



ALLEVIATING OLD-AGE POVERTY IN AGEING MALAYSIA

18 February 2020 | 0900 hrs | Conference Room, ISIS Malaysia

PROGRAMME

0830 - 0900

Arrival of guests and registration

0900-0910

Welcoming Remarks

Mr Terence Too

Fellow
Social Policy and National Integration (SPNI)
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia

0910-1000

Panel Discussion

Moderator:

Dr Suraya Ismail

Director of Research
Khazanah Research Institute (KRI)

Panelists:

Dr Amjad Rabi

Visiting Expert
Social Wellbeing Research Center (SWRC)
Universiti Malaya (UM)

Prof Datuk Dr Tengku Aizan Hamid

Director
Malaysian Research Institute on Ageing (MyAgeing)
Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM)

1000-1010

Refreshments

1010-1100

Commentators:

Ms Betty Hasan

Undersecretary
Policy Division
Ministry of Human Resources (MOHR) Malaysia

Ms Balqais Yusoff

Head of Strategic Management
Employees' Provident Fund (EPF)

Mr Edmund Cheong Peck Huang

Deputy Director
Administration
Social Security Organization (SOCSSO)

Mr J Solomon

Secretary-General
Malaysia Trades Union Congress (MTUC)

Tan Sri Dato' Azman Shah Haron

President
Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF)

1100-1200

Question and Answer Session

1200-1300

Lunch

1300-1500

Launch of 2019 Global Go To Think Tank Index and Discussion on "Why Think Tanks Matter Forum"

INTRODUCTION

Malaysia's demographic structure is anticipated to experience a transformative shift as it is expected to reach "aged country" status by 2030 whereby the older population will account for 15 per cent of the total population. While these shifts convey public health success in achieving longer life expectancies, there will be implications in nearly all sectors of society which includes labor and financial markets, demand for goods and services, transportation, social protection and family structures.

Is this "grey tsunami" a cause for concern? While it is not all doom and gloom, the future may seem bleak for some – old age poverty is inevitable. While most are relying on EPF savings to be their safety net, it was reported in 2015 that 80 per cent of EPF members who turned 55 did not have sufficient savings in their accounts to live above the poverty line. Will they then rely on welfare? Or should we encourage continued employment?

This discussion will seek to examine the following:

- i) Healthier ageing and increased life expectancy allow us to work longer. In practice, there are many firms which continue to hire employees past their retirement age but this is usually not the case for those who need employment the most. How do we shape re-employment policies to be more targeted towards more vulnerable groups?
- ii) Should we establish parameters on re-employment policies and what steps can be taken to encourage age-friendly work environments?
- iii) How do we extend work-related protection schemes for mature employees?
- iv) How do we disassociate productivity from retirement age?

RSVP

ADMISSION IS FREE | Please confirm your participation not later than **Friday, 7 February 2020** to:

Mr Louis Denis:

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(Please tick as appropriate) Yes, I will be able to attend

No, I will not able to attend

I will send a representative

Name: _____ Organisation: _____

Position: _____ Tel/HP: _____ Email: _____