

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

## MALAYSIA'S COMMITMENT TOWARD COMBATING FORCED LABOR AND PROTECTING DOMESTIC WORKERS WELFARE

- 1. This press statement intends to clarify a recently released ILO report on forced labour in Malaysia entitled "Skilled to care, forced to work? Recognising the skills profiles of migrant workers in ASEAN amid forced labour exploitation".
- 2. The Government of Malaysia is deeply concerned by the findings of the aforementioned report. Given that forced labour is a serious human right issue surrounding employee relation, Malaysia embarked on some key measures to combat forced labour, such as ratifying the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention and adopting the National Action Plan on Forced Labour (2021-2025). These plans include measures to increase inspections of workplaces, provide more support to victims of forced labour and raise awareness of the issue among employers and workers.
- 3. Malaysia will continue to work closely with the ILO and other partners to further strengthen our efforts to combat forced labour in Malaysia. We are confident that we can make progress on this issue, and we are committed to ensuring that all workers in Malaysia are treated fairly and with respect.
- 4. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the recruitment and employment of domestic workers that Malaysia signed with many sending countries specifically incorporated protection provisions relating to address the domestic sector setbacks and the concerns raised by the workers and their governments in Malaysia.

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES PUTRAJAYA 21 AUGUST 2023