PERSEKUTUAN MAJIKAN-MAJIKAN MALAYSIA

MALAYSIAN EMPLOYERS FEDERATION (Reg. No: 1357-SELANGOR)

HEAD OFFICE: 3A06 – 3A07, Block A, Pusat Dagangan Phileo Damansara II, No. 15, Jalan 16/11, Seksyen 16, 46350 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia. Tel: 603-7955 7778 | Fax: 603-7955 6808/7955 9008 | E-mail: mef-hq@mef.org.my

MEDIA RELEASE

MEF: Banks must step forward to enhance moratorium under PEMERKASA+

PETALING JAYA: As the MCO 3.0 lockdown enters its second week, the impact on SMEs and micro enterprises has reached breaking point with many such employers struggling to survive.

"MEF received feedback from many of these employers that the situation is no longer sustainable. For many of them, it's about survival because there is zero cash flow to keep the operations alive," said MEF President Dato' Dr Syed Hussain Syed Husman.

"We appreciate the government's RM40 billion PEMERKASA+ stimulus package to cushion the impact of the MCO 3.0 lockdown on the economy and employment.

"But more has to be done to save the economy and livelihoods. In this national emergency, all hands must be on deck, especially the banks and financial institutions."

Dato' Dr Syed Hussain said the banks should step forward because in past crisis, the tax payers assisted the government to come up with fiscal stimulus to ensure that the banks remained viable.

"In consideration of the extremely dire situation of business, MEF proposes that the scope of the moratorium under PEMERKASA+ be expanded to include the M40 and all businesses, and this should also cover all personal facilities including loans for overdrafts, mortgages, vehicles and credit cards.

"The moratorium should be automatically granted for six months until end 2021 at 0% interest. During this period, the banks should waive all interest and bank charges such as for rescheduling exercise and late interest payments."

He said in 2020 the banks made a total profit of RM31.15 billion, and based on the first quarter report of 2021, all banks recorded higher profit compared to the same period in 2020 – led by CIMB at RM2.46 billion (2020: RM507.93 million), Maybank RM2.39 billion (RM2.05 billion), and Public Bank RM1.529 billion (RM1.329 billion).

"The banks coming forward to assist businesses and individual borrowers during this challenging period would go a long way in helping and ensuring a smooth recovery of the economy," he added.

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

9 JUNE 2021

- 379-D, Jalan Hajjah Rehmah, 11600 Jelutong, Penang | **Tel**: 604 659 9236 / 604 659 6909 | **Fax:** 604 659 9873 | **E-mail:** mefpg@mef.org.my
- No. 17A & 17B Jalan Cantik 6, Taman Pelangi Indah, 81800 Ulu Tiram, Johor | Tel: 607 862 4776 | Fax: 607 862 4773 | E-mail: mefjb@mef.org.my
- B-8 & B-10, First Floor, Jalan Haji Ahmad 3, Sri Pahang Business Centre 25300 Kuantan, Pahang Darul Makmur | Tel: 609 512 4373 | Fax: 609 512 4251 | E-mail: mefktn@mef.org.my
- A-1-3, 1st Floor, Wisma MFCB, No.1, Persiaran Greentown 2, Green Town Business Centre, 30450 Ipoh, Perak | Tel: 605 255 7778 / 605-255 9778 | Fax: 605 255 2778 | E-mail: mefip@mef.org.my
- Lot No 95, Jalan Nyiur, 93200 Kuching, Sarawak | Tel: 082 247 027 | Fax: 082 247 028 | E-mail: mefkch@mef.org.my
- Lot No 1, Block A, 3rd Floor, Damai Point, Luyang, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah | Tel: 088 210 579 | Fax: 088 204 979 | E-mail: mefkk@mef.org.my