



ASIA TRADER AND INVESTOR CONVENTION 2009

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HALL 2, GROUND FLOOR, KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE

OPENING REMARKS BY

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BURSA MALAYSIA BERHAD

Good morning,

Mr. Stephen Lai, Chief Executive Officer of NextView

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

First and foremost, thank you for taking time off to join us at the Asia Trader and Investor Convention 2009, especially on a weekend. I find conferences such as this very useful in making smart discoveries on investment opportunities. I am honoured to be a part of this convention and to share some thoughts with you this morning.

I would like to acknowledge Mr. Stephen Lai and his team in NextView for their efforts in organising the ATIC 2009, despite the global economic conditions. Needless to say, the current economic situation has posed insurmountable challenges since last year. I believe that conditions may remain unfavourable until we see some clear signals of economic stability globally. Obviously, we too have been affected here in Malaysia. However, we are here today not to be despondent about the unsettling economic news, but rather to gain more knowledge and insights of the market in these trying times.

Regardless of a bullish or a bearish market, opportunities are always available to be explored. The question remains how high a risk are we willing to take. It is particularly crucial that we make the right decisions especially in uncertain periods like now. However, in order to make sound decisions, we must first get the right information. I believe ATIC 2009 could shed some light on opportunities that remain in our market and ways for investors to strengthen their investment plans.



Ladies and gentlemen,

Bursa Malaysia strongly supports investments made based on sound information and not based on rumours or speculation. In an ever-evolving and increasingly sophisticated market, it is even more important to equip ourselves with fundamental investment knowledge, better understanding of risks and identification of any pitfalls. Let me share with you some initiatives undertaken by the Exchange towards growing the retail market.

Continuous engagement with retail investors has been a priority of ours in Bursa Malaysia. From September 2008 until the end of last month, we rolled out a series of investment roadshows called "*Market Chat*". This was effectively an educational programme that provides investors with information on the market. Together with seven strong partners, the Market Chat 2008/2009 series was successfully completed in 48 locations nationwide and saw face-to-face interaction between brokers and over 10,000 investors.

During dismal market conditions, investors are concerned about factors affecting their investments such as counterparty risk, transparency and liquidity. We find that Exchange Traded Funds or better known as ETFs are becoming popular as it allows investors to invest in one product which gives them access to a group of stocks in a single transaction and at a lower cost. You can learn more about ETFs through this convention as well as through Bursa Malaysia's website.

At Bursa Malaysia, we promote disclosure of significant information pertaining to developments of a listed company as we believe information is key to making informed investment decisions. What is important is for investors to be provided with adequate information on the financial conditions of a listed company in a timely manner. We have a scheme called the CMDF Bursa Research Scheme or better known as CBRS, which serves as a hub for information on selected participating listed companies. The research and coverage is done on smaller capitalised stocks by research houses such as Standard and Poors. The research report is then posted on our website and made available for free for anyone who is looking for information. This is done to ensure that



the market is continuously provided with regular information which enables investors to assess the progress of a listed company.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Smart investors who are well-informed and aware of market trends, opportunities or drawbacks are better able to strategise and plan their investments. Take every opportunity at this convention to talk to the financial experts and investment gurus. Learn strategies and assess them carefully before taking any major steps in your investment decision. Get better understanding of the differences in the investment tools and products that suit your investment choice and risk appetites. This will potentially diversify and strengthen your portfolio in the long run.

Before I take my leave, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our seven business partners who worked closely with us in the *Market Chat* programme by presenting them with a token of our appreciation for their strong support.

I would also like to congratulate Nextview for taking on this event that encourages investors to embrace tenets of information-based investing. It is timely for NEXTVIEW to provide this seminar to investors and ATIC has worked hard to be a relevant platform for networking and educating investors on financial investment opportunities in the market. I certainly hope that these efforts will contribute towards the development of a well-informed and sophisticated investment community, which can only make the market more vibrant.

Thank you.