

PREFACE

This is the twenty third outcome of Joint Study Projects for Economic Development Policies in ASEAN and Neighbouring Areas initiated by the Institute of Developing Studies (IDE) in Tokyo. As far as Malaysia is concerned, this is the fourth volume in a series of the projects. And for the present coordinator cum editor, this is the first one.

My predecessor, Mr. Yokoyama, published three excellent volumes on foreign investments in Malaysia in collaboration with prominent Malaysian scholars. Though the present coordinator cum editor is much inferior in vigour and ability to his predecessor, this new volume is, I am confident, as excellent and valuable as the previous three. This is due to the fact that I have a group of very prominent scholars who have the widest knowledge of this volume's particular field of economics, business groups in Malaysia.

All of these five scholars, namely Dr. Stephen Leong, Dr. Mansor Md. Isa, Dr. Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahman, Dr. Pang Teck Wai and Mrs. Irene Sia, though involved in many more important research projects, have been kind enough to participate in this project. I am deeply indebted to them.

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