



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA



NEWSLETTER

A Nation Without Corruption, A Society With Integrity

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members & Friends,

I am pleased to say that TI-Malaysia had a very fruitful 1st quarter of 2019. This indicates a good start for the year. One of the key highlights in the 1st quarter was the forum on "Political Funding: The European Experience" organized by TI-Malaysia with the support of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Following the AGM on the 30 March 2019, the new leadership of TI-Malaysia has been formed. I would like to point out two key areas that the Exco team would be working on immediately.

One is the Whistleblower Protection Act (WPA 2010) where more protection should be given to those who come forward and make disclosures on corruption. Thus the existing Whistleblower Protection Act 2010 should be reviewed and strengthened to encourage those with information about corruption to come forward and report. TI-Malaysia will engage actively with the government to identify the gaps in the current act and make recommendations for amendments.

Second is to create greater awareness on the Corporate Liability Provision under Section 17A of The MACC Act which will come into force in June 2020. Many organizations especially in the private sector still have no idea that a commercial organization would be considered to have committed an offence if a person associated with the company is involved in corruption. TI-Malaysia has urged the government to do roadshows and campaigns and come out with regular announcements so that businesses get prepared.

Apart from these initiatives the Exco will also focus on fund raising initiatives to improve our cash flow so that the society's activities are not hindered and remain sustainable.

We look forward to more exciting times ahead and look forward for your continuous support.

Best wishes,

Dr Muhammad Mohan

President
Transparency International-Malaysia



EDITORIAL

LOOKING TOWARDS A NEW ERA IN INTEGRITY IN MALAYSIA

A year has almost passed and the dust is slowly settling in the Malaysian political landscape as the new government grapples with the humongous tasks ahead to rebuild Malaysia from the disastrous rubble of rampant kleptocracy and economic mismanagement.

Although there are cries from a vast majority of the rakyat to punish the perpetrators with immediate effect, our wise Prime Minister has reiterated the need of rule of law no matter how long it may take to prosecute those guilty of running the country to the ground. However, the government has been quick to act upon the epidemic corruption culture that has permeated through all strata of Malaysian society.

The MACC has gone into overdrive to wipe out the scourge of corruption and hundreds of individuals from both the public and private sector have been hauled up to assist the authorities to investigate instances of nefarious and unethical activities. In this aspect, Transparency International Malaysia is pleased to note that the many cautionary statements and warnings from the organization have now been heeded by the authorities and the many guidelines and programmes undertaken by us are positively viewed and taken into consideration by them. Truly we are proud to have contributed to the moral health of the nation during its darkest times.

As we have mentioned before, corruption and unethical practices are deeply embedded in the psyche of humans, especially in developing nations. It is a natural mechanism that derives its origins from the adage of survival of the fittest. Therefore those in power will always have the tendency to take advantage of their position and enrich themselves at the behest of the rakyat. It is therefore no easy task to eradicate corruption. It is present even in the most advanced and morally righteous nations but in a very subtle form. As long as corruption rears its ugly head, Transparency International will always be there to expose it to the world at large.

Sivasangaran Nair

Editor



CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX: MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA'S SCORE MAINTAINED AT 47



Transparency International (TI) the global anti-corruption coalition has released its 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), that draws on 13 surveys and expert assessments measuring the perceived level of corruption of public sectors in 180 countries and territories in the world.

This year, Denmark and New Zealand top the index with 88 and 87 points respectively as “clean countries”, while Somalia, South Sudan and Syria are at the bottom of the index, with 10, 13 and 13 points respectively. More than two-thirds of countries score below 50, with an average score of only 43. TI reveals that the continued failure of most countries to significantly control corruption is contributing to a crisis of democracy around the world. According to TI, cross analysis with global democracy data reveals a link between corruption and the health of democracies. Full democracies scored an average of 75 on the CPI; flawed democracies scored an average of 49; hybrid regimes – which showed elements of autocratic tendencies – scored at 35; autocratic regimes performed the worst, with an average score of just 30 on the CPI.

The survey revealed that Malaysia’s score has maintained at 47points, on a scale from from 0 (perceived to be highly corrupted) to 100 (perceived to be very clean) and the ranking has improved from 62nd to 61st over 180 countries. While Malaysians had voted out the previous regime during the last general elections and are now hoping for the new government to lead the reforms in anti-corruption. The Rakyat are anxiously looking forward to seeing the end of grand corruption in the country.

Further recommendation : <http://transparency.org.my/pages/news-and-events/press-releases/transparency-international-s-2018-corruption-perceptions-index-malaysia-1>

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA'S 21ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NEW EXCO TEAM FORMED FOR TERM 2019- 2021



Behind (L-R): Mr Sivasangaran, Ir Sulaiman, Puan Shuhairoz, Puan Noor 'Akilah
Front (L-R): Mr Dorai, Mr Kanakaraja, Dr Mohan, Puan Nurirdzuana, Mr Raymon

*Deputy President Mr Lawrence Chew Seng Chen is not in the photo

On the 30th March 2019, Transparency International Malaysia (TI-M) held its 21st Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Royal Selangor Club, Kuala Lumpur. The meeting commenced at 10.00am, with a quorum of 22 members which eventually increased to 38 members before the end of the meeting. As per the requirements of the bylaws of the constitution, a new executive committee was elected..

TI-M would like to congratulate and welcome the 2019–2021 line up of Exco members. There were some changes in the leadership wherein Dr Muhammad Mohan (the former Secretary-General of TI-M) succeeded Dato' Sri Akhbar Satar as the new President of TI-M. Dato' Sri Akhbar has served the Society for a maximum period of 3 consecutive terms, as President. Mr Lawrence Chew Seng Chen is the new Deputy President, Mr Raymon Ram, the Secretary-General and Mr Kanakaraja Muthusamy has been re-elected as the Hon.Treasurer.

The Executive Committee (Exco) members elected for the same period are Ir Sulaiman Haji Abdul Rahman, Puan Nurirdzuana Ismail, Mr Sivasangaran Nair, Mr Dorai Sinna, Puan Noor 'Akilah Saidin and Puan Shuhairoz Shukeri.

TI-M would like to express its deep gratitude and appreciation for the contribution, commitment and compassion to the previous Exco of 2017-2019: Dato' Sri Akhbar Satar (former President), Tan Sri James Alfred (former Deputy President), Mr Mohd Yunos bin Yusop (former Exco), Mr Chew Phye Keat (former Exco) and Mr Nicholas Tan Check Foong (former Exco). Their generous efforts in combatting corruption has assisted TI-M in making valuable improvements to our mission and goal in striving for a better Malaysia.

The new Exco Committee will continue to strive for a better nation and broaden our anti-corruption initiatives and stakeholder engagements. TI-M will continue to advocate works in relation to integrity and anti-corruption.

POLITICAL FUNDING IN MALAYSIA - THE EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE

POLITICAL FUNDING IS THE MOTHER OF CORRUPTION



Transparency International-Malaysia (TI-M) jointly hosted a half-day forum with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Malaysia on 21st of March 2019 at JW Marriott Kuala Lumpur. The forum had two sessions where Session 1 saw the EU members sharing their experiences on Political Funding. Session 2 was about Political Funding in Malaysia and how do we move forward. As currently there are no laws to regulate political funding, the panel members were divided in their views on regulating political funding. Malaysian

politicians appear to be quite reluctant to support a push for the implementation of a political funding law.

The forum began with a welcoming message by Dato' Sri Akhbar. He felt that political financing laws are crucial in reducing corruption and urged the government on regulating political funding in the country.



It then moved on to our first panel discussion. The session was on "Political Finance Regulations in Europe" and the panelists from Netherlands, Germany and Norway shared their respective country's regulations on political funding, covering sources of fund, legislation and recommendations to improve current legislation. In this session, we were glad to have HE Karin Mossenlechner, Ambassador at the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Malaysia, Dr. Klaus Paehler, Former Country Director in Malaysia Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Germany), Mr Erlend Sannes Hadland, Deputy Head of Mission Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malaysia as our panelists. The discussion was moderated by Chew Phye Keat, Exco TI-Malaysia.

Next was the second panel discussion, discussed on "Political Funding in Malaysia - The Way Forward". The panelists represented by academia, Prof. Terence Gomez, a professor of Political Economy, Faculty of Economics & Administration from the University of Malaya, Mr Tian Chua, Vice President of PKR and a former MP. The regulator, Mr Azhar Harun, the Chairman of Election Commission, gave us an insight on the legislation of political funding in Malaysia and discussed at length the roles of EC in regulating funds. The session was moderated by Mr Thomas Fann, Chairperson of Bersih 2.0. There was good feedback during the discussion and views relevant to the subject were aptly shared by Mr Tian Chua as regards to political funding in the current political climate in the country.

The forum ended with closing remarks by Tan Sri Abu Kassim, Director General of National Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption Centre (GIACC) who shared that money politics will continue to exist if there is no regulation on political funding. GIACC is currently working on political funding bill which is expected to be completed by end-2020.

ANNUAL NATIONAL PROCUREMENT AND INTEGRITY FORUM 2019

INTEGRITY AND GOOD PRACTICE IN COMBATTING PROCUREMENT FRAUD



TI-Malaysia collaborated with Aram Global Sdn Bhd to organize a forum entitled Annual National Procurement and Integrity Forum on 25th March 2019 at Hotel Istana, Kuala Lumpur. Themed “Integrity and Good Practice in Combatting Procurement Fraud”. 50 public procurement officers attended the forum.

The forum discussed on public procurement from different aspects and perspectives. Tan Sri Ambrin Buang, the former Auditor-General, shared his thoughts on how to enhance the current procurement system through the 3E framework - Economy, Effectiveness, and Efficiency. Mr Prabhat Kumar, chief consultant from Alliance IFA (M)

Sdn Bhd conducted a session focusing on procurement fraud, and on how to prevent and detect fraud. Datin Grace Xavier, research fellow from University of Malaya shared about the current legislations in place for procurement. Pete Viksnins and Kah May Lee from PwC Forensic Services discussed the new MACC Amendment Act 2018 and steps that should be taken to protect organizations from corruption risk.

TI-M MANAGEMENT TEAM



FAREWELL TZE CHIN

We would like to extend our greatest gratitude to our manager, Ms Chin for her outstanding contributions to TI-M throughout these 6 years. All the best to your future endeavors, Chin !

WELCOME ABOARD !

TI-M's New Team



Manager - Adlina Adnan

Adlina has extensive experience in both NGO and corporate sector, having been with various organisations before joining TI. She is an experienced Public Relations Specialist with a proven history of working in the banking, finance, telco, logistics & health care industry. She is a strong media and communications professional with a Master of Arts - MA in Communications and Media Studies from Universiti Teknologi MARA.

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Project Officer - Nurizzati Mohamad Nor

Izzati has completed her Bachelor of Social Sciences (Hons) in International Studies. After graduation, she worked at United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in the fundraising team before she joined TI-M. She has a strong will and goal to combat corruption in our society, wishing to build a nation with integrity and free of corruption.

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Accounts cum Admin Executive - Maria Christina Stephenson

Christina graduated with a Master in Science in Seed Technology from Massey University, New Zealand. In 2014 she worked at TI-Malaysia in the Forest Governance Project funded by Norway. That was the period she had developed an interest to work on anti-corruption programmes. On 2017, she has re-joined TI-Malaysia as Accounts cum Admin Executive.

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