



## KEMENTERIAN BELIA DAN SUKAN

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **ASEAN Persons with Disabilities in Sports Conference 2025** ***“Inclusive Sports for All: Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges in ASEAN”***

**Date** : 21 June 2025  
**Time** : 10.30 am  
**Venue** : The Everly, Putrajaya

In conjunction with Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2025, the Ministry of Youth and Sports (KBS) organised the **ASEAN Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) In Sports Conference 2025** on **20 to 21 June 2025** at the **Everly Hotel, Putrajaya**. This conference is supported by the Paralympic Council Malaysia (PCM) and is one of the main initiatives under the implementation of the **ASEAN Work Plan on Sports 2021–2025**.

The program will be **officiated by YB Hannah Yeoh**, Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia with the **Keynote Speech** delivered by an ASEAN Dialogue Partner, **Associate Professor Dr. Shinichi Nagata** from the University of Tsukuba, Japan, titled *“Inspiring ASEAN: Overcoming Challenges to Promote Sports for Persons With Disability.”*

The conference theme *“Inclusive Sports for All: Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges in ASEAN”*, is a manifestation of Malaysia's commitment to addressing regional social challenges by upholding the values of inclusiveness and equality. This theme is aligned with the aspirations of the **Malaysia MADANI Framework**, which emphasizes **six (6) core pillars: Sustainability, Wellbeing, Creativity, Respect, Confidence, and Kindness.**

The conference brought together more than **250 participants** consisting of representatives from ASEAN countries, local stakeholders, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academics, athletes and sports activists to discuss matters of inclusive sports development specifically for the Disabled (OKU) community.

The main goal of this conference is **to empower the disabled community through the development** of sports for all, thus realizing an active and healthy lifestyle among the regional community. The conference also underscored the importance of equality and the empowerment of all stakeholders in building an inclusive and sustainable sports ecosystem, particularly for the disabled community. It highlighted the need to ensure equal rights, access, and opportunities for all, in line with the principle of 'no one left behind.'

The ASEAN PWDs in Sports conference 2025 is not merely a regional event, but a symbol of the MADANI Government's determination to lead social justice and inclusion not only in Malaysia but across the ASEAN region as well. Key areas of discussion will include:

- Promotion of inclusive sports education involving the PWD community;
- Management of inclusive facilities and physical accessibility;
- Presentation of research findings and academic papers; and
- Sharing of athlete experiences and best practices from grassroots to international levels.

This conference was attended by all representatives from ASEAN Members, Timor Leste, Japan as well as the ASEAN Para Sports Federation and the World Society for Peace Sports. Other stakeholders who attended and supported this conference include the Paralympic Council Malaysia (PCM), Malaysian Sports Federation for the Deaf (MSDEAF), Special Olympics Malaysia (SOMS), National Organisation of Short Statured People Malaysia (PKOKM), National Sports Associations, Educators and Academicians, Policymakers, PWD Community Advocates.

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**Unit Komunikasi Korporat  
Kementerian Belia dan Sukan**

