

**Roundtable Discussion with YB Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani,
*Minister of Investment, Trade & Industry Malaysia***

Monday, 26 January 2026 | Ringgit Room 1, The St. Regis Kuala Lumpur



The Kuala Lumpur Business Club (KLBC) hosted a closed-door roundtable discussion on Monday, 26 January 2026, at The St. Regis Kuala Lumpur, featuring KLBC past member and Malaysia's Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry, YB Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani.

KLBC President, YBhg. Datuk Ruben Emir Gnanalingam Abdullah, opened the session with welcoming remarks, followed by an introduction of the Minister by KLBC Board Member, YBhg. Dato' Charon Wardini Mokhzani, who also facilitated a candid and engaging discussion with members.

Just over a month into his current ministerial tenure, YB Datuk Seri Johari shared his views on key policy and economic issues, including challenges faced by local EV manufacturers, the importance of data-driven policymaking, currency considerations, food security and Malaysia's need to meet evolving EU regulatory the export requirements. YB Minister emphasized the importance of focus and scale – advising that success begins with mastering a particular segment before elevating it to the next level. He also underscored that sustainable talent development is essentially linked to job creation, reiterating the need to strengthen fundamentals and focus on “what we know”.

The KLBC Board was represented by President, YBhg. Datuk Ruben Emir Gnanalingam Abdullah and Directors YBhg. Dato' Dr. Zaha Rina Zahari, YBhg. Dato' Charon Wardini Mokhzani and YBhg. Datuk Chua Sai Men. The event was kept intimate at the request of YB Minister, and was attended by 19 KLBC members.