



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**PRESS STATEMENT**  
**24<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022**

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**DIALOGUE WITH ENTREPRENEUR BANKER TAN SRI AZMAN HASHIM AND SME LEADERS AT THE PERDANA LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION SME LEADERS PROGRAMME 2022**

**PUTRAJAYA** – The 200 participants of the **Perdana Leadership Foundation SME Leaders Programme 2022 “Knowledge Exchange for Entrepreneurship Excellence”** taking place on 25th May at Perdana Leadership Foundation in Putrajaya will get the chance to dialogue with one of the country’s eminent business leaders and Chairman of the Foundation’s Board of Trustees, **Tan Sri Azman Hashim**, at an hour-long live Special Session. Tan Sri Azman Hashim, who charted an illustrious career as a Chartered Accountant turned banker, will share his experience as an entrepreneur and business owner.

*“Most of the big businesses of today started as a micro and small enterprise. What enabled these businesses to grow was a combination of factors but leadership plays a big role in determining success or failure. This programme by PLF for MSME leaders is timely because there are many that need direction and support to recover from the lockdowns. The dialogues and discussions featured in the event will hopefully prompt new ideas, open up new possibilities, and lead to new business collaborations that can benefit entrepreneurs,”* said Tan Sri Azman.

**YABhg Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad**, Former Prime Minister of Malaysia & Honorary President of Perdana Leadership Foundation, will deliver the closing remarks via a video message at the conclusion of the programme.

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The event will be officiated by **Dato' Suriani binti Dato' Ahmad**, Secretary-General, Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives.

The Special Dialogue is one of many sessions that will take place at this event for micro, small, and medium business leaders. The one-day in-person programme will feature speeches by CEOs of MSMEs, breakout sessions facilitated by business leaders, and info talks, all designed to facilitate discussion and idea-sharing by entrepreneurs.

*“With many micro, small, and medium businesses struggling to recover from the pandemic, this programme is a way to energise MSME leaders and connect them with their peers from diverse sectors. The programme is also designed to highlight best practices and painful lessons learned from established and new enterprises, with the understanding that the best learning comes from experience, whether it be one’s own or another’s,”* said **Tan Sri Nik Mohamed Nik Yaacob**, Executive Director, Perdana Leadership Foundation.

Speakers include: **Ms See Wai Hun**, CEO of Juristech; **Puan Saliza Abdullah**, CEO of BG Capital Holdings; **Dr Hanafiah Yussof**, CEO of Robopreneur; **Mr Aizat Rahim**, MD of Dropee; **Mr Azlan Shah**, Founder and CEO, Kelava, and others. There will also be short talks by **Mr Rizal Nainy**, CEO, SME Corporation Malaysia, and **Mr Mohd Redzuan Affandi bin Abdul Rahim**, Director, Digital Adoption Department, Digital Economy Ecosystem Division, of MDeC.

The PLF SME Leaders Programme is organised by **Perdana Leadership Foundation**. Thanks to the generous sponsorship of **Affin Bank (Gold Sponsor)**, **Pernas**, and **AmBank (Bronze Sponsors)**, admission to the event is entirely free.

More information is at [www.perdanasmeleaders.com](http://www.perdanasmeleaders.com).

*Note: This is a face to face event. All participants need to wear a face mask for entry and during sessions, must be symptom-free, and must not be under any quarantine / Home Surveillance Order.*

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## PROGRAMME:

Time	Agenda
8.30am	<b>Coffee, Registration &amp; Networking</b>
8.45am	<b>Opening Session</b>
	<b>Welcome Remarks by</b> YBhg Tan Sri Azman Hashim, Chairman, Board of Trustees of Perdana Leadership Foundation
	<b>Opening Address “Business Leaders Thrive with Continuous Learning and Smart Networking” by</b> YBhg. Dato’ Suriani binti Dato’ Ahmad, Secretary-General, Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives, & Chair of ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME)
9.20am	<b>CEO Spotlight “Building a Successful Business for the Long-Term”</b>
	Speaker 1: Puan Saliza Abdullah, CEO, BG Capital Holdings
	Speaker 2: Mr Aizat Rahim, MD, Dropee
	Speaker 3: Ms See Wai Hun, Co-Founder & CEO, JurisTech
10.05am	<b>Time-Block A: Parallel Breakout Sessions I, II, III</b>
	Breakout Session I "Traits of Successful Entrepreneurship" with Puan Saliza Abdullah, CEO, BG Capital Holdings Sdn Bhd
	Breakout Session II "Financing for Expansion" with Mr Chai Kien Poon, Country Head, Funding Societies Malaysia
	Breakout Session III "Nurturing Talent & Innovation for Growth" with Puan Safura Atan, Managing Partner of StratNaviGo Consulting PLT
10.45am	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11.00am	<b>Special Dialogue Session with</b> YBhg Tan Sri Azman Hashim, Chairman, Board of Trustees of Perdana Leadership Foundation
12.15pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1.45pm	<b>CEO Spotlight “Building Cash Reserves for Resilience”</b>
	Speaker 1: Mr Wong Kah Meng, Co-founder and CEO, Funding Societies Malaysia
	Speaker 2: Mr Mohamed Zakariya Othman, Head of Big Data Management and General Manager, TFX Islamic
2.30pm	<b>Talk: “Funding Options &amp; Grants for MSMEs” by</b> Mr Rizal Nainy, CEO, SME Corporation Malaysia
2.50pm	<b>Time-Block B: Parallel Breakout Sessions I, II, III</b>

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**PROGRAMME:**

Time	Agenda
	Breakout Session I "Traits of Successful Entrepreneurship" with Mr Arthur Lai, Fellow, The Chartered Institute of Marketing (UK)
	Breakout Session II "Financing for Expansion" with Tuan Hj Hamdan Habibollah, Head of Stakeholders Management, SME Bank & Mr Mohamed Zakariya Othman, Head of Big Data Management and General Manager, TFX Islamic
	Breakout Session III "Nurturing Talent & Innovation for Growth" with Dr Hanafiah Yussof, Founder and Group CEO, Robopreneur Sdn Bhd
3.30pm	<b>Coffee Break</b>
3.45pm	<b>CEO Spotlight "Challenges in Innovation" with Q&amp;A</b>
	Speaker 1: Mr Azlan Shah Alladin, Founder, Kelava
	Speaker 2: Dr Hanafiah Yussof, Founder and Group CEO, Robopreneur Sdn Bhd
	Speaker 3: Ms Melissa Sim, CEO, AdEasy
4.30pm	<b>Talk: "Digitalisation: How-To for MSMEs" by Mr Mohd Redzuan Affandi bin Abdul Rahim, Director, Digital Adoption Department, Digital Economy Ecosystem Division, MDeC</b>
4.50pm	<b>Closing Session</b>
	<b>Video Message by YABhg Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Former Prime Minister of Malaysia &amp; Honorary President of Perdana Leadership Foundation</b>
	<b>Token of Appreciation to Sponsors by YBhg Tan Sri Nik Mohamed Nik Yaacob, Executive Director, Perdana Leadership Foundation</b>
5.30pm	<b>Refreshments &amp; End</b>

*\*Please note the itinerary is subject to change at organiser's discretion*

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## ABOUT PERDANA LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

[www.perdana.org.my](http://www.perdana.org.my)

The Foundation is a non-profit organisation established in 2003 to document, disseminate, research, and archive materials related to the past Prime Ministers of Malaysia, and nation-building. The Foundation intends to become the premier institution for the study of Malaysia's Prime Ministers and the central resource centre for research into national stewardship as well as a platform for reflection, debate, and discussion with distinguished figures in Malaysian leadership. Our Honorary President is the fourth and seventh Prime Minister of Malaysia, YABhg Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad. To date, we have digitised more than 500k materials, half of which are available through our website [www.perdana.org.my](http://www.perdana.org.my).

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