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EU-MALAYSIA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

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UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

MEDIA STATEMENT OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

The Special Session of the National Security Council (NSC) on COVID-19 Management chaired by the YAB Prime Minister this afternoon has decided to implement a **full closure of the social and economic sectors** or Phase One '**total lockdown**' across the country for a period of 14 days from **1 June 2021 to 14 June 2021**.

During this period, **ALL** sectors are **NOT ALLOWED** to operate EXCEPT the essential economic and service sector that will be listed by the National Security Council.

This decision was made after taking into account the current situation of COVID-19 transmission in Malaysia with the daily number of cases exceeding 8,000 cases and active cases exceeding 70,000 cases. To date, a total of 2,552 people had died as a result of this epidemic and the number of deaths is increasing. The existence of new variants that are more violent with high and swift infectious rates also affect today's decision.

With the increase in daily cases showing a more dramatically upward trend since recently, hospital capacities throughout the whole country in treating COVID-19 patients are also increasingly limited.

If this Phase One lockdown succeeds in reducing the daily COVID-19 cases, the Government will implement a Phase Two lockdown, namely by allowing the reopening of some economic sectors that do not involve large gatherings as well as can adhere to physical distancing. This Second Phase *Lockdown* will be implemented for a period of four weeks after Phase One is over.

After the end of the Second Phase lockdown, the next step is entering the Third Phase, which is implementing the Movement Control Order such as in effect as of now where social activity is not allowed and almost all sectors of the economy are allowed to operate subject to strict SOPs as well as restricted physical presence in the workplace.

However, the decision to move from one phase to the next phase will be subject to a risk assessment by the Malaysian Ministry Of Health. Evaluation will be made based on developments of daily cases and hospital capacities across the country for treatment of COVID-19 patients.

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The government will ensure that the public health system in our country will not collapse and various support and assistance will be given to the Malaysian Ministry of Health to increase hospital capacities in the whole country. The government will also increase vaccinations over the next few weeks in an effort to produce herd immunity in the country.

Following the government's decision to implement a full closure of economic and social sectors, the Ministry of Finance will detail an assistance package to the people and the affected economic sectors. An announcement on this assistance package will be made in the nearest time.

All Malaysians are advised to remain disciplined and always adhere to established SOPs to break the chain of COVID-19 infection. It is best to sit at home or **STAY AT HOME** to jointly propel the COVID-19 infection curve.

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
PUTRAJAYA
28 May 2021

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