



PRESS STATEMENT FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND, DATO' NOOR FARIDA

Kuala Lumpur, 2 July 2019 – The Chairman of the Human Resources Development Fund, Dato' Noor Farida, issued the following statement to the press on the commitment of the Fund's new administration towards sustained governance and accountability.

It has been six months since my appointment as Chairman of HRDF and it has been a challenging period.

On assuming office, one of the first things that I did was to communicate with stakeholders who had grievances, information of malpractices and wrong doing. This was after receiving several *surat layang* and anonymous posts on the social media making accusations and claims implicating certain parties including the minister.

I personally reviewed every complaint. With that information from stakeholders, we have zeroed in on some misdoings from the previous administration and we are taking action against these.

When the new Board members and I were appointed, our initial focus was on the recommendations made by the Governance Oversight Committee (GOC) set up by the Minister.

I am glad to say most of the recommendations have been implemented except for the amendments on PSMB Act which is currently being discussed with the Ministry.

One of the main recommendations was the discontinuation of the deduction of the 30% Consolidated Fund or commonly known as the Pool Fund since last October. Employees can now use all of their levies for training purposes.

Currently, HRDF officers are engaging with stakeholders to discuss on the issues of up-skilling workers. The responses have been overwhelming with ideas and input. Moreover, all stakeholders agreed that some courses have become antiquated with the advent of technological advancements such as artificial intelligence and Block Chain, which has been taken into account in our new programmes.

While focusing on employees, HRDF also supports the government's plans to assist unemployed graduates to enter the labour market and to upgrade the skills of the B40 group, retirees and housewives who can be skilled to work in certain sectors in the commercial and industrial world.

HRDF has approved funds for vocational training involving public and private institutions and this has been started with a pilot project in Penang. We are also supporting the efforts of MySkills Foundation – a non-profit organisation where school drop outs are being trained as electricians, wiremen and welders. All these efforts have been an impetus to push vocational skills and trainings as a cornerstone to meet the needs of the industries.

I look forward to ensure HRDF fulfills its mandate given by the Malaysian Government, which is to cater to the development of a competent local workforce, supporting Malaysia's aspiration to become a high-income nation.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Dato' Noor Farida Mohd Ariffin
HRDF Chairman of the Board

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ABOUT HRDF

Tracing its origin to the year 1993 as Majlis Pembangunan Sumber Manusia (MPSM), the Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB) is an agency under the purview of the Ministry of Human Resources Malaysia.

PSMB or also known as the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) is 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.

HRDF has grown remarkably from our establishment in 1993. Starting life as an institution that collected levy and disbursed training grants, we have gone from strength-to-strength to contribute significantly in providing training and up-skilling interventions to key industries in Malaysia especially the Small and Medium Enterprises' (SMEs) sector.

For perspective, the objective of HRDF under the Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad Act, 2001 (PSMB Act 2001) is the imposition and collection of a human resources development (HRD) levy from employers under 63 sub-sectors within three (3) key economic sectors – Manufacturing, Services, and Mining and Quarry - with ten (10) or more employees. These employers contribute one (1) per cent of their total monthly payroll to the Fund which we treat as a HRD "levy".

The vision forward for HRDF is to future-proof Malaysia through the country's most valued asset – its people. Safeguarding the future also includes assuming a greater responsibility to reach out to the corporates by educating and motivating them to seek the benefits and value of our learning and development schemes, initiatives and programmes.

Vision

- Every Malaysian employee trained

Mission

- Spearhead the Learning and Development of the Malaysian workforce

Objective

- To encourage employers covered under the Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad Act 2001 to retrain and upgrade the skills of their employees, apprentices and trainees in line with their business needs and the development strategy of the country.

For more information, kindly visit our website – www.hrdf.com.my