

## PRESS RELEASE

### *Inaugural Anti-Corruption Forum to Address Core Issues of Graft*

**Malaysia- 5 September 2019.** Corruption costs countries in Asia billions of dollars. It is a scourge that bleeds a nation's coffers until to the point that it creates a yawning gap between the rich and the poor. The inaugural Malaysia Anti Corruption Forum looks to tackle the problem of corruption at a time where global trade is shrinking and the world is heading into a recession.

Attracting speakers come from both the public and the business sectors, this forum will address the following issues: how policies can be aligned with business practices to eradicate corruption for Malaysia; the best practices from countries in the region and; and finally, how to establish regional collaboration between anti-corruption agencies across the region.

YB Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim, President, Parti Keadilan Rakyat, will be presenting the keynote speech, along with Mr Tony Kwok Man-Wai, Former Deputy Commissioner and Head of Operations of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), Hong Kong SAR.

Further strengthened by the presence of regional thought leaders such as Professor Vicha Mahakun, Dean, Faculty of Law, Rangsit University and Former Commissioner, National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) Thailand; and Thongkham Soumaloun, Senior International Relations Officer, State Inspection and Anti- Corruption Authority, Laos PDR, this inaugural edition Forum expects nearly 400 participants to attend. They include members of the diplomatic corps, academics, policymakers and captains of various industry in Malaysia.

Said Chairman of ISI, Mr. Cheah Chyuan Yong, who stressed: "this conference is important because Malaysia has done the impossible in its modern history—it has exposed the deep-rooted tradition of corruption that has affected our government for many years. However, we also are aware that eradicating it is a completely different thing. The fight is not over. It has just begun. Therefore, this forum hopes to be a platform to bring together the private sector, the public and the policy makers to collaborate and help chart the future of our fight against corruption in a sustainable and collaborative way."

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