

15 August 2021

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **RELAXATION FOR MORE BUSINESSES TO OPEN – A LIFELINE**

This is a joint statement by the following associations:

- Persatuan Pengurusan Kompleks Malaysia (PPK) – Malaysia Shopping Malls Association
- Malaysia Retailers Association (MRA)
- Malaysia Retail Chain Association (MRCA)
- Bumiputra Retailers Organisation (BRO)
- Malaysia REIT Managers Association (MRMA)
- Malaysian Association of Theme Park and Family Attractions (MATFA)
- Malaysian Association of Firm Exhibitors (MAFE)

As announced today, we are much elated that 11 more retail trades are now allowed to re-open effective from 16 August 2021 for customers who are fully vaccinated. We wish to express our grateful thanks to our Prime Minister and especially Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (MDTCA) and Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) for considering our pleas and taken the practical decision to further open up more businesses taking into account the reduced risks in the light of the progress of the vaccination programme. We are also appreciative that the Vaccination Privileges has been offered to our rakyat for greater freedom to move about and shop.

We have been advocating for many weeks now for the re-opening of all businesses that can comply with the fundamental SOPs and appreciate that the authorities have considered our numerous appeals and offered us a lifeline in the light of an impending crisis for the shopping malls, street front shops and the retail industry, many of which are on the brink of closing for good.

We believe that many other businesses sectors, especially currently listed for opening in National Recovery Plan Phase 2, share the same safety levels and deserve to be also open. We thus call for an expeditious review and look forward to more good news soon. Operations that are clearly able to check and only admit customers who are fully vaccinated especially activities that are ticketed and gate-controlled such as cinemas, theme parks are suitable for opening immediately.

For shopping malls, we will maintain the strict control of only admitting shoppers who are determined by MySejahtera as "low-risk" and "casual contact - no symptom" status and with temperatures below 37.5 degrees C.

All businesses allowed to re-open from tomorrow will have to check the vaccination status of their respective shoppers' MySejahtera and only admit those who have been fully vaccinated.

We look forward to work with the authorities to accord more relaxations in due course and open up more economic sectors so that we will all have a chance to survive and stymie the debilitating impact of the prolonged lockdowns.

### ***LIVES AND LIVELIHOODS MATTER***

Thank you.