

20 January 2021

MEDIA STATEMENT

MDEC Committed To ‘Reinvent’ Mission as It Marks Silver Jubilee

- **Clarion Call of ‘Change Is the Only Constant’ leads MDEC’s paradigm shift to navigate these unprecedented times of Business Unusual in its 25th Year**
- **New approach and fresh perspectives needed to establish digital economy as a key driver of the nation’s growth**
- **Holistic Governance Review and Commitment to Radical Transparency, Accountability and Integrity to drive strategy forward**

Cyberjaya, 20 January 2021: In these unprecedented times, change is inevitable. The pandemic has upended life as we know it and in this new norm, it’s business unusual. The approach to old problems must be through fresh perspectives and bold new vision.

“As MDEC celebrates 25 years of leading the tech and digital industry forward, we recognise that digital transformation and adoption is crucial for our people and industry to capitalise on new opportunities. MDEC is confident that its new agile, streamlined and collaborative leadership structure will enhance its mass outreach and enable it to achieve its vision of a people-first society in the age of 4IR technology, leading to shared prosperity for all, or Malaysia 5.0,” said Surina Shukri, CEO MDEC.

“MDEC’s ‘Reinvent’ mission includes bringing in exceptional talents with both private and public sector experience coupled with new approaches and thinking. The objective is clear – intensify MDEC’s initiatives to grow the nation’s digital economy for the many, especially while navigating unprecedented disruption and opportunities in the new norm. The focus will be on enabling digital skills and jobs for the people, empowering digital and technology businesses, accelerating digital adoption and driving digital investments. We will not be distracted from our mission and I strongly re-affirm the executive leadership’s close and collaborative working relationship with our Chairman and the Board of Directors to holistically reinvent MDEC for the future,” added Surina.

“As we institutionalise the recommendations from the holistic governance review and recalibrate our capability and capacity to deliver on our ‘Reinvent’ mission, MDEC has naturally seen movement at all levels – this is expected and warranted. MDEC recognizes and has taken action to bring in industry-focused talents and technocrats to help Malaysia make the digital leap into 4IR as part of effort to realize Malaysia 5.0 vision, to benefit the many,” shared Datuk Wira Dr Hj. Rais Hussin Mohamed Ariff, Chairman of MDEC.

As MDEC celebrates its Silver Jubilee this year, it wishes the very best to all MDEC alumni who have contributed since its inception and continue to do so. The organization continues to embrace change, attract high performing talents and welcome vibrant and transformational new hires that have come in to reinvent MDEC to better serve the *rakyat* with increased

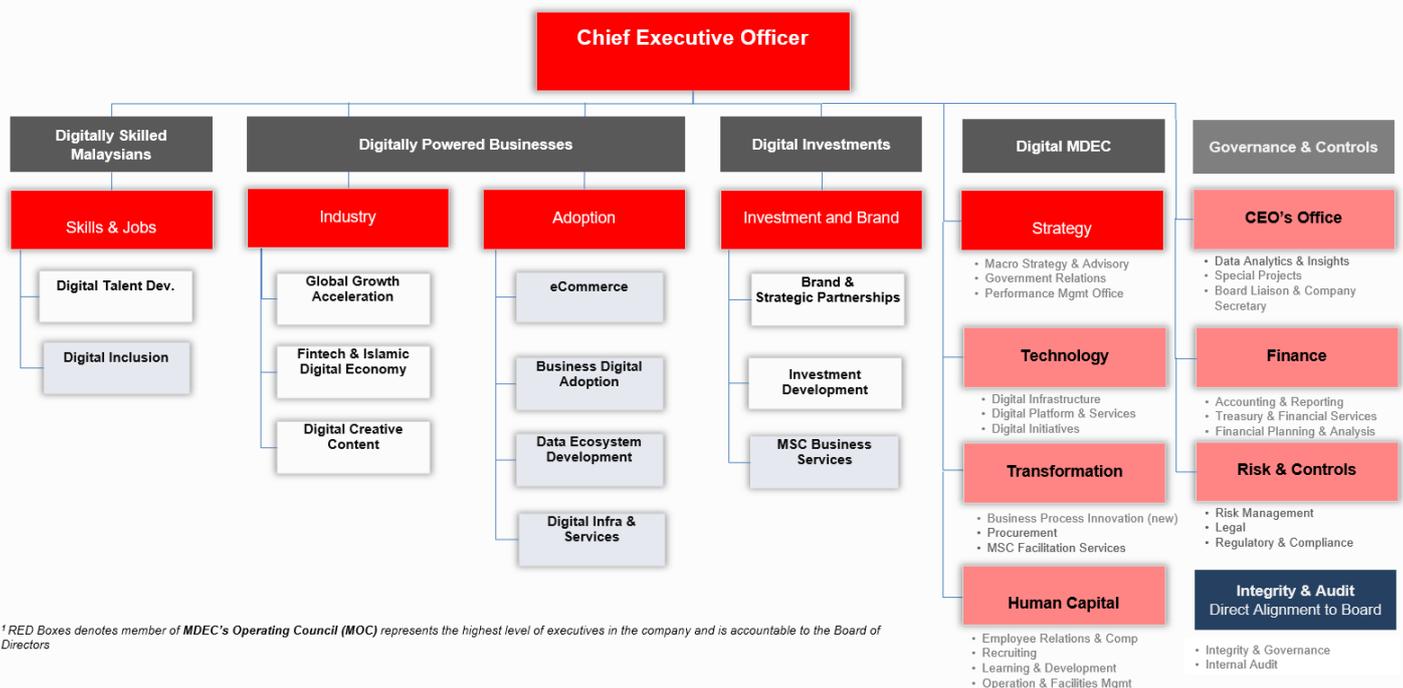
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transparency, accountability and integrity. Recent hires include executives from the private sector and organisations such as Astro, Celcom, Edelman, IBM, Media Prima, Microsoft, Pemandu Associates, Touch ‘n Go, technology start-ups and more. This is an unprecedented time in human history, and MDEC welcomes the constructive feedback and support to enable it to lead the digital economy forward.

Below are some of the senior personnel that have left the organisation since October 2020:

| No | Employee Name | Job Title | Effective Resignation Date |
|----|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Hasnul Hadi bin Samsudin | Vice President, Digital Creative Content | 03 Oct 2020 |
| 2 | Suzana binti Nawardin | Director, Human Capital | 31 Oct 2020 |
| 3 | Dato’ Ng Wan Peng | Chief Operating Officer | 30 Dec 2020 |
| 4 | Norhizam bin Abdul Kadir | Vice President, Fintech & Islamic Digital Economy | 31 Dec 2020 |
| 5 | Nor Faizah Binti Othman | Vice President, Chief Financial Officer | 31 Dec 2020 |
| 6 | Hew Wee Choong | Vice President, Digital Investments | 31 Jan 2021 |
| 7 | Abdul Malick Aboobakar | Vice President, Chief Information Officer | 17 Jan 2021 |
| 8 | Nordarzy Razak Bin Norhalim | Director, Digital Inclusion | 07 Feb 2021 |

MDEC ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE – NEW STRUCTURE EFF. DEC 1, 2020





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About Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC)

Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) is a government agency under the purview of the Ministry of Communications and Multimedia Malaysia entrusted to lead Malaysia's digital economy forward.

Incorporated in 1996 to oversee the development of the MSC Malaysia initiative, MDEC's primary mandate today is to accelerate the growth of digitally skilled Malaysians, digitally powered businesses and digital investments in Malaysia. MDEC is focused on creating inclusive, high-quality growth through the nationwide digitalization initiatives that are in line with the Government's Shared Prosperity Vision 2030 and firmly establishing Malaysia as the Heart of Digital ASEAN.

#LetsBuildTogether #DigitalMalaysiaForward

To find out more about MDEC's Digital Economy initiatives, please visit us at www.mdec.my or follow us on:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MyMDEC/>

Twitter: @mymdec

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PREVIOUS PRESS RELEASES BELOW

MDEC Fully Supports Minister of Communications and Multimedia Malaysia's Call to Advance with Transparency, Accountability and Integrity In 2021

- **YB Dato Saifuddin Abdullah's message in line with MDEC's commitment to reinvent its structure and culture to deliver the country's urgent digital transformation agenda.**
- **Infusion of exceptional new talents to drive internal change agenda**
- **MDEC's newly introduced Input, Output, Outcome & Impact (IOOI) Valuation Metrics to guide resource allocation and utilization, and effectively measure the organization's socio-economic contribution to society.**

Cyberjaya, 31 December 2020: The Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) welcomes the Minister of Communications and Multimedia Malaysia YB Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah's year end message "TAHUN 2021 MARA KE HADAPAN" and reaffirms its commitment to implementing significant change in its operating model and people culture, focused on the clarion call for Transparency, Accountability and Integrity.

The reinvention of MDEC includes bringing in exceptional talents with new approaches and thinking. These upcoming new additions will intensify MDEC's initiatives to grow the nation's digital economy for the many, especially in navigating unprecedented disruption and opportunities in the new norm.

"MDEC fully supports the Minister's guidance to advance in 2021 with a new mindset focused on Transparency, Accountability and Integrity. The organization's 'Reinvent' agenda is crucial to inject new, fresh ideas, enthusiasm and skills. If we are to realize our vision of Malaysia 5.0 and establish Malaysia as the heart of digital ASEAN, there must be a paradigm shift in our approach," said Datuk Wira Dr Hj. Rais Hussin, Chairman of MDEC.

"The 4IR has the power to move society into the informational age – Malaysia 5.0 as it is termed – in which society is at the center of technology and data is decentralized into the control of its creators to innovate and even monetize. With the deep integration of 4IR technologies at every level of society; individual, industry, government and environment, we can democratize the process of wealth creation back in the hands of the people (through the decentralized power of AI, blockchain and fintech). We hope this mission to realize Malaysia 5.0 will be a significant step to bring the digital economy for the many, and shared prosperity for all in 2021 and beyond."

Following the restructuring, MDEC will now focus on four key thrusts - Digital Talent, Digital Business, Digital Investments and Digital MDEC - to drive high-impact digital outreach and outcomes for our society and economy.

END

MDEC ANNOUNCES MAJOR RESTRUCTURE AS IT REINVENTS TO LEAD THE DIGITAL ECONOMY TOWARDS MALAYSIA 5.0

- Reinvention for an agile and streamlined organizational structure to lead the digital leap into 4IR, drive shared prosperity for all Malaysians.
- Four strategic focus areas: Digital Business, Digital Investments, Digital Talent and Digital MDEC to drive high impact outreach
- Intensify digitalization of MDEC processes and services, increase governance and speed in execution.

Kuala Lumpur, 16 November 2020: The Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) announced a major organizational restructuring today to reinvent its role as the leader of Malaysia’s digital economy and ensure it benefits the many. This follows the recent appointment of four industry trailblazers to MDEC’s Board of Directors, and further emphasizes the firm commitment of MDEC’s leadership towards delivering more for less at speed, addressing disruption of the new norm and improving its standard of governance.

In these unprecedented times, accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, change is inevitable. Recognizing that digital transformation and adoption is crucial to capitalize on new opportunities. MDEC is confident that the new agile, streamlined and collaborative leadership structure will enable mass outreach and achieve its vision of Malaysia 5.0 – achieving a people first society in the age of 4IR technology.

Reinventing MDEC

The reinvented MDEC will introduce four strategic focus areas, driven by a newly constituted MDEC Operating Council comprising five divisions:

| Strategic Focus Areas | Division | Lead |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| Digital MDEC | Strategy <i>(Transformation Office)</i> | Dato' Fadzli Shah |
| | ○ Transformation and Organizational Development | Azhar Jamal |
| | ○ AI & Technology | Azri Yahaya |
| Digitally Powered Businesses | Adoption (Demand) | Dato' Ng Wan Peng |
| | Industry (Supply) | Gopi Ganesalingam |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Digital Investments | Investment and Brand | Raymond Siva |
| Digitally Skilled Malaysians | Skills & Jobs | Dr. Sumitra Nair |

All five Division leaders in the MDEC Operating Council will report to Surina Shukri, CEO of MDEC, and work closely with the transformation and corporate functions. Implementing the right, lean, new leadership structure is key to executing at speed, expanding mass outreach, and creating a measurable socio-economic impact in a digital-first future.

Digital MDEC will priorities strategic national alignment and the complete digitalization of all MDEC’s processes and services. It will also implement the recommendations from the holistic governance review. Digitally Powered Businesses will drive two specific thrusts: driving digital adoption among businesses and scaling digital industry players. Digital Investments aims to attract investment into the catalytic digital-tech sectors and 4IR technologies. The main thrust of Digitally Skilled Malaysians will be on reskilling, job matching and the sharing (Gig) economy.

The five divisions are expected to collaborate closely and deploy agile teams to work across the divisions to provide fast and seamless solutions to address opportunities and challenges. Together, these four strategic focus areas and five divisions will be instrumental in firmly establishing Malaysia as the ‘Heart of Digital ASEAN’. “We are entering the second decade of the 21st century and we will have to face the massive impact of escalating digital transformation and the 4IR. It questions our existing culture, ways of thinking and doing, communicating and the governance and management models.

However, people are ultimately the drivers of digital transformation. I envision a Malaysia that places society at the center of 4IR technology, and this reinvention of MDEC will help us make the vision of Malaysia 5.0 a reality. The digital economy must be for the many and target shared prosperity,” said YBhg. Datuk Wira Dr Hj. Rais Hussin Mohamed Ariff, Chairman of MDEC.

MDEC will introduce the IOOI (Input, Output, Outcome, Impact) Valuation Metrics in its planning to guide future resource allocation and utilization, and effectively measure the organization’s socio-economic contribution to society. This will directly cultivate a high performing and high impact organization. “The reinvention will ensure clarity in vision, increased ownership, and a collaborative approach to drive success. This is the time for MDEC to be bold and lead the digital leap for Malaysia to build a digital economy for all Malaysians. If we do not act now, we unwittingly risk becoming a digital colony. Now, backed by a strong team and led by IOOI methodology, I am confident that we have the right structure in place



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to drive Malaysia towards becoming the region's digital capital - the Heart of Digital ASEAN," said YBhg. Datuk Wira Dr Hj. Rais Hussin Mohamed Ariff.

This reinvention is expected to positively impact the digital ecosystem. With four strategic focus areas and cross-division agile teams, MDEC expects to break down silos and drive both synergies and efficiencies across teams. People, industry and investors will benefit from streamlined access to relevant subject-matter expertise, programmes and financial support initiatives. Internally, processes will be much less labour-intensive through digitalization, enabling better customer service.

"This reinvention will enable us to execute more with speed, places us in a better position to support the people, industry, investors and government, and addresses significant lapses in our governance. We are on the path of #Change and there is no looking back. Disruption and change are the new normal. We must advocate the transformative opportunities it offers and reinvent ourselves accordingly to meet the demands of the new digital frontier. Our priority must always be to deliver on the mandate bestowed upon us by the government and the people. The MDEC Operating Council will be laser-focused, agile and collaborative in tackling the significant work in front of us," said Surina Shukri, CEO of MDEC.

Malaysia as the Heart of Digital ASEAN

Malaysia is on track to achieve its bold aspiration to become the 'Heart of Digital ASEAN'. The country ranked 8th within the Asia-Pacific region in the Global Innovation Index 2020, which ranks the innovation capacities of 131 economies in the world, and 11th in Startup Genome's Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2020, which ranks the top 140 startup ecosystems globally.

In the new tech age, digital innovations will serve as a social equalizer to drive shared prosperity for all Malaysians, which is why achieving Malaysia 5.0 must be a national priority. As the trailblazer of Malaysia's digital economy, MDEC's reinvention will pave the way for it to lead Malaysia to make the digital leap into the Fourth Industrial Revolution, cementing the country's status as one of the foremost Asian nations to embrace the new digital-first reality.

END

MDEC Announces Transformative Appointments of Four Industry Trailblazers to Its Board

- **Game changing appointments will intensify efforts to reinvent MDEC to drive the digital economy for the benefit of the many**
- **Expertise of these accomplished industry leaders will bolster the current Board composition and sharpen focus on strategic national initiatives**

Kuala Lumpur, 9 November 2020: The Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) announced today the transformative appointments of four respected industry trailblazers to its Board of Directors, highlighting its commitment to intensify efforts to reinvent the nation's digital economy in the era of 4IR, and towards the vision of Malaysia 5.0. These game changing appointments will also recalibrate and bolster the board's breadth of expertise to critical digital technologies such as Data & AI, Digital Transformation and Entrepreneurship, and Governance.

"My mission is to recalibrate and diversify the composition of our board to strengthen MDEC's mission to bring the benefits of digital technologies and solutions to all levels of Malaysian society. Assembling this incredible breadth of industry trailblazers to serve on our board will strengthen the depth and breadth of our expertise to benefit rural and urban needs, while accelerating our positioning as the 'Heart of Digital Asean'," said Datuk Wira Dr. Hj. Rais Hussin Mohamed Ariff, Chairman, MDEC.

"The globally-recognized track record of these accomplished leaders provides MDEC and all of our stakeholders with deep sector expertise, high performance leadership and effective governance. The new board members will also empower our efforts to harness opportunities in the next normal, benefitting MSMEs, gig workers, MNCs and the public sector alike."

The four new members will complement the seven current board members, working alongside MDEC's CEO, Surina Shukri, and experienced management team to spearhead the agency's goal to reinvent its approach towards growth of digitally skilled Malaysians, digitally powered businesses and digital investments to achieve the Shared Prosperity 2030 agenda.

Aireen Omar is currently President (Air Asia Digital), AirAsia Group where she is responsible for its digital strategy, promoting innovation throughout the group and encouraging collaboration across AirAsia's businesses and markets.

She oversees large, digital strategic group-wide initiatives to help transform AirAsia Group into a global, cloud and data driven, and platform company. At RedBeat Ventures, Aireen is also pivotal in incubating and growing the digital and fintech businesses such as BigLife, BigPay, Teleport, Santan, and in transforming airasia.com into more than just an airline platform.

She is an Economics graduate of the London School of Economics and Political Science and holds a Masters in Economics from New York University.



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Dr Dhesi Baha Raja holds a Master of Public Health and DrPH (Doctor of Public Health) and is passionate about Data Science and Artificial Intelligence. One of his key contributions to Malaysia was i-Kelahiran, a software that organizes birth data, immunization coverage & tracks high risk pregnancies in real time. The technology was then implemented in government hospitals and clinics around Malaysia.

Pursuant to winning first prize in the Global Impact Competition, he was sponsored to the Singularity University in Silicon Valley where he co-founded Artificial Intelligence in Medical Epidemiology, a software that has the capability of identifying deadly outbreaks 3 month in advance & geo-locating them up to 400-meter radius. His work in AI & Infectious Disease has received various international acknowledgement, recently winning the top prize for the Pistoia life science innovations Award in King's College London, Top 10 exceptional solution award by the United Nations in 2016 and Top 10 Under 35 Innovators Award by MIT in 2017.

He was also invited by the Honorable Chancellor of Germany, Madam Angela Merkel to share his expertise on AI for Antimicrobial resistance and the use of technology to solve global grand challenges in Germany. Dr Dhesi is one of the experts that drafted the use of technology to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals for the United Nations in an expert panel meeting in New York & Geneva.

Farouk Peter Lee has an extensive career with global multinational companies and is currently the Asia Market General Manager for AXA Group Operations, responsible for managing the delivery of IT shared services (Infrastructure and Application) for AXA businesses across Asia. Lee is also the Chairman of AXA Group Operations Hong Kong, and an Executive Board Member of AXA Group Operations Malaysia and AXA Group Operations Philippines.

He has more than 25 years of experience leading and driving operational and IT enabled change in Insurance and Banking industry across Asia, specifically in Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, South Korea, and China (including Hong Kong). Lee has held leadership roles in Accenture, DXC Technologies, New York Life Insurance, Zurich Insurance, MetLife, and AXA.

He received his Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Electrical Engineering from Brown University, USA.

Jaleeludeen Abu Baker is currently Director of Legal & Administration at AHB International Berhad and was the Executive Director of Antah Holdings Berhad. He was part of the team entrusted to undertake Antah Group's turnaround and corporate restructuring. The task also involved addressing and rectifying the various corporate governance issues faced. He also undertook a comprehensive legal and corporate review of its investment portfolios and led dispute resolutions.

He is also a Director at SAB Global, owner and manager of Axiom Learning and Child Enhancement center in Malaysia. He has previously held leadership roles in the licensed money services business, having represented the Malaysian money-changing industry at the



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2014 Mutual Evaluation Report on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing measures in Malaysia.

Jaleeludeen holds a Bachelor of Laws (LL. B) (Honors') from the International Islamic University, Malaysia and was admitted as an Advocate & Solicitor, High Court of Malaya in 1995. In addition, he is a Trust Officer approved by the Labuan Financial Services Authority (Labuan FSA), a licensed Company Secretary and a Committee Member of the Institute of Approved Company Secretaries (IACS).

These four new board appointees follow the earlier appointments of Lee Chin Cheh and Associate Professor Dr. Muhammad Abdullah Zaidel as Non-Executive Independent Directors. The other serving board members include Pn. Afidah Azwa Abdul Aziz, Professor Dato' Dr. Halimah Badioze Zaman, Mohd Yuzaidi Mohd Yusoff.

MDEC has always pursued a forward-thinking agenda to firmly establish Malaysia as a regional digital powerhouse and industry pioneer, which is aptly reflected with these appointments that are effective immediately.

"I am humbled that these industry stalwarts have accepted my invitation to serve on the MDEC board and the nation. This board packs power and I certainly look forward to working closely with all the board members, the MDEC CEO and her senior management team to intensify our outreach, deliver greater impact and equitable outcomes for the many. I firmly believe the diversity in experience and thinking will define and drive real-world strategies and outcomes, reinventing the digital economy to achieve our vision of Malaysia 5.0," adds Datuk Wira Dr Hj. Rais Hussin.

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