

SPEECH BY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT

**PRESENTATION OF ANTI-BRIBERY
MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (ABMS) ISO
37001:2016 CERTIFICATE**

AND

**SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PORT KLANG
AUTHORITY, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES,
TERMINAL OPERATORS AND INDUSTRY
PLAYERS.**

YBhg. Dato' Razali Bin Mohamad,
Deputy Secretary General (Management),
Ministry of Transport,

YBhg. Dato' Indera Junipah binti Wandu
Deputy Chief Commissioner (Management and Professionalism)
Malaysia Anti-Corruption Commission

YBhg. Dato' Indera Dr. Hj Ahmad Sabirin Arshad
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YBrs. Capt. K. Subramaniam,
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Government representatives

Members of the Port Fraternity

Members of the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning. *Salam Sejahtera*. Salam Malaysia Madani

1. Today, we gather here to celebrate a significant milestone in the fight against corruption within our maritime industry with the Port Klang Authority successfully obtaining the Anti-Bribery Management

Systems (ABMS) ISO 37001:2016 Certificate. This achievement marks a crucial step towards eradicating corruption and fostering a culture of integrity, transparency, and trust within our nation's maritime industry.

2. Before we proceed, allow me to share some remarkable statistics that highlight the importance of our maritime trade. In 2022, Malaysian ports witnessed a total of **44, 861** ship calls, with Port Klang alone accounting for **13,000 ship calls**. Additionally, Malaysia handled **27.3 million** twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), while Port Klang played a significant role in handling **13.2 million TEUs**. These figures solidify Malaysia's position as the **5th largest country in the world for container handling**, contributing nearly 3.45% of the global container volume.

3. A dynamic maritime transport and logistics system is vital for the growth of our nation's economy. Apart from investing in infrastructure such as ports, roads, and rail facilities, we must also focus on improving our shipping connectivity, logistics efficiency and transparency in conducting business. Furthermore, it is imperative to have highly competent workers who possess the highest levels of integrity in handling the maritime trade and maritime tourism – the lifelines of our economy.

4. The World Bank recently published the Logistics Performance Index for 2023 which measures the quality and efficiency of logistics services in 115 countries. Malaysia admirably was placed 26th and

improved from its 42nd placing in 2018 showing considerable improvements in infrastructure, shipping connectivity and human resource competency. However, improvements are required in cargo clearance processes, timeliness as well as tracking and tracing.

5. Although Malaysia was the 2nd best performer in ASEAN behind Singapore which was top ranked globally, there is still much work to be done to bridge the gap. With more than 130 ships entering Malaysian ports daily, it is important that the processes for ship and cargo clearances by various agencies are conducted efficiently and expeditiously to minimise delays and operational losses.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. Like any other industry, the maritime trade and transport sector is not immune to the corruption. If left unaddressed, corruption poses a severe burden on our nation's well-being. Today, we will witness the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Port Klang Authority, government agencies, terminal operators, and key industry players representing the port users.
7. The MoU signifies the signatories' commitment to work together, share information, knowledge, expertise, and intelligence, and conduct joint investigations to combat corruption. The MOU is also a distinct message to the world that Port Klang and Malaysia, in the larger context, are committed and serious in addressing issues related to maritime corruption leveraging on public / private collaboration.

8. It is also essential to raise awareness about the impact of corruption and bribery within the maritime sector. We must advocate for a clean industry and ensure strict law enforcement against those who engage in corrupt practices. This is in line with the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) commitment to tackle the scourge of corruption in the maritime industry globally.
9. IMO is intensifying its efforts to develop a code of best practices as guidelines for stakeholders both in the public and private sectors. As a member of the IMO council for 9 consecutive terms, Malaysia will double its efforts to ensure that our maritime and logistics industry remains clean, thereby fostering investor confidence.
10. Please allow me to draw your attention to the Malaysia Maritime Single Window (MMSW), which is expected to play a pivotal role in our efforts to combat corruption and enhance efficiency within our ports.

Currently, vessels calling Malaysian ports face the challenge of dealing with 12 separate agencies, many operating on manual transactions and processes before a ship is allowed to dock.

The International Maritime Organization under the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic has stipulated that by January 1, 2024, all countries under the IMO must provide a single window digital platform for ship clearance using standardised and harmonised data sets.

Ladies and gentlemen,

11. To address this issue, the Ministry of Transport has appointed Port Klang Authority and Johor Port Authority to undertake the development of a unified platform, which is expected to be operational by the fourth quarter of this year and will be made available to all ports in Malaysia.

This development is crucial in improving Malaysia's competitiveness, particularly in the ports industry. It streamlines processes, reduces bureaucratic hurdles, and enhances the overall efficiency of our ports. The MMSW significantly reduces the opportunities for corruption by centralizing data and processes, eliminating unnecessary intermediaries, and fostering transparency throughout the maritime supply chain.

12. Given the Malaysian government's strong stand against corruption of any form in any industry, as frequently emphasised by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, I encourage all maritime and logistics industry players, particularly those in Port Klang and throughout Malaysia, to follow the Port Klang Authority's lead and implement the Anti-Bribery Management Systems (ABMS) in your organisations. Let us embrace these initiatives and work collectively towards a corruption-free maritime sector that upholds the highest standards of integrity, ensuring the sustainable growth and prosperity of Malaysia.

13. I would like to acknowledge and congratulate all the government agencies, terminal operators, shipping lines, freight forwarding companies for coming together in this important initiative.

14. Today, Port Klang Authority has taken a crucial step forward in leading this industry to fight corruption. I applaud their success in obtaining the ABMS ISO 37001:2016 certification with clear roles, responsibilities and strategies to undertake their challenging tasks which also augurs well for their role as a trade facilitator and setting the course for Port Klang in the right direction. Let us all join hands and work together to create a maritime industry that is free from corruption, transparent, and strengthens our nation's economy.

15. Thank you.