



GRP, a priority for the ASEAN Economic Community

The Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC), under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), is spearheading a comprehensive review of business regulations, processes, and procedures to increase the productivity and competitiveness of major economic sectors.



MITI Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed delivering his remarks at the opening of the event. Photo courtesy of MPC.

Following Good Regulatory Practices (GRP) is a theme for ASEAN economic integration.

The MPC, in its role as the Secretariat of the GRP initiative, and the OECD hosted the ASEAN-OECD Good Regulatory Practices Conference, 9–12 March, to encourage economic integration through transparency and respon-

sive regulations, resulting in lowering of regulatory barriers to trade. The OECD report *Implementing Good Regulatory Practice in Malaysia* by MITI Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed was released at the conference, highlighting Malaysia's first 15 months under the National Policy on Development and Implementation of Regulations. The minister noted that the implementation of GRP is "systematic, involving both top-down and bottom-up engagement." "The emphasis is on transparency and accountability through public consultation and engagement with stakeholders and parties that will be affected by the changes, or introduction, of regulations and policies," he continued, adding that regulatory burdens on businesses would be reduced by improving the quality of new regulations. OECD Director for Public Governance and Territorial Development Rolf Alter commented, "This means over time, business will become more transparent among the private sector, SMEs, foreign suppliers, investors, and traders." 🌐

Contributed by MPC Consultant and APO Liaison Officer Khidzir Ahmad.