

SPEECH DRAFT YB BRIG GEN KHAIRY JAMALUDDIN
At The 'Community Sports Hub for All' Public Forum

1. First and foremost let me express my appreciation to the organizer, Global Institute For Tomorrow (GIFT) for their kind invitation and allowing me to share my thoughts with the attendees of this public forum. It is very appropriate for GIFT to organize this event, in line with our aim for Malaysians to live a healthy lifestyle, and eventually becoming a sporting nation in the future.
2. I welcome this initiative by GIFT through its Malaysia Young Leaders Programme (YLP) , where about 20 participants across the nation have took part in discussions, learning from prominent speakers and try to craft a new narrative for Malaysia took throughout this month, in the first ever young leaders programme by GIFT.
3. We at the Ministry of Youth and Sports are indebted to this effort, particularly the young leaders attempt of **creating a sustainable business plan for community-based sports hubs across Malaysia.** This augurs well with the ministry's vision and mission of the said target, particularly the national movement of Fit Malaysia campaign and Hari Sukan Negara or our National Sports Day, both introduced by the ministry since 2014 and 2015, respectively.
4. For Fit Malaysia, we are now finishing our second leg of the nation tour with Fit Malaysia Selangor to be held next week, Wilayah Persekutuan the week after and Pahang to be held after the SEA Games. We are happy to note that the number of running and cycling participants to this campaign have steadily increased from time to time.
5. That is also the case for our Hari Sukan Negara which is celebrated on the second Saturday of October every year, since its inception two years ago. The ministry is proud to announce how the number of participants have

doubled to 6 million in thousands of sporting activities across Malaysia on 8 October 2016, compared to its first edition a year earlier. And now we look forward to the celebration of HSN 2017 on 14 October 2017.

6. The increasing number of participants at the sporting events, and the number of sporting events itself - organised both by the government and private entities - since we launched Fit Malaysia three years back are just admirable. We thank our partners both from the government and private sectors for making it happen and this somehow has shown that the people from all walks of life are now very particular about joining fitness activities in their daily or weekly routine.
7. Ladies and gentlemen, the shift in mindset and lifestyle of Malaysian people to healthier ones as we are experiencing today will help us achieve the status of a truly sporting nation in the future, from the current status of being a sport loving nation. When we have a larger pool of healthy and fit residents, Malaysia will naturally produce more quality athletes to compete at the international arena.
8. Better consumption of food intake by the public nowadays - thanks to the continuous awareness campaigns by ministries, private sector and NGOs - in turn will result in a higher life expectancy among Malaysians. According to The Statistics Department the life expectancy of Malaysian residents continues to rise, reaching 74.7 years in 2016 compared to 72.2 years in 2000.

TN50

9. Under our Transformasi Nasional 2050 (or TN50) movement, we seriously take the increasing life expectancy of Malaysian residents into consideration - with some say it will reach 90 years old and beyond.

10. Now, this warrants us to think, formulate and come up with with a clear vision and preparation. My ministry is so thankful to the NGOs that have been supporting the TN50 vision such as GIFT today, apart from the initiatives driven and organised by other ministries. In realising a vision, a nation will need all input that it can gather from people and entities from government, private as well as NGOs and I am happy with the public forum that we are having this evening.

11. I am sure that the participants of Malaysian Young Leaders Programme (YLP) who are here with us today will come up with a sound plan of creating a sustainable sporting hubs across the nation come 2050. We hope they have good suggestions in dealing with questions such as what are the elements required in creating such hubs; what are the technologies available or what are the technologies needed in the future.

12. TN50 is a mass movement that requires all segments of our society to come together and think for our future be it in a formulation of better infrastructure, as well as conditioning better environment, mindset and attitude amongst Malaysians. I am happy that GIFT and YLP is taking this niche path of creating sporting hubs as our partners, that will help and guide our ministry in formulating and implementing our policies. Thank you.