



MINISTRY OF PLANTATION AND COMMODITIES
MALAYSIA

MEDIA STATEMENT

**MALAYSIA-EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION ECONOMIC
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT DELIVERS PREFERENTIAL MARKET
ACCESS AND STRONG RECOGNITION FOR MALAYSIAN SUSTAINABLE
PALM OIL**

On 23 June 2025, Malaysia and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) member states Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein signed the Malaysia-European Free Trade Association Economic Partnership Agreement (MEEPA), further deepening trade ties and sustainability cooperation between Malaysia and EFTA countries.

Under the Agreement, Malaysian palm oil will benefit from reduced import tariffs through a tariff rate quota mechanism, with tariff reductions ranging from 20% to 40%, depending on the product type. MSPO certification is established as a prerequisite for accessing these reduced tariffs, positioning MSPO as a key enabler of improved market access for Malaysian palm oil exporters to EFTA countries.

As part of MEEPA, both parties also adopted a Joint Statement on Sustainable Palm Oil, which enhances international recognition of Malaysia's leadership in sustainable palm oil production and reinforces trust in MSPO certified supply.

The efforts of the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry, together with the Ministry of Plantation and Commodities, made this recognition by the EFTA countries possible.

MEEFTA delivers three critical outcomes, namely providing tariff reductions for MSPO-certified palm oil, securing international recognition of MSPO as Malaysia's national sustainability standard, and strengthening the commitment to greater transparency, traceability, and deforestation-free supply chains.

For Malaysia's palm oil industry, this Agreement provides a stronger platform to compete in global sustainability driven markets, from smallholders to larger producers, while reinforcing market access and tariff advantages for MSPO certified supply.

Minister of Plantation and Commodities YB Dato' Seri Johari Abdul Ghani said:

"The Ministry of Plantation and Commodities views this Agreement as an important reference point for Malaysia's position in the ongoing Malaysia EU Free Trade Agreement negotiations with the 27 EU member states.

The Ministry of Plantation and Commodities will continue to work closely with the Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry to ensure that Malaysia's sustainability leadership, through MSPO, is fully reflected and protected in all future trade agreements including with the European Union.

Malaysia remains fully committed to driving global progress in sustainable, responsible and deforestation- free palm oil trade, with MSPO at the centre of these efforts.”

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