



HRDF NAMES NOOR FARIDA AS ITS CHAIR AND OUTLINES ITS 2019 ACTION PLANS

Kuala Lumpur, 3 January 2018 –The Human Resources Development Fund (“HRDF”) announced today that Yang Berbahagia Dato’ Noor Farida Binti Mohd Ariffin has been named Chair of the Fund’s board of directors, effective January 1.

Dato’ Farida has had a long and distinguished career in public service as a judge, legal adviser and diplomat, most notably as the Ambassador of Malaysia to Netherlands. Since her retirement from the Foreign Ministry in 2012, Dato’ Farida has, among others, headed the law reform committee at the National Council of Women Organisations; she also serves on the boards of Ecoworld Berhad and Aerospace Technology Systems Corp. Sdn Bhd.

“Dato’ Farida is a proven leader and her appointment as the Chair will be invaluable,” said the Fund. The Fund also expressed its appreciation to the leadership of the board’s deputy chairman, Yang Berbahagia Dato’ Quah Thain Khan, during a period of great change for the Fund. In 2018, the Fund recorded an impressive 23 percent growth in registered employers, bringing the total to over 26,000 and who cumulatively employ 2.3 million Malaysian employees.

For 2019, HRDF looks forward to implement the following action plans to strengthen the Fund and increase the proportion of skilled Malaysian employees:

1. Bringing Wrongdoers to Book

HRDF will continue its internal investigations, started in July 2018, to bring all errant stakeholders, including training providers, trainees, and staff who have connived with them, to book. The Fund has already filed reports to the police and the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission; it has also filed civil claims against trainees for submitting false particulars. In the meantime, civil claims will soon be filed against errant training providers. These efforts build on the report delivered by the five-member Governance Oversight Committee in November 2018 and made publicly available by the Fund at its website.

2. Strengthening its Enforcement Measures

The Fund will ensure all liable employers are registered by the end of 2019, and will continue to take action against employers who fail to register as required by the PSMB Act 2001. The Fund shall also act against employers who fail to meet or under-report their levy commitment and those who do not carry out training programmes as agreed. By the end of the year, the Fund expects to expand the Act to cover all remaining industries.

3. Training 1.2 million Malaysian employees

The Fund aims to provide training to 1.2 million Malaysian employees in 2019. The Fund shall achieve this by working closely with and understanding the training needs of its registered employers through the HRDF Skills Framework that will be rolled out this year.

4. Creating Job-Ready Graduates

The Fund will focus on developing job-ready youths and graduates, especially from low-income families, by investing in selected Industrial Skills Training Institutes and courses, and serve as a bridge between the Human Resources Ministry and industry.

5. Raising the quality of training professionals

The Fund will review and upgrade its long-standing train-the-trainer programme by developing a trainers' competency framework that includes continuous professional development. This will be developed in partnership with trainers and training provider associations and related Government agencies.

6. Becoming an employer of choice

The Fund, which employs 315 Malaysians from across Malaysia, will continue to emphasise diversity and inclusion in 2019—to better serve its customers and stakeholders. Further, the Fund will seek to provide opportunities for the differently-abled and retirees this year.

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About the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) or *Kumpulan Wang Pembangunan Sumber Manusia (KWPSM)*

Tracing its origin to the Year 1993 as Majlis Pembangunan Sumber Manusia, the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) or Kumpulan Wang Pembangunan Sumber Manusia is an agency under the purview of the Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia.

Governed by the Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad Act 2001 (PSMB Act 2001), HRDF was given the mandate by the Malaysian Government to catalyse the development of competent local workforce that will contribute to Malaysia's vision of becoming a high-income economy.

Since its inception, HRDF has evolved from managing a sizeable fund to becoming a one-stop-centre for providing novel human capital development solutions to its registered employers and the critical mass of Small, Medium Enterprises in Malaysia.

Additionally, HRDF continues to be steadfast in its effort towards encouraging employers covered under the PSMB Act 2001 to re-train and upgrade the skills of their local employees, apprentices and trainees in keeping with the fast-evolving global business landscape while meeting the aspirations of their respective company/companies.

More information is available at www.hrdf.com.my