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TRATAX TAX CONFERENCE 2026

taxation beyond compliance

22nd January 2026, Thursday
KLCC Convention Centre

Guest Speakers



Datuk Johan Mahmood Merican
Treasury Secretary General of
Malaysia



Datuk Dr. Abu Tariq Bin Jamaluddin
CEO & Director General,
Lembaga Hasil Dalam Negeri
(LHDN)



Dato' John Patrick Antonysamy
Tax Undersecretary,
Ministry of Finance (MoF)

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In recent times, multiple new tax policies and notable technical developments have reshaped the Malaysian tax landscape. This flagship conference provides highlights the major trend in recent tax measures for finance and tax leaders to have a strategic view of developments.

The conference brings together tax professionals and senior government officials to offer a balanced view and actionable takeaways for attendees.

Budget 2026 tabled in the Parliament by the Honourable Prime Minister on 10th October 2025. The conference is well-timed to capture wide range of technical information made available after the Budget announcement (Finance Act and Ministerial Orders) as well as the practical implementation aspects for industry players to make informed decisions.

Specially designed for

***Finance Directors &
Finance Managers***

***Corporate
Accountants***

***Tax
Professionals***

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Agenda

8:15 am -
9:00 am

Registration & Welcome Refreshments

9:00 am -
10:15 am

Budget 2026 - What's in it for businesses?

Moderator:

Thenesh Kannaa

Executive Director, TRATAX

Speaker:

Datuk Johan Mahmood Merican

*Secretary General of Treasury,
Ministry of Finance (MoF)*

10:15 am -
10:45 am

Refreshments and Networking

10:45 am -
11:45 am

New Investment Incentive Framework & Focus Areas for Tax Incentives

Moderator:

Ahmad Khairuddin Abdul Rahim

Special Advisor, TRATAX

Speakers:

Masni Binti Muhammad

*Senior Executive Director
Investment Policy Advocacy, MIDA*

Doreen Fadli

*Head of Market and Tax Development
Labuan FSA*

Rudyanto Azhar

*Director
Iskandar Regional Development
Authority (IRDA)*

11:45 am -
12:30 pm

Special Address on LHDN's Focus Areas

Speaker:

Datuk Dr. Abu Tariq Bin Jamaluddin

CEO & Director General of LHDN

12:30 pm -
1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 pm -
2:30 pm

Emerging Trends in Tax Disputes

Moderator:

Datuk Francis Tan

Consultant, Azman Davidson & Co

Panelists:

Renganathan Kannan

Executive Director, TRATAX

Krystal Ng

Partner, Wong & Partners (Baker McKenzie)

2:30 pm -
3:30 pm

Stamp Duty Self-Assessment & Emerging Issue

Moderator:

Thenesh Kannaa

Executive Director, TRATAX

Panelists:

Rosnita Binti Ahmad

Chief Tax Policy Officer, LHDM

Sheba Gumis

Partner, Skrine

3:30 pm -
4:00 pm

Refreshments and Networking

4:00 pm -
5:00 pm

Sales & Service Tax (SST) Expansion: Critical Issues

Moderator:

Dato' Sri Subromaniam Tholasy

Special Advisor, TRATAX

Panelists

Dato' John Patrick Antonysamy

Undersecretary, Tax Division, MoF

Siti Salasiah Binti Wan

Deputy Director, Customs

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Speaker Profile (Confirmed Speakers)

MOF, LHDN & Customs



Datuk Johan bin Mahmood Merican is the Treasury Secretary General of Malaysia since in February 2023. He was previously the Deputy Secretary General (Policy) and National Budget Director at the Ministry of Finance. Prior to that, Datuk Johan Mahmood Merican held the position of Deputy Director General (Human Capital) at the Economy Planning Unit and Chief Executive Officer of Talent Corporation Malaysia. He serves on the Boards of Bintulu Port Holding Berhad, Samalaju Industrial Port Sdn Bhd, Malaysia Airports Holding Berhad, Kumpulan Wang Simpanan Pekerja, Pengurusan Aset Air Berhad, Govco Holdings Berhad, MyDIGITAL Corporation, Pembinaan PFI Sdn Bhd, University Malaya, Malaysia and Chairman of Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia.



Datuk Dr Abu Tariq bin Jamaluddin is presently the Chief Executive Officer of the Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia. Prior to his current post, he was the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Compliance), having oversight of the investigation, audit and intelligence arms of the Board. A qualified lawyer and having served the Board for over 30 years, he has extensive advisory, litigation and drafting experience in all aspects of tax laws and has represented the Director General of Inland Revenue before the Special Commissioners of Income Tax and at the superior courts of Malaysia in many landmark cases. Abu Tariq was instrumental in setting-up the Dispute Resolution Panel, an initiative introduced to expedite tax appeals by taxpayers and was its first Chairman. He is also technically experienced having been involved significantly since 1997 in the drafting of laws to cater to Malaysia's annual national budget. In pursuit of the Board's mission and objectives, he advocates a fair, independent and transparent approach to activities under his purview. On the international stage, Abu Tariq was elected as President of the Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators (CATA) for the 2024–2027 term, a testament to his expertise and vision in the field. He is often seen as a speaker and panellist on the national and international taxation conferences' circuit.



Dato' John Patrick Antonymsamy is the Under-Secretary of Tax Division at the Ministry of Finance. Previously, he was Deputy Director General II at the Public-Private Partnership Unit under the Prime Minister's Department. He has served in the Government Administrative and Diplomatic Service for the last 28 years in several roles. He served in the Ministry of Finance in the Budget Division as well as the Economics and International Relations Division. His area of work involved Malaysia's participation in finance-related areas in ASEAN, APEC and ASEM as well as international organisations such as the World Bank, IMF, ADB, and WTO. Besides that, he has also served in the Tax Division and was responsible for FTA negotiations on tax issues, the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement as well as OECD and Multilateral Tax Issues. He has also served as Malaysia's Chief Negotiator for ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA).



Rosnita Binti Ahmad is the Chief Tax Policy Officer in the Tax Policy Sector of the Malaysian Inland Revenue Board (LHDN). She has extensive experience in tax policy formulation and operational matters, having served with the IRBM. Throughout her career in IRBM, she has held several key positions, including Division Director of the Tax Policy Department, Director of the Special Industry Branch, Director of the Large Taxpayers Branch, and Director of the Tax Compliance Department. She has been appointed as a delegate for the 20th Meeting of the Working Group on the ASEAN Forum on Taxation in 2025. She is also the member of IRBM's Finance Bill Drafting Working Committee for Budget 2026.



Siti Salasiah Binti Wan is a Deputy Director at the Royal Malaysian Customs Department. With a distinguished career spanning over three decades, she has held various leadership and operational roles across several key divisions including the Internal Tax Division, Compliance Management Division, and Management and Human Resource Division. Her vast experience and deep understanding of Customs administration have significantly contributed to strengthening the department's governance, compliance, and human capital development initiatives.

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Speaker Profile (Confirmed Speakers)

Tax Advisors



Thenesh Kannaa is an Executive Director at TRATAX Sdn Bhd, where he leads international tax and indirect tax practice lines. He is also the International Tax Leader for APAC region, WTS Global. He is the co-chair of the Technical Committee on Tax Policy of Chartered Tax Institute of Malaysia (CTIM). Thenesh has authored three (3) books on Malaysian taxation, two (2) chapter-in-books for international tax publications of IFA and IBFD respectively. Thenesh is also member of ACCA's expert panel on taxation and a member of IFA Malaysia's exco. He has made technical and tax policy related presentations in over 100 tax conferences held in Malaysia, Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Netherlands, Portugal, Singapore and Taiwan. His area of experience include cross-border M&A transactions, tax incentive and international trade. He has successfully represented various multinationals in applications with MOF, IRBM, RMCD and MIDA.



Renganathan Kannan is an Executive Director at TRATAX, where he leads the tax certainty and controversy practice line. Renga regularly advises clients from diverse industries on the tax audit, investigation and appeal matters as well as practice measures for tax certainty. He has served as an elected council member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA), and presently a member of MIA's Taxation Practice Committee. He has also served as the Honorary Secretary of ASEAN-India Business Council (AIBC). Renga is a fellow member of various local and international professional bodies and associations for the tax and chartered accountancy sector. A familiar face at various tax forums, seminars and media, known for comments on contemporary tax matters.



Dato' Sri Subromaniam Tholasy is a special advisor for TRATAX for Customs and indirect tax matters. Prior to that, he had a distinguished career in Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) spanning 35 years as the Director General of Customs and Excise, where he was leading the entire Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD). During his tenure at RMCD, he was responsible both for the introduction of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in 2015 and the introduction of Sales and Service Tax (SST) in 2018. In TRATAX he participates in matters pertaining to SST, GST (post repeal matters), excise duty and import duty matters. His notable achievements include serving as the chairman of ASEAN's Customs for the 2018-2019 session. Dato' Sri Subromaniam has been awarded the highly regarded 'Tokoh Kastam' recognition by the Prime Minister of Malaysia in 2024.



Ahmad khairuddin Rahim is a special advisor for TRATAX for tax and investment incentives matters. He retired as Deputy Chief Executive Office (Investment Development) of the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) in 2022, having served MIDA for more than 31 years. Last portfolio in MIDA on investment development, covered 11 divisions, namely: Business Services and Regional Operations; Chemical & Advanced Materials; Electrical and Electronics; Food Technology & Resources; Life Sciences & Medical Technology; Lifestyle; Machinery and Metal; Oil & Gas, Maritime & Logistics; Green Technology; Healthcare, Education & Hospitality; Transport Technology; and one unit, i.e., BioCircular Economy.

Industry Facilitation Agencies



Masni Binti Muhammad is the Senior Executive Director of Investment Policy Advocacy (Manufacturing) at Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA). She joined MIDA in August 1998 and has worked across multiple Divisions in MIDA which include the Petrochemical Industry Division, Chemical Advanced and Material, Oil & Gas and Maritime Technology, and Strategic Planning & Policy Advocacy (Manufacturing). Masni has extensive knowledge in the manufacturing industry and vast experience in evaluating high-quality projects. Throughout her career of more than 22 years, MIDA has provided her the opportunity to be part of the country's industrial development, including recommending policies for related industries to the Government and stakeholders. Her present responsibility includes coordinating and preparing of Malaysia's Investment Performance Report and MIDA's Annual Report, investment-related incentive and facilitation proposals for the Annual Budget Announcement.



Doreen Fadli is the Head of Market and Tax Development at Labuan Financial Services Authority (Labuan FSA), where she leads strategic initiatives in policy formulation, tax development and business facilitation to strengthen Labuan IBFC's position as a premier international financial centre. In her role, she oversees the development and review of tax frameworks and incentives for key business segments within Labuan IBFC, supporting competitiveness, compliance and sustainable industry growth. She has been instrumental in several key regulatory and developmental initiatives, including the revision of captive insurance guidelines, the establishment of the Securities Token Offering (STO) framework and the advancement of digital finance, wealth management, reinsurance and other emerging growth sectors.



Rudyanto Azhar is Director of Economic Development at Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA), which is instrumental in Johor Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ). He is a seasoned executive with over two decades of leadership experience in transportation, infrastructure, and regional development. He has previously led the Iskandar Rapid Transit initiative and held senior roles at MRT Corporation, Prasarana and SPAD.

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Speaker Profile (Confirmed Speakers)

Legal Professionals



Datuk Francis Tan, is a full-time consultant of Azman Davidson & Co since 2009. He has over 30 years of experience working with the government and the private sector. From 1972 to 1976, he served as an Assistant Registrar of Companies in what was known then as the Ministry of Trade and Industry. After leaving government service, he served as the Group Company Secretary of a large group of companies from 1977 to 1985. In 1985, he joined Azman Davidson & Co where he subsequently became Managing Partner. He has also been a commissioner with the Securities Commission since 1999 to 2018.

He is on the roll of Advocates & Solicitors of Brunei as well as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales. His area of practice includes corporate and tax matters. He has advised on business structures and takeovers and mergers, particularly from the aspect of tax efficiency.



Krystal Ng is a partner in the Tax, Trade and Wealth Management Practice Group at Wong & Partners, member firm of Baker McKenzie International. Her primary focus is on providing strategic tax and transfer pricing advice in the context of cross-border transactions, as well as post-merger and acquisition integrations for multi-national clients in the oil & gas, consumer goods, technology sectors and more.

Krystal regularly assists with a broad range of tax issues including income tax, double tax treaties, withholding tax, real property gains tax, and tax incentives and exemptions. By drawing on her practical insights into tax structuring and post-merger integrations, she helps businesses navigate complex changes and develop an optimal, tax-effective global business model.



Sheba Gumis is a corporate partner at Skrine, with experience in mergers and acquisitions and providing advice on foreign direct investment in a wide range of industries including the set-up of joint ventures and other investment structures in Malaysia. She has notable experience in healthcare, education and hospitality sectors.

As part of her portfolio, Sheba regularly deals with legal and regulatory compliance issues involving regulatory authorities such as the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority, Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, Bank Negara Malaysia and others.

Sheba has been ranked as "Rising Star Partner" in IFLR 1000 (2023) and has been described by Asia Law (2022) as being "enthusiastic, knowledgeable and a joy to work with".

Program Fee

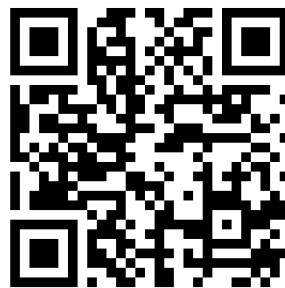
RM 1,200

*Fee per Participant
(subject to 8% tax)*

Group Discount

**10% for 3 or more
participants from
same company**

Scan QR for registration



Registration closes by

14 January 2026

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Participants will be presented with a Certificate of Attendance.