

## THE HONOURABLE TAN SRI RAFIDAH AZIZ

Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz was born in 1943. She obtained her BA in Economics and Masters in Economics from the University of Malaya. She taught at the Faculty of Economics from 1966 to 1976. In 1974 she was appointed to the Senate and remained Senator until 1978 when she ran for a seat in Parliament. She has been a Member of Parliament since 1978.

She is Malaysia's longest serving Minister of International Trade and Industry, having been in the position for 21 years from 1987 – 2008. Much admired by her peers and colleague, she is regarded as an authority on trade and industry.

During her tenure as the Minister of International Trade and Industry, she has contributed significantly to the development of the country's economy. With her sound knowledge of economic matters, she worked tirelessly to position and to promote Malaysia as the most favoured destination for foreign direct investment.

Over the years, her career development has given an impact on Malaysia economics and free trade agreements (FTAs) in particular. She is well known not only among Malaysians but also internationally for her forthrightness and her ability to stand tall with her male counterparts.

Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz continues to have her finger on the pulse of international trade and investments as patron and trustee of the Malaysia-Europe Forum (MEF). She is also the Chairman of Air Asia X, the low-cost long haul airline that aims to be a strong regional and global player in the airline industry.

