

MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (16841-V)

DEWAN PERNIAGAAN DAN PERINDUSTRIAN ANTARABANGSA MALAYSIA

马来西亚国际总商会

Rujuk: micci/ED/COVID19/00.1

17th March 2020

Ministry of International Trade & Industries Menara MITI, No. 27, Jalan Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah, 50480 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Attention: Dato'Sri Norazman Ayob

Dear sir,

RE: COVID-19 MOVEMENT RESTRICTION CONTROL FEEDBACK BY INDUSTRY

The chamber foremost supports the government's initiative to address the spread of the COVID-19 virus and rest assured that our membership has for the last few months taken very active steps in the limiting the spread of the virus by practicing hygiene, social distancing and scaled down production.

As per today's meeting, we hereby submit some of our key appeals for consideration via your good office to the National Security Council.

In general, we would like to request that the exemptions be looked at from the entire supply chain eco-system and not merely at the downstream level. Continuous supply of essential services or food can only be maintained if the entire supply chain is working.

Example; the ink and plastic raw materials needed to provide food packaging, the consumables to be supplied by SMEs to keep the machines running to produce these food packaging to which the final product on the shelves of the retail grocers would not happen.

Hard shutting down of production lines will also cause not only in terms of costs but disruption to supply during and post 31st March 2020, where there are organic raw materials involved, there would also be a danger of contamination and this will lead to further shortage or delayed supply post 31st March 2020.

Our members have been under considerable financial stress for more than a year now and this hard curtailing of our businesses will have a detrimental effect on the country's economy. The idle foreign workers especially in the informal sector and construction industry also affect national security.

We specifically appeal that insecticides and products that are manufactured for the combat against vector borne diseases such as dengue be included as an essential item.

We appeal that consideration be given that our members who practice a high degree of hygiene, social distancing, scaled down production and automation be allowed to operate.

Yours sincerely

MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER of COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

Shaun Edward Cheah EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR