



**SPEECH BY JUAN ARANOLS,
MAREA CHAIRPERSON AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF NESTLÉ (MALAYSIA) BERHAD**

Official Launch of the Malaysian Recycling Alliance (MAREA)

January 21, 2022

**YB Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man,
Minister of Environment and Water (KASA),**

**YB Datuk Sri Dr. Haji Ismail bin Haji Abdul Muttalib, Deputy Minister of Housing
and Local Government (KPKT),**

**Your Excellencies from the Embassies of Austria and France, who are joining
us virtually this morning,**

Ms. Pauline Goh, General Manager of MAREA,

Members of MAREA,

Media friends,

Tuan-tuan dan Puan-puan yang dihormati,

1. *Selamat pagi* and a very warm welcome and thank you all for joining us this morning.
2. Ribuan terima kasih | diucapkan kepada YB Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man |, Menteri Alam Sekitar dan Air | dan YB Datuk Sri Dr. Haji Ismail, | Timbalan Menteri Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan | kerana sudi meluangkan masa | pada hari ini | untuk merasmikan *Malaysian Recycling Alliance (MAREA)* | sempena ulang tahun pertama kami.

(A special thank you to YB Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man, Minister of KASA and YB Datuk Sri Dr. Haji Ismail, Deputy Minister of Housing and Local Government (KPKT), for taking the time to be here today as we officially launch the Malaysian Recycling Alliance (MAREA) in conjunction with our first anniversary.)

3. MAREA in this first anniversary celebration wants to reinforce the industry commitment to be an active contributor in the battle against packaging waste, and more specifically plastic packaging waste in any of its forms.
4. MAREA is a voluntary, industry-led Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) alliance, made by 10 like-minded companies, namely and in alphabetical order – Coca-Cola Malaysia, Colgate-Palmolive Malaysia, Dutch Lady Milk Industries, Etika Group of Companies, Fraser & Neave Malaysia, Mondelēz International (Malaysia), Nestlé Malaysia, Spritzer, Tetra Pak Malaysia and Unilever Malaysia.
5. Whilst we may be fierce competitors in the market, we also realise that by working together, we can most effectively contribute to address this environmental challenge, and build a greener future for all.
6. As leading manufacturers of brands that are present in the daily lives of millions of Malaysian households, MAREA members share a strong sense of responsibility and stewardship towards the protection of the environment and the responsible use of our planet's resources.

Ladies and gentlemen,

7. Recent years have seen a mounting urgency to address the global issue of plastic waste and pollution. In the Asia Pacific region alone – one of the most affected – plastic waste is expected to reach 140 million tonnes cumulatively by 2030, with Malaysia among the top contributing countries. Further compounding this problem is that much of this waste ends up in oceans, rivers and other water bodies, impacting ecosystems and affecting quality of lives and health of many communities.

8. Plastic packaging plays an important role in safely delivering high-quality products to consumers, allowing to reduce food waste along the value chain. Packaging and plastic packaging is still today a necessary element in the manufacturing process to uphold the highest quality and safety standards, and ensure product conservation, specially in our warm and humid climates.
9. At the same time, we also need to find new solutions and alternative materials and ensure always a responsible use of plastics, specially after consumption, or what we call the end-of-life impact of plastic packaging. Changing the way we interact with plastic, as producers and as consumers, requires us to rethink the way we produce, the way we consume and the way we dispose waste, with the ultimate objective of creating a circular economy built on separation of waste at source, collection and recycling, and ultimately minimising environmental impact.
10. Each one of us in MAREA spearheads already each company's own sustainability programmes with clear commitments that are helping already to make great strides in improving the industry's overall footprint.
11. At the same time, we are conscious there is still much more that can be done and must be done, and faster. That's why we have embarked in MAREA to work together towards shared goals of environmental protection and preservation of ecosystems and improvement in the quality of lives.
12. Dengan usahasama KASA dan KPKT, | serta pemegang berkepentingan | dan konsumer lain, | kami yakin dapat membawa perubahan | yang bermakna | dengan impak yang besar.
(With the support of KASA and KPKT, as well as other stakeholders and consumers, we are confident that we will be able to effect meaningful and impactful change.)

Tuan-tuan | dan Puan-puan | sekalian,
(Ladies and gentlemen,)

13. We are pleased to note that our goals are well aligned with the 12th Malaysia Plan, in which Environmental Sustainability is a key focal point.

14. As part of our commitment to contribute to the nation's sustainable development, MAREA has pledged to ensure that as a minimum 25% of our members' post-consumer packaging volume will be collected and recycled by 2025, with a very strong focus and priority on plastic waste, in any form and shape. This is in line with KASA's Malaysia Plastic Sustainability Roadmap 2021-2030.
15. Through MAREA, we will work with policymakers, industry participants, consumers and other stakeholders, to establish, expand and strengthen a circular value chain, enabled by solid collection, sorting and recycling schemes.
16. MAREA will also cultivate a stronger recycling culture, initiating Consumer Education and Public Awareness campaigns to achieve large scale behaviour change and encourage people to adopt more sustainable lifestyles.
17. MAREA's General Manager, Ms Pauline Goh, will be sharing more details on plans ahead shortly.

Ladies and gentlemen,

18. We are excited to embark in this journey that brings together all of us in the industry with all the necessary stakeholders with one common goal: solve the problem of plastic waste pollution, protecting our oceans, our shores and our communities from its consequences.
19. Kami amat teruja | untuk bekerjasama | demi menghijaukan | bumi ini, | bagi semua rakyat Malaysia | dan generasi akan datang. | Jom kita bersama-sama | membawa perubahan yang positif!
- (We look forward to working together to bring about a greener Malaysia, for all Malaysians as well as for future generations. Let's bring about positive changes together!)*
20. Terima kasih!