SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION
證券及期貨事務監察委員會

Speech

From Strengthened Partnership to Shared Prosperity for Hong Kong and Malaysian Capital Markets

Remarks at SFC and Securities Commission Malaysia's Memorandum of Understanding Signing Ceremony

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Chairman

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Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, *Selamat pagi*, good morning.

It is a pleasure to join you today to celebrate a new milestone after more than three decades of productive partnership between the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) and Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) of Hong Kong.

A strong foundation of collaboration

Our regulatory cooperation has always been anchored on a shared vision: building resilient, competitive and innovative capital markets. From our first Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 1994, we have made steady progress: through the 2005 Letter of Intent and the 2017 Fintech Cooperation Agreement, to the recent enhancement of exchange-level collaboration. This journey reflects deep mutual trust and a firm commitment to evolving together with market needs.

The partnership holds particular significance to both Hong Kong and Malaysia's roles as vital financial gateways — connecting global capital respectively with the Chinese Mainland and Southeast Asian markets. Both markets have achieved substantial growth over the past decades — I am confident our strengthened collaboration will lay a solid foundation to drive mutual prosperity for many years ahead.

Having formerly served as Chairman of the Accounting and Financial Reporting Council (AFRC), I'm delighted that the AFRC will also enter into an MoU with the SC today. This will establish a framework for regulatory collaboration between the AFRC and the Audit Oversight Board of Malaysia, further strengthening the quality of financial reporting and auditing in both markets.

Mutual growth opportunities ahead

For Hong Kong, Malaysia stands out as a compelling partner. Your financial markets have earned well-deserved global recognition for your leadership in Islamic finance, vibrant fundraising ecosystem and commitment to corporate governance. This is backed by your strong economic momentum within ASEAN, combined with a young and dynamic population, which positions the country well for sustained progress and deeper regional synergies.

Note: This is the text of the speech as drafted, which may differ from the delivered version.

Moreover, the clear policy direction under your New Industrial Master Plan 2030 provides strong impetus for an innovation-led economy. The Malaysian physical gold ecosystem is also fast emerging under a strong commitment to quality growth.

In turn, Hong Kong offers Malaysian enterprises and investors a premier international platform for fund-raising and cross-border asset and wealth management, with seamless connectivity to global and Chinese Mainland capital.

As a top financial centre, Hong Kong drives quality growth by promoting responsible innovation among financial institutions, robust governance among listed issuers, and active stewardship among asset managers. Supported by accelerating renminbi internationalisation, the city is growing as a fixed income and currency hub that meets rising investor demand for diversification.

In a broader context, Hong Kong is also fast developing as a Halal-friendly destination for business and tourism. We warmly welcome you to visit us soon and take our friendship to the next level.

From collaboration to shared prosperity

As we deepen the SFC-SC partnership today, the opportunities are substantial on both sides. Investors gain enhanced channels to access high-quality investments. Corporates broaden their institutional shareholder base to lift governance standards and global competitiveness. Financial institutions engage in deeper cross-border cooperation and product innovation to widen market reach.

I am confident that our partnership will continue to flourish through genuine understanding, mutual respect, and a shared belief in open and connected markets. Let us pursue even closer regulatory and industry collaboration to transform our strengthened ties into lasting, shared prosperity.

Thank you.

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