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PRE DEPARTURE PRESS RELEASE

THE 48TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND THE 18th ASEAN+3 FINANCE MINISTERS AND CENTRAL BANK GOVERNORS' MEETING BAKU, AZERBAIJAN, 3-5 MAY 2015

YB Minister of Finance II, Dato' Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah, will be leading the Malaysian delegation to the 18th ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM+3) and the 48th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) which will be held on 3-5 May 2015 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

In Malaysia's capacity as Chair of ASEAN this year, YB Minister of Finance II will be co-chairing the 18th AFMGM+3 with H.E. Dr. Kyunghwan Choi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Strategy and Finance, Republic of Korea on 3 May 2015.

The 18th AFMGM+3 will discuss and exchange views on developments in the regional economies, as well as on the global economic prospects and challenges. In this regard, the Meeting will discuss the possible risk factors in the global economy, policy options and mitigation measures to maintain stability as well as promoting medium and long term growth. The Meeting will also review and endorse the progress made by the ASEAN+3 finance cooperation particularly on the organisational developments of AMRO, as well as the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM), Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI), Future Priorities, Research Group and the ASEAN+3 New Initiatives.

In regards to the ADB Annual Meeting, the theme for this year is fostering partnership for development. The Meeting is expected to draw participants from all over the world including heads of state, finance ministers, central bank governors and representatives from the private sector and academia.

The meeting will discuss economic mobility; financial sector development; energy policies; Islamic finance; gender equality; regional cooperation; growth models; and capital market.

ADB Annual Meeting allows ADB member countries to provide guidance on ADB administrative, financial, and operational directions. The meeting also provides opportunities for member governments to interact with ADB staff, non-government organisations, media, and representatives of observer countries, international organisations, academia and the private sector.

Malaysia’s participation in the ADB Annual Meeting and AFMGM+3 is important to reaffirm our commitment towards enhancing regional cooperation and ensuring financial stability in the region.

Office of the Minister of Finance II

Putrajaya

30 April 2015