
Closing Address

by Dato' Sr. Azmar Talib

Overview

The UEMS Real Estate Forum 2024 concluded with a strong emphasis on collaboration, innovation, and sustainability. The forum successfully facilitated the exchange of ideas that will shape the future of Malaysia's real estate sector. The speaker expressed gratitude to participants, speakers, and organising partners for their contributions, which were essential to the success of the event.

Acknowledgements

Special appreciation was extended to:

- UEM Sunrise Chairman Datuk Hisham Hamdan, for sharing valuable insights on Malaysia's economic journey and the lessons learned.
- Distinguished speakers and panellists, for providing innovative strategies and insights on topics such as market developments, sustainable practices, and emerging technologies.
- Organising partners: CLSA and Khazanah Nasional Berhad, for their critical role in supporting the forum and fostering meaningful discussions.

Key Takeaways

The discussions throughout the day highlighted several key themes:

1. **Adapting to Change:** The real estate industry is navigating rapid changes driven by digitalisation and emerging technologies like generative AI. Innovations are crucial for staying competitive and addressing challenges like over-reliance on cheap labour.
2. **Collaboration and Regional Opportunities:** There is vast potential for growth in the Southern Region of Malaysia. Cooperation with regional neighbours, particularly in infrastructure, skilled labour, and policy support, will be critical to unlocking opportunities.
3. **Sustainability:** Sustainability was underscored as a non-negotiable pillar of future development. The importance of integrating green technologies and reducing the carbon footprint was highlighted, ensuring that future developments are both environmentally responsible and socially impactful.
4. **Equity:** The need for inclusivity in real estate development was a central theme. Ensuring that projects create spaces accessible to all and address disparities in access and opportunities will be key to the sector's long-term success.

Moving Forward

The speaker urged industry players, including authorities, developers, and investors, to take the lessons learned from the forum and apply them with purpose. There was a call to:

- Embrace innovation and drive positive change.
- Prioritise sustainability and equity in all future projects.
- Develop talent and intellectual property (IP) to ensure continuity and progress.

The real estate sector should strive to not only build structures but create thriving, inclusive, and resilient communities, with a focus on minimising costs and avoiding reckless risk-taking.

Conclusion

The forum closed with a call to action for all participants to remain engaged, seek out new collaborations, and continue the conversations started at the event. The speaker concluded with a message of optimism for the future of real estate, acknowledging the role each stakeholder plays in shaping the industry's positive transformation.

The UEM Sunrise Real Estate Forum 2024 was officially closed, with a note of thanks and a wish for continued success in the industry.