growth and Development in A Sustainable Future" by Malaysia's Economic Planning Unit.

According to the World Bank, Malaysia is the Most Forested Emerging Market among the world's top 100 nations, with 67.55% of its

land area covered by forest (permanent forest and green cover).

On 4th July, the Forest Research Institute Malaysia will share the nation's plans to maintain its leadership position as one of the world's best performers in forest conservation through sustainable forest management, while WWF Malaysia will speak on "The Importance of Biodiversity in the Context of Climate Change and Sustainability."

Green Growth requires substantive financing and investment in clean infrastructure, natural resource management, and capacity and skill development to ensure a smooth transition towards sustainability. Addressing this issue, the United Nations Development Programme will present a talk on "Financing Climate Change & Sustainability Projects".

To address other challenges in "Pursuing Green Growth for Sustainability

and Resilience", NRE will moderate a panel discussion on 5th July with key players from the Malaysian government, NGOs and business leaders from the private sector. There will also be a business matching session at the Malaysia Pavilion that aims to connect Malaysian companies with their Kazakh counterparts in the green space to enhance their business network.

Hydropower will take centre stage at the Malaysia Pavilion on 6th and 7th July as Tenaga Nasional Berhad Research presents a talk on "Ensuring Environment and Ecosystem Sustainability During Development of Hydroelectric Projects in Malaysia", while the National Energy University will discuss on dam safety and sustainability, as well as the Interactive Dam Safety Decision Support System. Another interesting talk will be "Water Resource Man-

agement in Malaysia" to be presented by the National Water Services Commission of Malaysia.

The pocket talks, for a and business matching sessions are a part of the Malaysia's weekly-themed Business Programme organised throughout the 13-week EXPO 2017.

The Business Programme, which aims to share Malaysia's experience, best practices and innovations as well as to forge collaborations and cooperation with policy makers, public and private sectors in Kazakhstan, and other EXPO participating countries, will feature over 60 speakers and 94 companies.

Malaysia's participation at EXPO 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan is organised by the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water, Malaysia together with its agency Malaysian Green Technology Corporation.