



WORLD SOCIAL
SECURITY FORUM

KUALA LUMPUR 2025

29 SEPTEMBER–3 OCTOBER 2025

Hosted by:



With support from:



EMBARGO: Not be printed or
broadcasted on any platforms before
12 p.m., 29 September 2025

For media release
29 September 2025

MALAYSIA AT THE FRONTIER: CHARTING A GLOBAL ROADMAP FOR FUTURE-READY SOCIAL SECURITY

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia stands at the frontier of global dialogue to chart the world towards a global roadmap for inclusive, sustainable, and future-ready social security systems.

This vision took centre stage today as Kuala Lumpur hosts the World Social Security Forum (WSSF) 2025, officiated by Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC).

The five-day event, running until 3rd October, positions Kuala Lumpur as the hub of international dialogue on social protection. Organised by the International Social Security Association (ISSA), cohosted by Social Security Organization (PERKESO) and the Employees Provident Fund (EPF), with support from *Kumpulan Wang Persaraan* (Diperbadankan) [KWAP] and the Implementation Coordination Unit of the Prime Ministers Department (ICU JPM), WSSF 2025 carries the theme “Shaping Social Security for a World in Transition”.

With over 2,000 participants representing 253 institutions from 133 countries, including ministers, CEOs, technical experts, and representatives from international bodies such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Bank, the forum marks the world's largest gathering on social protection.

The National Presentation on Malaysia's Social Security highlighted the nation's reforms to expand coverage, strengthen financial sustainability and integrate digital technology.

Malaysia's approach is increasingly recognised as a model for balancing domestic priorities with global challenges, from the rise of the gig economy and ageing populations to the need for stronger, more resilient institutions.

The afternoon plenary, Global Developments and Trends in Social Security, brought together international experts to assess how demographic shifts, digitalisation and changing labour markets are reshaping protection systems worldwide.

Discussions underscored the urgent need for agile and resilient systems capable of addressing climate change, informality and rapid technological disruption.

These insights will frame the conversations throughout the week and guide the collective effort

towards a future-ready global social protection agenda.

Commenting on the importance of the forum, ISSA President, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohammed Azman Aziz Mohammed, said let Kuala Lumpur be the heart where a covenant is born as the daunting task before us is to chart the course of global social security for the years ahead.

"We will debate, question, and challenge, while also learn from the innovations of others and share our own. And above all, we will find common ground, because the task before us is greater than any institution or country.

"I expect that this forum will generate a renewed commitment to protect those still left behind, anticipate risks not yet visible and more importantly, act with urgency.

"For every day we wait, more lives fall through the cracks and huge fraction of the 2 billion people that remain unprotected are still exposed to lost livelihoods, shrinking incomes and fragile health," he said.

The WSSF 2025 will continue with sessions on transformation and innovation in social security management, interactive workshops and showcases of new approaches.

The forum will culminate in the World Social Security Summit on Friday, where leaders will set the tone for the next decade of inclusive and future-ready social security worldwide.

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Issued by:
Corporate Communications and Affairs Division
29 September 2025

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