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IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE

**8TH INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL ECONOMY CONFERENCE
SARAWAK (IDECS) 2025**

**THEME: AI & GREEN EVOLUTION GROWTH, CHALLENGES,
AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE**

**22 OCTOBER 2025
BORNEO CONVENTION CENTRE KUCHING (BCCK)**

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SALUTATION

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

Excellencies

Distinguished Speakers, Sponsors, Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Salam Sarawak Maju Makmur

INTRODUCTION

1. A very good morning, and Selamat Datang to everyone joining us for the International Digital Economy Conference Sarawak — IDECS 2025.
2. It is a great pleasure to welcome you once again to Kuching, the heart of Borneo, for this gathering of leaders, innovators, and visionaries who share one purpose — to shape a future where technology and sustainability go hand in hand.

3. This year's theme, "AI and Green Evolution: Growth, Challenges, and Community Resilience," captures the spirit of our time — and the very essence of Sarawak's transformation under Post COVID-19 Development Strategy (PCDS) 2030. IDECS reminds us that our direction — toward a digital and green future — must be deliberate, inclusive, and sustainable.
4. Allow me first to record my sincere appreciation to the Sarawak State Secretary and his dedicated organising team for their tireless work. Your commitment has made IDECS a world-class platform where global ideas meet Sarawak's determination.
5. To our esteemed speakers, experts, and sponsors — welcome, and thank you for your presence. Your perspectives will light the way for our discussions and sharpen our collective strategies and execution.
6. And to all our delegates from Sarawak, Malaysia, ASEAN, and beyond — welcome. Your participation affirms that what we are building here in Sarawak resonates far beyond our borders.

7. IDECS is not just another conference. It is a declaration — that Sarawak will lead the digital and green transformation of this region.
8. The champions of this decade will be those who can grow without burning, innovate without depleting, and lead without leaving anyone behind. At IDECS 2025, Sarawak stands ready to prove that we can do both — to be digital and green, advanced yet inclusive.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

THE AGE OF CONVERGENCE

9. Around the world, we are witnessing a historic convergence — the rise of Artificial Intelligence and the global drive toward a low-carbon, sustainable future. These two revolutions are not separate stories. Together, they define how nations compete, economies grow, and societies will endure.
10. AI is changing how we analyse, decide, and deliver, while green transition is redefining how we produce, consume, and conserve.

11. This is a decisive decade. The tools of technology are advancing faster than any policy can predict — shaping the way we work, learn, and live. But progress alone is not enough. Growth must have purpose. Innovation must serve people. Development must sustain the planet.
12. So, the question before us is clear: will we be passive consumers of other people’s technologies, powered by yesterday’s energy — or will we be active builders of a new economy, one that is intelligent, responsible, and resilient?
13. For Sarawak, the answer is clear. We choose to build.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

SARAWAK’S DIGITAL FOUNDATIONS

14. Our journey so far shows that Sarawak does not make empty promises — we deliver results. We began by laying the foundation of connectivity — because without connection, there can be no inclusion.

15. Today, internet coverage in Sarawak's populated areas has reached over 90 percent, through SMART 600 towers, 5G rollout, fibre expansion, and our Sarawak Rural Broadband Network (MySRBN) initiative.
16. We are on track to achieve 7,000 telecommunication towers under the PCDS 2030, ensuring near-universal digital coverage across Sarawak. Every tower we build is a step towards equal opportunity.
17. Beyond infrastructure, we have focused on empowering micro, small, and medium enterprises — the backbone of our economy.
18. Under PCDS 2030, Sarawak targets 30,000 SMEs to adopt digital platforms. Through programmes such as Go Digital, SME Digitise, and the Sarawak Digital Mall, more than 15,000 SMEs have digitalised their operations — opening new markets and new possibilities.

19. These digital efforts are about giving Sarawakians the tools to compete globally — with local roots and global reach.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

THE GREEN EVOLUTION

20. Sarawak's economic story began with oil, gas, timber, and palm oil. These industries built our foundation — but they also revealed the limits of finite resources.
21. We made a conscious choice to diversify, to digitalise, and to decarbonise — to build resilience not just for the next quarter, but for the next generation.
22. Our transformation is guided by two frameworks — the Sarawak Energy Transition Policy (SET-P) and the Sarawak Sustainability Blueprint 2030.
23. These frameworks ensure our progress is clean, inclusive, and future-ready. They chart a path toward low-carbon energy, with targets of 10 gigawatts by 2030 and 15 gigawatts by 2035 — establishing Sarawak as the Battery of ASEAN.

24. Today, 62 percent of our power generation comes from renewable sources, mainly hydropower. By 2030, we aim to expand this energy mix further with hydrogen, solar, and carbon capture technologies.
25. The Bintulu Transitioning Industrial Cluster (TIC) exemplifies this ambition. A hub for next-generation industries including hydrogen, advanced materials, petrochemicals, and circular-economy ventures.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

SEMICONDUCTOR ROADMAP – THE AI POWERHOUSE OF BORNEO

26. This year marks a turning point in our technological journey. The launch of Keteq AI's edge-AI power-conversion chip and the Gallium Nitride (GaN) chip, produced by Sarawak's own SMD Semiconductor, signals that Sarawak is moving from a resource-driven to a knowledge-driven economy.
27. Keteq AI — the world's first AI-powered real-time power converter — and the locally developed GaN chip demonstrate that Sarawakian talent can innovate at world-class level.

28. These breakthroughs are not just products; they are proof that Sarawak can design the future, not just consume it.
29. They will power smart grids, enable clean energy systems, drive electric vehicles, and energise data centres — while reducing energy loss and carbon emissions.
30. The Sarawak Semiconductor Roadmap 2030 charts our course to build a complete semiconductor ecosystem — from research and design to manufacturing and applications.
31. With this roadmap, we aim to establish a complete semiconductor ecosystem by 2030, positioning Sarawak as a regional gateway for semiconductors, that capitalise on Asia's fast-growing demand in electric vehicles, artificial intelligence, cloud computing, renewable energy, aerospace and consumer electronics.
32. This ecosystem will create 3,000 new high-skilled jobs, expand downstream industries, and foster technological sovereignty for Sarawak. The semiconductor industry is projected to contribute RM30 billion to Sarawak's GDP, supporting its PCDS 2030 target of RM282 billion by 2030.

33. Through partnerships between government, academia, and industry, we are nurturing engineers, researchers, and entrepreneurs to lead this next generation of innovation.
34. Every chip we develop, patent we register, partnerships we forge brings Sarawak closer to becoming a regional hub for high-value innovation — where technology sovereignty is driven by Sarawak for the world. We will continue to attract investors, unite partners, and remove barriers so that Sarawak earns its place as Asia’s silicon nerve centre.
35. Today, we are translating that same spirit into a new frontier — the Integrated Silicon Longhouse under the Sarawak Semiconductor Roadmap 2030. This is our vision to build a connected, collaborative semiconductor ecosystem that brings together government, industry, academia, and global partners under one roof.
36. Just as the longhouse symbolizes shared purpose and collective progress, the Integrated Silicon Longhouse embodies Sarawak’s aspiration to move beyond being a resource-based economy, towards becoming a knowledge-driven and technology-enabled region.

37. Through this initiative, Sarawak will strengthen its position in the global semiconductor value chain — from chip design and fabrication to talent development and research innovation. Supported by our clean renewable energy, advanced digital infrastructure, and strong policy commitment, the Integrated Silicon Longhouse will serve as the foundation for sustainable, inclusive high-tech growth.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

DIGITAL LEAP AND HUMAN CAPITAL

38. Looking ahead, Sarawak's 13th Malaysia Plan (2026–2030) will deepen our commitment to digitalisation and sustainability.

39. One of its core priorities is to enhance digital adoption across government, business, and society.

40. The digitalisation of government services is already well ahead of schedule — surpassing 62 percent in 2025, on our way to full digital access by 2030.

41. Building on this progress, SarawakPass represents the next evolution of our digital governance journey. Formerly known as SarawakID, it now incorporates enhanced digital identity features, public key infrastructure (PKI) security, a digital wallet, and MyBenefit integration — providing a single trusted gateway to Sarawak’s digital services.
42. SarawakPass reflects our guiding principle of “one identity, many opportunities” — ensuring secure, seamless, and convenient access to the government’s digital ecosystem for every Sarawakian. This innovation symbolises our larger vision: a government that is accessible anytime, anywhere — powered by trust, efficiency, and inclusion.
43. To anchor the next phase of our journey, we have also established the Sarawak AI Centre (SAIC) — our innovation nexus for research, talent development, and industry collaboration.
44. SAIC will accelerate AI adoption in key sectors — from smart energy and precision agriculture to urban planning and logistics — ensuring Sarawak stays ahead in the age of intelligent transformation.

45. With the digital economy vis-à-vis 4IR, there is a promising trend for us in Sarawak. However, we must ensure that our workforce is equipped with the right skills to understand and utilise technology across all sectors. That is why we continue to expand telecommunications access and digital infrastructure to every corner of Sarawak, ensuring that every community, especially in rural areas, has equal opportunities in this digital world.
46. Innovation without integrity is dangerous; therefore, as we embrace this digital and green transition, our progress must be guided by strong values, ethics, and transparency to safeguard the future of our people.
47. Technology means little without people who can use it. That is why we continue to invest in human capital — our most important resource. Beginning 2026, Sarawak will become the first region in Malaysia to offer free tertiary education at our owned institutions — ensuring that no capable Sarawakian is left behind because of cost.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

IDECS 2025 – THE CATALYTIC PLATFORM

48. IDECS has grown from Sarawak initiative into a regional catalyst for collaboration, innovation, and impact.
49. For eight years, it has brought together leaders, entrepreneurs, and thinkers to share strategies and shape action — not just for Sarawak, but for the wider region.
50. IDECS is also a people’s platform. Here we gather not only CEOs and policymakers but also students, start-ups, and community innovators. It is a reminder that the digital and green revolutions must belong to everyone — not just to the few.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

CONCLUSION – A SHARED FUTURE

51. As we stand in 2025, the choices we make today will define Sarawak's next century.
52. The success of our digital and green transformation cannot rest on government alone. It requires collaboration — across nations, across industries, across communities.
53. To investors - build with us. Join our journey in hydrogen logistics, smart manufacturing, and green-powered data centres. Sarawak welcomes partnerships that advance innovation and sustainability.
54. To our entrepreneurs and start-ups - grow with us. Take advantage of Sarawak's open innovation ecosystem and let your ideas find their first home here.
55. To our young people - lead with us. Use AI not just to automate, but to amplify your creativity, empathy, and purpose.

56. Vision without action is noise. Action without vision is aimless. In Sarawak, we walk with vision and action.
57. May IDECS 2025 spark new partnerships, new ideas, and new hope.
58. The future will favour those bold enough to innovate and wise enough to include. Sarawak chooses to do both.
59. By 2030, the world will look to Sarawak not just as an energy powerhouse or a cultural mosaic, but as a trailblazer in digital innovation and green growth.
60. **With that, it is my honour to officially launch the International Digital Economy Conference Sarawak 2025.**

Thank you.