

MEDIA RELEASE

MCO 2.0: MEF welcomes the proposed reopening of all business sectors with stricter SOP

PETALING JAYA: The proposed reopening of all business sectors that was reported to coincide with the extended Movement Control Order (MCO) 2.0 from Feb 5 to 18, albeit with a tightening of the current Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), would be a positive way forward by the government to protect the public against the spread of Covid-19 while safeguarding the livelihoods of the *Rakyat* and at the same time enhancing the sustainability of businesses, especially the SMEs and micro enterprises.

MEF President Dato' Dr Syed Hussain Syed Husman J.P., in referring to media reports on the reopening of all business sectors with the latest extended MCO 2.0, said the move would be much-welcomed.

"MEF supports the reopening of all sectors of the economy as this is vital to maintain the fine balance between the saving of lives and the preservation of livelihoods. Such decision would pave the way for a swifter revival of the overall national economy," said Dato' Dr Syed Hussain.

"And this would be a huge relief for the SMEs and micro enterprises who were not able to fully operate since March last year, such as retailers and hair dressers. They would be in a better position to restart their operations and continue without further disruptions.

"In return, the employers must make serious efforts by adhering and implementing strictly all the SOPs to help stop the spread of Covid-19 infections especially at the workplace and, if necessary, to utilise personal protective equipment.

"Only working closer together between government, employers and employees can we overcome the Covid-19 pandemic. #kitajagakita," he added.

For further information, contact the MEF Secretariat at 03-7955-7778 or fax 03-7955-9008 or email <u>mef-hq@mef.org.my</u>.

3 FEBRUARY 2021

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