



# 4

THRUST

MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE NINTH MALAYSIA PLAN, 2006-2010

## IMPROVING THE STANDARD AND SUSTAINABILITY OF QUALITY OF LIFE





## IMPROVING THE STANDARD AND SUSTAINABILITY OF QUALITY OF LIFE

### I. INTRODUCTION

The Ninth Plan emphasised that economic growth must be accompanied by a rise in the quality of life across the country. For this, the Plan laid down various strategies to ensure better accessibility to health care, utilities and housing; extend roads to rural areas, and improve public transportation and road safety. Measures were also taken to provide a safe and secure environment for the people. Given the challenges of rapid socio-economic development and its impact on the family, various programmes were implemented to build a more caring society and promote community well-being. These included measures to empower women, protect children and enhance the role of youth in society. Sports and recreational activities were enhanced to attract more Malaysians to adopt a healthy lifestyle as well as to achieve excellence in sports at the national and international levels. There were also measures to enhance the role of culture, arts and heritage to promote national identity and unity. The Plan also recognised the need to manage the environment and natural resources in a more holistic and integrated manner as part of raising the quality of life.

The remaining Plan period will see a major push to raise the quality of living of the people across the country through greater accessibility as well as improved quality of health care and other social amenities. Provision of adequate, quality and affordable housing and extending

electricity and potable water to the rural areas and the urban poor will be emphasised. An enlarged network of transport facilities will integrate the urban and rural areas. This will help improve accessibility of the rural population to markets and urban services. The development of an integrated public transport system will be undertaken to provide efficient services. Public safety will be further improved with the increase in capacity and capabilities of the police force and greater involvement of the community. Strategic programmes will be implemented to strengthen the family institution to meet the challenges of urbanisation and modern living styles. Sports and recreational activities will be further expanded to promote an active and healthy lifestyle as well as achieve sporting excellence. The appreciation for the nation's culture, arts and heritage will be promoted. Further measures will also be taken to protect the environment and ensure sustainable use of natural resources, including mainstreaming environmental considerations into development planning.

### II. KEY RESULTS, 2006-2007

There were concerted efforts to fulfil the needs that are intrinsically linked to improving the quality of life. These included implementation of various initiatives and projects geared towards improving accessibility and quality of health care and basic utilities; providing

affordable housing and better urban services; creating a healthy and safe environment; improving transportation; and promoting sustainable management of resources. Together, these initiatives contributed towards improving the well-

being of society. In addition, social stability was maintained within a milieu of a caring society that continued to enjoy peace, security and harmony. The output of the various initiatives is shown in Box 4-1.

#### Box 4-1

#### Key Results, 2006-2007

Commitment	Output
<i>Health</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expanding primary care services</li> <li>▪ Increasing health promotion and education activities</li> <li>▪ Implementing and consolidating the provision of secondary and tertiary care</li> <li>▪ Addressing health needs of specific target groups</li> <li>▪ Meeting human resource needs of the medical sector</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 34 health clinics and 72 rural clinics built, bringing the total to 824 health clinics and 2,073 rural clinics</li> <li>▪ <i>MyHealth</i> portal launched as an Internet-based health education channel. Screening and early detection of risk factors were integrated into services provided at health clinics</li> <li>▪ 21 hospitals completed, bringing the total to 130, while 61 hospitals provided secondary care and tertiary care was provided on a regional basis</li> <li>▪ Health care for the elderly was provided in 600 clinics or 73% of the total, while health care for children with special needs were provided in 214 clinics or 26% of the total</li> <li>▪ Number of doctors increased from 15,421 in 2005 to 18,140 in 2007. Number of specialists increased from 2,014 in 2005 to 2,413 in 2007</li> </ul>
<i>Housing and Urban Services</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constructing low-cost houses</li> <li>▪ Enhancing management capabilities of local authorities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 32,000 units of low-cost houses built</li> <li>▪ 3,702 units built under <i>Program Perumahan Rakyat (PPR) Dimiliki</i> with Government subsidy of RM129.6 million</li> <li>▪ <i>e-PBT</i>, one-stop centres (OSCs) and star rating system implemented</li> </ul>
<i>Family Development</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Strengthening family institution</li> <li>▪ Protecting children and improving their welfare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4,000 participants benefitted from family development programmes, including SMARTSTART and Parenting@Work programmes</li> <li>▪ 11,000 children benefitted from crisis and educational support services, child development activities and motivational camps</li> <li>▪ 13,000 children benefitted from 103 programmes carried out through child welfare committees</li> </ul>

Commitment	Output																	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Moulding dynamic youth</li> <li>▪ Improving the status and well-being of women</li> <li>▪ Integrating persons with disabilities (PWDs) into society</li> <li>▪ Promoting active and productive ageing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 90,100 youth benefitted from Youth to Youth programmes</li> <li>▪ 738,000 youth benefitted from <i>Rakan Muda</i> programmes</li> <li>▪ 195,000 youth benefitted from National Service Programme</li> <li>▪ National Youth Act enacted in 2007 to promote and facilitate youth development</li> <li>▪ Malaysian Institute for Research in Youth Development established to undertake research on youth issues</li> <li>▪ 11,000 women trained in information and communications technology (ICT) skills and handicraft</li> <li>▪ 420 single mothers trained under <i>Inkubator Kemahiran Ibu Tunggal</i> (I-KIT) programme</li> <li>▪ 66 rehabilitation centres built, making a total of 379 centres</li> <li>▪ Persons with Disabilities Act and a national policy on PWDs enacted in 2007</li> <li>▪ Database on PWDs developed</li> <li>▪ 35 mobile Caring Services Units provided</li> <li>▪ 3 day-care centres built, making a total of 19 centres</li> <li>▪ Lifelong learning programmes implemented</li> </ul>																	
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<b>Sewerage</b>																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expanding sewerage services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 650,000 new population equivalent (PE) served</li> <li>▪ 308 existing small sewerage treatment plants (STPs) repaired and upgraded</li> </ul>																	

<sup>1</sup> This refers to rural housing units served as a percentage of total rural housing units. This figure is computed based on Census 2000 data excluding housing units served with private individual generators.

Commitment	Output
<i>Environment</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improving air quality</li> <li>▪ Improving river water quality</li> <li>▪ Managing toxic and hazardous waste</li> <li>▪ Protecting endangered species of wild flora and fauna</li> <li>▪ Flood management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmental Quality (Control of Petrol and Diesel Properties) Regulations 2007 gazetted on 1 April 2007 to improve quality of fuel</li> <li>▪ 91 out of 143 river basins classified as clean in 2007 as compared to 80 in 2005</li> <li>▪ Environmental Quality Act 1974 amended to provide for mandatory jail sentence for illegal disposal of scheduled waste and to make the chief executive officer liable for the offence committed by the company</li> <li>▪ International Trade in Endangered Species Act 2008 (Act 686) gazetted to regulate international trade in endangered species of wild flora and fauna</li> <li>▪ River Basin Management Plan on Sungai Kedah completed in 2007 and the Kedah Water Resources Enactment gazetted</li> <li>▪ SMART Tunnel started operation in 2007</li> </ul>
<i>Roads</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constructing roads to connect resettlement areas to rural industrial areas and estates, particularly in Sabah and Sarawak</li> <li>▪ Implementing road safety programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 317 km of rural roads constructed/upgraded, including 98 km in Sabah and 60 km in Sarawak</li> <li>▪ 988 accident-prone spots improved</li> <li>▪ Road accident fatality rate per 10,000 registered vehicles decreased from 4.2 in 2005 to 3.7 in 2007</li> </ul>
<i>Urban Transport</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improving the efficiency and reliability of urban transport services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Kepong Sentral Station completed and 29 <i>Komuter</i> stations upgraded</li> <li>▪ Average passengers per day for urban rail increased from 438,055 in 2005 to 478,300 in 2007</li> <li>▪ Rapid Penang bus service in Pulau Pinang commenced in July 2007</li> </ul>
<i>Air Transport</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expanding airport capacity and facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One airport upgraded and one terminal for low-cost carrier built</li> <li>▪ Total passenger traffic increased by 8.6% from 42.8 million in 2005 to 46.5 million in 2007</li> </ul>
<i>Rail Transport</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increasing network coverage/accessibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rawang-Ipoh electrified double tracking rail project completed in 2007</li> <li>▪ Rehabilitation and upgrading of Tampin and Jerantut stations</li> </ul>

Commitment	Output
<i>Public Safety</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhancing public safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An additional 5,202 police personnel recruited in 2006 and 5,342 in 2007</li> <li>162 new police stations established in private premises mainly in Johor, Pulau Pinang, Selangor and Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur</li> </ul>
<i>Culture, Arts and Heritage</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inculcating cultural values</li> <li>Enhancing culture, arts and heritage</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>300,000 people benefitted from 8 nationwide campaigns on courtesy and good values</li> <li>600,000 people benefitted from 3,215 culture and arts activities</li> <li>569 culture and arts trainers received enhanced training</li> <li>134 conservation projects implemented</li> </ul>
<i>Sports</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promoting active and healthy lifestyles through sports and recreation</li> <li>Developing a sports culture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 million people benefitted from 800 aerobic and fitness programmes conducted nationwide</li> <li>640,000 people benefitted from 1,623 sports and recreational programmes</li> <li>2,737 sports associations benefitted from financial aid and other assistance</li> </ul>

### III. MOVING FORWARD, 2008-2010

#### Health

Sustaining and raising the health status of all Malaysians is a vital component of national development. The provision of health care services will be further integrated and the quality of care enhanced towards achieving a healthier society. Health care delivery will be improved at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. The changing disease patterns, rural-urban disparities and rising expectations of the public will be addressed.

Primary health care will continue to be the thrust of the health care system. Although there is an overall improvement in the health status of the population, new challenges have arisen. Communicable diseases such as Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) are on the increase, while malaria and tuberculosis have re-emerged. Non-communicable diseases, such as cardiovascular diseases, cancers, diabetes and mental disorders, are also on the increase. Since non-communicable diseases are preventable, greater investment will be made on health promotion, education and adoption of healthy lifestyle practices. This will include promoting physical

activity and extending the healthy living concept to schools and workplace. HIV/AIDS prevention and control programmes will be strengthened, by among others, intensifying cooperation with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to provide care and support for those infected and affected. Clinical preventive services, which include screening as well as early detection and management of preventable risk factors, will be provided at all health clinics.

The delivery of affordable and accessible health care will focus on improving integration between all levels of care through greater collaboration between the public and private sectors and making services more patient-oriented. Existing facilities will be upgraded and new ones built, equipped with modern diagnostic equipment to provide higher quality care in a more conducive environment. Health care to the less accessible groups, such as the *Orang Asli* and minority groups in remote parts of Sabah and Sarawak, will be further enhanced. More mobile clinics, including flying doctor services, will be made available for those in remote areas. Health surveillance and response will be further strengthened to prevent and minimise the impact of disease outbreaks and disasters. The delivery of pre-hospital, emergency and ambulatory care services will be upgraded to reduce the number of admissions and period of hospitalisation. Home care nursing will be expanded with multidisciplinary teams capable of providing pharmaceutical advice as well as palliative and rehabilitative care. Teleconsultation services will be expanded nationwide and the *MyHealth* portal enhanced to allow for interactive health risk assessment.

Secondary and tertiary care services, which focus on curative and rehabilitative care, will continue to be strengthened. Clinical care networks, centres of excellence and regionalisation of tertiary care services will be further developed to improve access. The integration of traditional and complementary medicine (TCM) into the health delivery system will focus on its application in practices such as pain management, nutrition and rehabilitation. Health research will support evidence-based decision-making and improve health outcomes. Registries for diabetes, hypertension, mental illness and injuries will be developed to enable research to provide broad-based interventions to control and prevent these diseases. Quality assurance will be enhanced to improve quality of care and ensure patient safety.

A key challenge facing the health sector is ensuring the availability of adequate health personnel in the public sector. Although the health professionals to population ratios have improved, some disparities still exist. Since human resource remains the central component of the health care delivery system, the capacity of health professionals will be continuously developed to keep abreast with latest advancements to meet the changing health needs of the people. Initiatives to overcome health personnel shortage will include increasing the intake of students into institutions of higher learning and decentralising decisions on human resource deployment. A new benefits package to retain health personnel in the public sector will also be considered.

Affordable and quality health care...

Table 4-1

## Health Personnel: Population Ratio, 2005 and 2007

Type of Personnel	Number		Ratio to Population	
	2005	2007	2005	2007
Doctors <sup>1</sup>	20,105	23,738	1 : 1,300	1 : 1,145
Dentists <sup>1</sup>	2,751	3,163	1 : 9,497	1 : 8,586
Pharmacists <sup>1</sup>	4,012	5,730	1 : 6,512	1 : 4,742
Nurses <sup>1</sup>	44,120	48,196	1 : 592	1 : 556
Medical Assistants <sup>1</sup>	6,709	7,948	1 : 3,894	1 : 3,419
Dental Technicians <sup>2</sup>	655	684	1 : 39,889	1 : 39,728
Dental Surgery Assistants <sup>2</sup>	2,355	2,632	1 : 11,094	1 : 10,324
Community Nurses <sup>2</sup>	15,618	16,883	1 : 1,673	1 : 1,610
Dental Nurses <sup>2</sup>	2,071	2,319	1 : 12,616	1 : 11,718
Occupational Therapists <sup>2</sup>	301	405	1 : 86,802	1 : 67,096
Physiotherapists <sup>2</sup>	468	576	1 : 55,828	1 : 47,177
Radiographers <sup>2</sup>	1,156	1,375	1 : 22,602	1 : 19,763
Medical Laboratory Technologists <sup>2</sup>	3,302	3,684	1 : 7,913	1 : 7,376

Notes: <sup>1</sup> Includes public and private sectors.

<sup>2</sup> Refers to the ratio in Ministry of Health.

Collaboration between public and private health care providers will be strengthened to ensure efficient and optimal utilisation of resources. Outsourcing of services, leasing of public health facilities to private practitioners and collaborating with private medical institutions in the training of medical and allied health personnel will continue to be undertaken. Private providers will also be encouraged to give greater emphasis to disease prevention and health promotion.

The ever increasing demand for better health services and the changing disease patterns are contributing towards escalating health care costs. Accordingly, the Government will examine options towards meeting the rising cost of health care to ensure that health care remains

accessible, affordable and relevant to the people's needs. These efforts will contribute towards achieving better health for all.

### Housing and Urban Services

The public sector housing programme will continue to focus on the provision of adequate, quality and affordable houses for all, particularly the low- and low-middle income groups. The implementation of the low-cost housing programme will be expedited with the construction of an additional 18,500 units under the PPR for rental scheme. In addition, 12,300 units of affordable houses under the *Rumah Mampu Milik* programme will be built by 2010. Efforts will also be undertaken to provide low-cost housing areas with

adequate facilities and amenities to provide a pleasant living environment. In the case of long houses in Sabah and Sarawak, the PPR scheme will be adapted to produce appropriate house designs, taking into account prevailing ownership practices. Steps will also be taken to promote ownership by expanding rent-to-buy schemes. The identification of qualified applicants for low-cost houses will be improved with the integration of the database for registration and distribution of low-cost houses at the Federal and state levels. Greater efforts will be taken to promote the use of the Industrialised Building System (IBS) in the construction of affordable homes.

Rapid urbanisation continues to increase the demand for housing, public amenities and infrastructure, posing greater challenges to local authorities. In this regard, local authorities will have to depart from the routine provision of services and improve upon the delivery of required services. Measures will continue to be taken to strengthen the capacity and management capability of local authorities. As community involvement is crucial to good governance especially at the local level, the formation of partnerships between local authorities and communities will continue to be encouraged, including through the Local Agenda 21 programme.

The coming into enforcement of the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Act and the Solid Waste and Public Cleansing Management Corporation Act, will enable the Government to implement, among others, more cost-effective and efficient schemes for the collection, transportation and disposal of solid waste. Programmes and activities will be intensified to close dumping sites or upgrade them to sanitary landfills. In addition, solid waste management will

be further improved through greater use of material recovery technologies and emphasis on the waste to wealth concept, including the expansion of waste minimisation and recycling schemes. Additional incentives to encourage waste minimisation and promote recycling activities will be introduced.

### **Electricity Supply**

Access to electricity supply, especially in rural areas of Sabah and Sarawak will be expanded to improve the quality of life of rural communities. The increasing cost of supplying electricity to rural areas will be addressed by adopting cost-effective modes of supply, such as solar hybrid, micro-hydro and micro-wind turbine. To enable better planning of the programme and assessment of outcomes, database on the rural community will be improved. Implementation and coordination mechanism will be further strengthened to expedite supply of electricity to rural areas. Community involvement will also be enhanced to ensure sustainability of the programme. By the end of the plan period, rural electricity coverage in Sabah and Sarawak is expected to increase to 82.6% and 93.2%, respectively.

### **Water Supply and Sewerage**

Coverage of water supply in remote areas will be expanded with the implementation of more gravity flows, tube wells and rain water harvesting system through the rural water supply programme. Rural water coverage is expected to increase to 70% in Sabah and 95% in Sarawak by 2010. Water supply services will focus on expanding and upgrading the supply system and rehabilitation programmes to reduce non-revenue water. Emphasis will be placed on raising the quality of

water to meet international standards. In line with the restructuring of the water services industry, corporatisation exercise for the remaining states of Kedah, Pahang, Perak, Perlis and WP Labuan will be implemented, while the establishment of the state water regulatory body will be expedited.

The sewerage system in highly populated areas, especially in the Klang Valley, will be improved to enhance public health, safeguard the environment and reduce water pollution. Priority will be given to the rationalisation and centralisation of the sewerage networks, as well as upgrading of treatment plants. The implementation of a joint billing system by *Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Air Negara* (SPAN) will be pursued towards improving sewage bill collection.

### Transport System and Road Safety

The rural road network will continue to be expanded to meet the inadequate coverage, especially in Sabah and Sarawak. A study is being undertaken to identify additional road requirements to improve the road network and accessibility in these two states. Meanwhile, other road developments will include the East Coast Highway Phase II from Kuantan to Kuala Terengganu and the Senai-Desaru Highway.

Traffic congestion continues to be a challenge in major cities and urban centres. The insufficient road space to cope with the rapidly increasing number of private vehicles and inadequate public transport services will be addressed systematically. Efforts such as increasing coverage of the urban rail transit system and building more integrated transport terminals as well as improving the efficiency of the *Komuter*, bus and taxi services will be

undertaken to achieve the target ratio of private vehicles to public transport of 70:30 by 2010, particularly in the Klang Valley. The development of various transport infrastructure will also take into consideration providing greater accessibility and more convenient public transport facilities to PWDs. A public transport commission will be established to plan and coordinate all public transport programmes and initiatives. The commission will also be responsible for regulating the public transport sector and develop a more efficient and integrated public transport system.

The coverage of the *Komuter* service will be extended with the completion of the Sentul-Batu Caves electrified double tracking rail project, benefitting approximately 8,800 commuters per day. The Light Rail Transit (LRT) Kelana Jaya Line will be extended from Kelana Jaya to Putra Heights while the Ampang Line from Sri Petaling to Putra Heights. Connectivity will be provided at Putra Heights by an interchange station for both lines.

Despite the increased number of road safety campaigns, road accidents and fatalities remain high. Measures will be undertaken to reduce road fatality rates from 3.7 in 2007 to 3.0 per 10,000 registered vehicles by 2010. Among others, these will include rehabilitation of accident-prone spots and increasing safety features of roads.

The growth of low-cost air services has enhanced air travel opportunities as well as fostered greater travel between different parts of the country. The upgrading of the low-cost carrier (LCC) terminal at the KL International Airport will increase its capacity and enhance the efficiency of low-cost air services. Rural air services will be expanded to improve access to remote areas in Sabah and Sarawak.

Integrated public transport system...

Further improvement of the LCC terminals will enable expansion of facilities and provide greater access to low-cost travel to a larger segment of the population.

Inland water transport is an alternative, cost effective and environmentally sustainable mode of transport in remote areas. To expand the riverine and coastal transport system in Sarawak, a master plan will be drawn up. Meanwhile, construction of new jetties and upgrading of existing ones will be undertaken to enhance mobility of the rural population.

### Family Development

The family institution needs to be strengthened to effectively nurture and instill moral and ethical values in the young to cope with rapid socio-economic development and changing lifestyles. Strong family units will also be necessary to provide care and support for the sick, disabled and the elderly. A conducive family environment will provide for a strong foundation that is crucial for societal well-being. The National Family Policy will be formulated to integrate actions to strengthen the family institution. The shrinking family size and rising number of older persons will require formal institutions to complement traditional family responsibilities. More one-stop family service centres will be established to provide the necessary support services, including counselling, parenting skills training and reproductive health services. The private sector will be encouraged to implement programmes to assist families and individuals in need as part of their corporate social responsibility initiatives.

Child safety remains a priority. An early childhood care and education policy will be formulated to provide the framework for the development of children from

birth to four years. In addition, the provision of quality child care and a child-safe environment is essential towards improving and safeguarding the well-being of children. The amended Child Care Centre Act 1984, which among others, enables the authorities to seal premises not in compliance with the Act, will be enforced to enhance the quality of child care centres. The establishment of child care facilities in the workplace will be encouraged. The role of child protection teams, child welfare committees, advisors to courts for children and child-witness support service will continue to be strengthened. Communities will be encouraged to assume a greater role in ensuring child safety in their areas as well as in reducing violence against children. More community child care centres will be set-up to benefit low-income households.

Youth must be equipped with the requisite skills and engaged as partners in development. Programmes will be directed at empowering youth with knowledge, qualities and attitudes to become responsible citizens and to be prime movers in development as well as contribute towards enhancing national unity. The National Service Programme will be made more attractive to participants and to receive wider acceptance by parents, among others, by enhancing the modules on social and living skills. *Rakan Muda* programmes will be enhanced to encourage participation, develop positive values as well as promote a healthy lifestyle among youth. Leadership training programmes will be strengthened and expanded to reach more youth. Collaborative efforts will also be undertaken with the private sector and NGOs to organise and implement programmes for the benefit of youth. In addition, youth organisations will be empowered to ensure that they

*Resilient families...*

are managed in a more efficient and professional manner and able to contribute significantly to youth development. Studies on issues pertaining to youth, such as on socialisation, leadership and education as well as on the effectiveness of existing programmes will be undertaken to further enhance youth development.

The changing roles and responsibilities of women in the family and society require specific strategies to help them cope with new challenges. An action plan to enable women to occupy at least 30% of decision-making positions will be put in place. More training and skills upgrading programmes in areas such as information and communications technology and entrepreneurship will be implemented to facilitate greater self-employment and participation of women in the economy. A strategic plan covering economic, education and training programmes will be formulated to assist single mothers improve their employability. The *I-KIT* programme will continue to be implemented to enable more single mothers to be involved in income generating activities. Affordable child care services will be expanded and flexible working arrangements promoted, including working from home.

Programmes will be implemented to create awareness on the importance of the well-being of women. The relevant laws and regulations will be reviewed and amended to improve the status and well-being of women. Better access to adequate social protection, particularly in facing illness, invalidity and old age will be provided to women. Various programmes for improving women's health will be implemented to ensure that women are healthy throughout their life span. The mammogram programme will be intensified and more mobile clinics provided to increase accessibility to basic health services for women.

Integrating PWDs into the mainstream of society and economy will enable them to be more independent as well as contribute towards national development. Measures will be undertaken to improve access to education and vocational training, employment as well as in providing a barrier-free environment to enable PWDs to be mobile, self-reliant and financially independent. Efforts will be undertaken to promote employment opportunities for PWDs in the public and private sectors, while self-employment among PWDs will be further encouraged. The National Council for Persons with Disabilities will spearhead efforts to strengthen the partnership between the public and private sectors as well as NGOs to ensure a more coordinated approach in implementing policies and programmes. Additional community-based rehabilitation centres and one-stop service centres will be built and existing ones further developed to provide more comprehensive services. Efforts to register PWDs will be intensified to facilitate the planning of programmes and facilities as well as to ensure that they gain access to benefits and grants available.

The provision of adequate quality care and services for older persons is an important emerging challenge as Malaysia moves towards becoming an ageing society by 2035 when 15% of the population is expected to be above 60 years. In this regard, steps will be taken to assess the socio-economic consequences of an ageing population covering the provision of health care, income security and housing. The national policy and action plans on ageing will be reviewed to facilitate and implement programmes to enable older persons lead healthy and productive lives.

## Public Safety

Safety in towns and cities will be enhanced through the safe city programme. A total of 23 crucial measures have been identified for implementation by various local authorities and property developers to address vandalism and petty crimes. Guidelines on Crime Prevention through Environmental Design will also be formulated to supplement efforts to enhance safety in towns and cities.

Recruitment of additional police personnel will be expedited to reach 60,000 by 2012. The People's Volunteer Corps (RELA) and Neighbourhood Watch (*Rukun Tetangga*) will also be engaged in crime prevention efforts. The effectiveness and efficiency of policing operations will be improved through the use of modern communications technology and an integrated ICT management framework.

Greater involvement of the local community and NGOs to create a safe environment will be promoted. More awareness programmes will be carried out in schools to inculcate positive values among school children to become responsible citizens. The community will continue to be encouraged to join the *Rakan Cop* programme in promoting public safety.

## Environment

Environmental and natural resource management will continue to focus on sustaining a clean and healthy living environment, while simultaneously fulfilling economic development needs. Implementation of the existing programmes will be further strengthened through enhanced multi-stakeholders approach to improve coordination between the planning and implementing agencies. At the same time, enforcement measures will be intensified to ensure compliance with environmental standards, particularly

by the industries. Greater emphasis will also be placed on increasing the level of public awareness as the responsibility of protecting the environment rests with each and every citizen.

The development planning process will incorporate environmental issues in a holistic and integrated manner. In this regard, wider usage of environmental planning tools such as the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Assessment will be encouraged. This is crucial as sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity will enable optimal resource utilisation and ensure long-term sustainability. Land-use planning for development will be improved in line with the National Physical Plan. The development of regional corridors will give due attention to environmental and biodiversity protection.

Measures will be implemented to reduce pollution and conserve the nation's natural resources. Specific attention will be given to continuous improvement of air and water quality and to reduce contamination of water and land resources from illegal discharge of solid waste, toxic and hazardous substances. Guidelines will also be formulated for proper management and disposal of electrical and electronic waste.

The protection of biodiversity and critical habitats will be intensified. Programmes on *in-situ* and *ex-situ* conservation, propagation, breeding, and rehabilitation of degraded forest areas will be further expanded to reduce pressure on flora and fauna in its natural habitat. Two conservation initiatives, namely the Central Forest Spine in Peninsular Malaysia and the Heart of Borneo in Sabah and Sarawak will be carried out to improve connectivity of forests for wildlife mobility, biodiversity reservoir, protection of watershed areas and create a destination for eco-tourism.

Towards safer communities...

Clean and healthy environment...

The Centre of Excellence for Biodiversity Law will be established to enhance the capability in addressing legal issues pertaining to biodiversity, biotechnology and biosafety. The import, export and use of living modified organisms and products of such organisms, and trade in endangered flora and fauna will be better managed with the enforcement of Biosafety Act 2007 and the International Trade in Endangered Species Act 2008, respectively.

Flood mitigation programmes will be intensified to ensure that effective measures are put in place to deal with recurrence of floods. In urban areas, the drainage system will be upgraded to address flash floods. A comprehensive master plan based on integrated river basin management will be formulated to cover major flood-prone river basins. The master plan will encompass proper land-use planning and zoning and stormwater management to reduce the likelihood and impact of floods and developing emergency response to floods.

Efforts will continue to address the effects of climate change on various sectors of the economy and society. Mitigating measures will focus on promoting energy efficiency and renewable resources and improvements in public transport while adaptation measures will be promoted in development projects.

### **Culture, Arts and Heritage**

The inculcation of positive values will continue to be emphasised through courtesy and integrity campaigns. Traditional culture and values will be preserved by maintaining and encouraging their practice in the daily lives of Malaysians to promote a sense of shared ownership and nationhood. At the same time, the fostering of cross-cultural understanding

and appreciation of cultural diversity will continue to be an important agenda in building a united and harmonious nation. Participation in the arts to cultivate talent and instill appreciation for local culture and arts will be further improved through quality cultural programmes, exhibitions and events.

### **Sports**

Efforts will focus on promoting an active and healthy lifestyle through sports and recreation as well as nurturing talent towards excellence. The Government will continue to promote participation in mass and high performance sports. More instructors and facilitators in mass sports will be trained to ensure effective implementation of sports programmes.

*Active lifestyles...*

The professionalism and efficiency of the national sports associations will be continuously improved to ensure delivery and consistency of results. Promising athletes will be trained and coached systematically to enable them to excel in competitions. The talent identification programme will be expanded and the application of sports science strengthened to improve performance. In addition, the number of coaches and experienced technical officers will be increased, including through the recruitment of retired national athletes to become qualified coaches and making it their profession. The private sector will be encouraged to promote sports and recreational activities.

## **IV. OUTCOMES, 2010**

Based on the programmes and strategies outlined in the remaining Plan period, the expected outcomes are shown in Box 4-2.

**Box 4-2**  
**Expected Outcomes, 2010**

Commitment	Outcome										
<i>Health</i>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reducing infant mortality rate to 4.9 per 1,000 live births</li> <li>▪ Reducing maternal mortality rate to 2.5 per 100,000 live births</li> <li>▪ Reducing incidence of TB to 59 per 100,000 population</li> <li>▪ Reducing incidence of malaria to 19 per 100,000 population</li> <li>▪ Improving doctor:population ratio to 1:763</li> <li>▪ Improving dentist:population ratio to 1:6,855</li> <li>▪ Improving pharmacist:population ratio to 1:3,267</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved health status</li> </ul>										
<i>Housing and Urban Services</i>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Constructing 70,000 units of low-cost houses</li> <li>▪ Expanding OSCs and Local Agenda 21 Programme to all 144 local authorities</li> <li>▪ Integrated solid waste management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Adequate, quality and affordable houses</li> <li>▪ Improved urban services</li> </ul>										
<i>Family Development</i>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conducting family development programmes for 60,000 participants</li> <li>▪ Implementing <i>Rakan Muda</i> programmes for 1,750,000 youth</li> <li>▪ Conducting National Service Programme for 766,000 youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved family well-being</li> <li>▪ Empowered youth with positive attitudes</li> </ul>										
<i>Electricity supply</i>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expected rural electricity coverage: <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>2010</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peninsular Malaysia</td> <td style="text-align: right;">98.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sabah</td> <td style="text-align: right;">82.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sarawak</td> <td style="text-align: right;">93.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Malaysia</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>95.5%</b></td> </tr> </table> </li> <li>▪ Rural electrification programme is expected to benefit an additional 61,700 housing units in the Plan period</li> </ul>		<b>2010</b>	Peninsular Malaysia	98.4%	Sabah	82.6%	Sarawak	93.2%	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>95.5%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expanded rural electricity coverage</li> </ul>
	<b>2010</b>										
Peninsular Malaysia	98.4%										
Sabah	82.6%										
Sarawak	93.2%										
<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>95.5%</b>										

Commitment	Outcome										
<b>Rural Water Supply</b>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expected rural water coverage: <table style="margin-left: 20px; border: none;"> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>2010</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Peninsular Malaysia</td> <td style="text-align: right;">96.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sabah</td> <td style="text-align: right;">70.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sarawak</td> <td style="text-align: right;">95.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Malaysia</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>95.2%</b></td> </tr> </table> </li> <li>▪ By 2010, the rural water supply programme is expected to benefit 546,870 households in Peninsular Malaysia, 164,200 in Sabah and 167,170 in Sarawak</li> <li>▪ Corporatisation of water services authority in the states of Kedah, Pahang, Perak, Perlis and WP Labuan as well as the formation of state water regulatory body</li> </ul>		<b>2010</b>	Peninsular Malaysia	96.0%	Sabah	70.0%	Sarawak	95.0%	<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>95.2%</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expanded rural water coverage</li> <li>▪ Increased efficiency of water services management</li> </ul>
	<b>2010</b>										
Peninsular Malaysia	96.0%										
Sabah	70.0%										
Sarawak	95.0%										
<b>Malaysia</b>	<b>95.2%</b>										
<b>Sewerage</b>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Construction of 11 new STPs to serve 2,859,000 PE</li> <li>▪ Decommissioning of small and scattered STPs</li> <li>▪ Introduction of a revolving fund to increase connection of sewerage system at individual premises to the centralised STPs</li> <li>▪ A joint billing system will be pursued by SPAN to ensure consumers pay for the sewerage services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased efficiency of sewerage services</li> </ul>										
<b>Roads</b>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Review of the Highway Network Development Plan (HNDP) for Sabah and Sarawak to be completed</li> <li>▪ Construct roads to connect resettlement areas to rural industrial areas and estates, particularly in Sabah and Sarawak</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Expanded road network coverage especially in Sabah and Sarawak</li> </ul>										
<b>Air Transport</b>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Upgrading of airports and the LCC terminal at KLIA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased capacity and efficiency of air transport services</li> </ul>										
<b>Urban Transport</b>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Extend <i>Komuter</i> service to Tanjung Malim</li> <li>▪ Extend LRT Ampang Line by 16 km from Sri Petaling to Putra Heights</li> <li>▪ Extend LRT Kelana Jaya Line by 16 km from Kelana Jaya to Putra Heights</li> <li>▪ Completion of Sentul-Batu Caves electrified double tracking rail project</li> <li>▪ Construction of integrated transport terminal at Bandar Tasik Selatan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased urban public transport network coverage and facilities</li> </ul>										

Commitment	Outcome
<i>Rail Transport</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Construction of Ipoh-Padang Besar electrified double tracking rail project, expected to be completed in 2013.</li> <li>▪ Construction of Seremban-Gemas electrified double tracking rail project, expected to be completed in 2012.</li> <li>▪ Refurbishment and procurement of rolling stocks</li> <li>▪ Rehabilitation of railway infrastructure in Sabah</li> <li>▪ Commence rapid intercity train service between Kuala Lumpur and Ipoh</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased efficiency and reliability of intercity rail transport services</li> </ul>
<i>Environment</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sulphur content to be reduced in diesel from 3,000 ppm to 500 ppm while petrol from 1,500 ppm to 500 ppm</li> <li>▪ Polluted river basins to be upgraded from Class III category to Class II category through the Pollution Prevention and River Water Quality Upgrading Programme</li> <li>▪ A database on Malaysia's biodiversity to be established</li> <li>▪ Capability in legal issues regarding biodiversity, biotechnology and biosafety in Malaysia to be enhanced</li> <li>▪ Master plans based on integrated and holistic approach to be drawn up as long-term solution for flood incidences especially in the flood-prone areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved air quality</li> <li>▪ Improved river water quality</li> <li>▪ Better management of biodiversity</li> <li>▪ Reduced incidences of floods</li> </ul>
<i>Culture, Arts and Heritage</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Implementing 150 nationwide courtesy campaigns, involving 300,000 participants</li> <li>▪ Implementing 4,500 culture and arts activities</li> <li>▪ Producing 1,500 <i>Akademi Seni Budaya dan Warisan Kebangsaan</i> (ASWARA) graduates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tolerant and harmonious society</li> <li>▪ Enhanced appreciation of culture, arts and heritage</li> </ul>
<i>Sports</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2.5 million people participating in mass sports programmes</li> <li>▪ Training 24,000 coaches</li> <li>▪ Developing 14,570 athletes through talent identification programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Active and healthy lifestyles</li> <li>▪ Better sporting excellence</li> </ul>

## **V. CONCLUSION**

The continued implementation of programmes towards improving the quality of life will ensure that the population has access to better quality health care, housing, utilities and other urban services. Efforts to strengthen the family institution and protect vulnerable members of society will contribute to a more caring society.

Sports and recreational activities will be promoted to enhance the well-being of the community. Public safety will be improved. Mainstreaming environmental considerations in development will be emphasised for environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources. The promotion and preservation of culture, arts and heritage will contribute to building national identity and unity.

