



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL MALAYSIA



NEWSLETTER

A Nation Without Corruption, A Society With Integrity

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Pakatan Harapan government has been in power for one and half year and while reforms are in progress but the pace of change does not seem to meet the expectations of the citizens. While the government should be congratulated for putting priority to eradicate grand corruption and mitigate petty corruption but there seems to be some disconnect between what the government has been doing and what is perceived by the citizens. To the citizens, bread and butter issues are more of a priority compared to the need to be excited about who are being arrested by MACC, the development of Datuk Sri Najib's trial or the government's struggle to pay the loans created by the 1 MDB fiasco.



Reforms need to continue and TI-Malaysia had raised its concern with the parliamentary select committee when the Prime Minister appointed a former politician to head the MACC. This view was also shared by the Bar Council. Two other core thrust areas are for our society to push through our agenda of amending the Whistleblower Protection Act 2010 and compel the government to formulate laws on Ultimate Beneficial Ownership.

In the last quarter of the year, TI-Malaysia participated in several seminars where our executive committee members were invited as speakers. TI-Malaysia, together with other coalition members in GIAT (Governance, Integrity, accountability and Transparency) also participated in the dialogue with the compliance unit of the Police Force. Such kind of engagement will be expanded to other enforcement units in the future.

Under GIAT, TI-Malaysia also paid a courtesy call to the Speaker of the House, Dato' Mohd Ariff and exchanged ideas on how to make parliament a place for exchanging ideas between law makers and civil societies. The coalition members also raised questions related to the behavior of parliamentarians and the absence of some MPs during the parliamentary sessions..

TI-Malaysia as part of its fund raising initiative, organized a concert jointly with the Voice of Hope Kuala Lumpur group. This concert was held at the Damansara Performing Arts Centre and close to about 180 tickets were sold. TI-Malaysia deeply appreciates the contribution from all the volunteers of Voice of Hope Kuala Lumpur.

Best wishes,

Dr Muhammad Mohan

President
Transparency International-Malaysia

EDITORIAL

HOW MUCH CLEANER CAN WE BE?

In 2018, Malaysia ranked 62 out of 180 nations in the Corruption Perception Index. This means we are still below 50% of the global total and in the bottom half of world rankings. The latest data on the Global CPI Rankings will be released early next year by Transparency International. With the aggressive stance taken by the MACC and the many legislations and rulings implemented by the new government, it will indeed be much anticipated by the people and also international observers and investors.

There is much expectation that the rankings this time around will be very much better but do not be surprised if the ranking does not fulfill our expectations. Corrupt practices cannot be wiped out overnight with the wave of a magic wand. Corruption is deep rooted and is like a cancer that is hidden and elusive. No amount of enforcement can unravel the endemic corruption that is deeply embedded into the Malaysian mindset. Whether it is the private sector or the public service, those who are placed in compromising positions are easily snared to receive gratification to enrich themselves with ill-gotten gains. Strangely, no amount of spiritual and moral indoctrination has been able to steer their desires away from material temptations. It has become a notion that wealth gained from corruption is God given opportunity not to be missed, otherwise you will be labelled as not being smart.

We have to accept that the current generation cannot be changed but there is still a chance that with the right moral upbringing and with a proper education system that is holistic, we may still be able to cultivate a future generation that is ethical, honest and nationalistic who carry out their duties with honour, pride and dignity. We can thus be resigned to the fact that a clean government and ethical business practices are still far in the horizon but as we know there is still a light at the end of the tunnel. With continued legislation, new laws and consistent enforcement and proper education through all generations, there is a good possibility that we can be in the topmost rankings of the CPI. To do that, our leaders must have the political will to enable the enforcement agencies to act independently, completely free of interference. The MACC and the police force must not be forced to be used as political tools but as tools against those who are corrupt, irregardless of who they are.

Sivasangaran Nair
Editor





Meeting with Parliamentary Select Committee

SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

TO APPOINT MAIN POSITION IN PUBLIC SECTOR

9 July 2019 – TI-M president, Dr. Muhammad Mohan was involved in the Special Committee Meeting held at Parliament Malaysia. The objective was to discuss on the appointment of Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) chief commissioner.



Regional Workshop on Beneficial Ownership

REGIONAL WORKSHOP PROMOTING BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

TI-M President, Dr. Muhammad Mohan attended a regional workshop themed 'Promoting beneficial ownership transparency in Southeast Asia' as a speaker. The workshop was co-organized by Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) and Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (STAR).



Puan Shuhairoz talked on National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP)

SEMINAR ON NACP FOR PUBLIC SECTOR

MILESTONE IN THE PATHWAY TO FIGHT CORRUPTION

25 July 2019 – Puan Shuhairoz Shukeri was invited to speak on 'Hidup Tanpa Rasuah – Menyahut Tuntutan Memenuhi Aspirasi Negara Bermaruah' at the Malacca Holiday Inn.

BENCHMARKING WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION IN MALAYSIA

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

1-2 August 2019 – TI-M was invited to present a paper on “*Benchmarking Whistleblower Protection in Malaysia: Where Are We Now?*” by the Legal Affairs Division of the Prime Minister Department (BHEUU) in Putrajaya.

Mr. Chew Phye Keat presented on the research done by TI-M in relation to the implementation of Act 711 in Malaysia, our views on the shortcomings and/or advantages of the said Act, as well as proposed improvements.



Dr. Mohan, Mr. Phye Keat and other presenters during the workshop

AWARENESS TRAINING ON MACC ACT SECTION 17(A) TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT EFFECTIVE ISO 37001:2016



Group photo of the participants during the half-day training

15 August 2019 - TI-M organized a 1-day Awareness Training on Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission Act Section 17A (Corporate Liability): Implementing Effective 'Adequate Procedures' Based on ISO 37001:2016 ABMS at Kelab Golf Perkhidmatan Awam, Selangor.

This Awareness Training was designed for managers and implementers to grasp the essence of MACC Act Section 17A and how to establish and implement an effective ISO 37001:2016 ABMS complying with Guidelines on Adequate Procedures. 20 participants attended from various organisations.

FORENSIC INVESTIGATION AND FRAUD ANALYTICS CONFERENCE

HARNESSING TECH TO FIGHT FRAUD IN THE DIGITAL AGE



20 August 2019 – TI-M was the supporting partner for a conference on Forensic Investigation and Fraud Analytics held by Malaysian Institute of Accountants at Nexus, Bangsar South. This forum highlighted the key areas for transformation that enabled accounting functions to deliver greater value in smart analytics and fraud mitigation, and empower accountants to become more business- and fraud-centric.

TI-M Secretary General, Mr. Raymon Ram moderated the second session dialogue

MEETING WITH INTEGRITY AND STANDARD COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT

ROYAL MILITARY POLICE NEEDS A CHANGE



GIAT members and Integrity and Standard Compliance Department (JIPS)

TI-M with other GIAT members met with YDH CP Dato' Zamri Bin Yahya, Director of Integrity and Compliance Department Royal Military Police (RMP) and team on 21 August 2019. The team discussed on the Whistleblower Protection Act and the IPCMC Bill, among others.

ECONOMICS OF INTEGRITY

MALAYSIAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM



Group photo of Mr. Raymon and participants during the talk

23 August 2019 – TI-M Secretary-General, Mr. Raymon Ram was invited by National Institute of Public Administration (INTAN) to talk on ‘*Economics of Integrity*’ during the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Program (MTCP) 2019: Economic Planning and Management Course.

UNI P&M WORLD CONFERENCE

MALAYSIAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM

28 August 2019 – TI-M Secretary General, Mr. Raymon Ram represented TIM during the UNI P&M World Conference at Park Royal, Kuala Lumpur. He talked on ‘Whistleblower Protection in Malaysia’ for the Panel Discussion 3: Whistleblowing-why we need strong protection for the P&Ms.



STRATEGIC PLAN FOR CORPORATE INTEGRITY SYSTEM MALAYSIA (CISM)

OPTIMIZING AGENCY KEY ROLE



During the Strategic Plan for Corporate Integrity System Malaysia workshop

The Strategic Plan for Corporate Integrity System Malaysia (CISM) 2020-2022 was organized by Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) on 5 and 6 September 2019, in Shah Alam.

The workshop was an excellent platform for discussions on the members' respective functions in line with the National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP) and the provisions of Section 17A of the MACC Act.

In addition, the workshop also emphasized on optimizing each agency's key role in formulating the CISM Strategic Plan 2020-2022 as well as enhancing the development of the CISM Corporate Integrity Pledge (CIP) portal to be more informative, interactive and a reference center for the implementation of corporate initiatives in Malaysia.

As CISM Roundtable Members, senior officials from GIACC, Securities Commission Malaysia (SC), Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM), Bursa Malaysia, Malaysian Integrity Institute and Transparency International Malaysia were present.

MEETING WITH SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AND PARLIAMENT RESEARCH TEAM

BRING FORWARD THE GIAT AGENDA



GIAT members with Speaker of the House, Dato' Mohd Arif and the Parliament research team

GIAT members met with Dato' Mohd Arif, Speaker of the House and the Parliament research team today to bring forward the GIAT agenda and our role as civil societies in pushing for reform and good governance at the parliamentary level.

GIAT is a coalition of CSOs that promotes Good Governance, Integrity, Anti-corruption, Transparency. The coalition includes Transparency International Malaysia, C4, IDEAS, PROHAM, Sinar Project, MyPJ and Friends of Kota Damansara.

UTEM FINANCE SEMINAR

FRAUD AND CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC SECTOR



13 September 2019 – TI-M president, Dr. Muhammad Mohan was invited to speak on Fraud and Corruption: Internal Control and Prevention in Public Sector during the Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM) Finance Seminar at Hotel Bay View, Langkawi.

TI-M President, Dr. Muhammad Mohan with other panelists during the seminar

FUNDRAISING CONCERT TOWARDS A BRIGHTER TOMORROW



TI-M President, Dr. Muhammad Mohan with the performers

22 September 2019 – TI-M organized a fundraising concert titled ‘Towards a Brighter Tomorrow, An Afternoon of Laughter and Songs’ at Damansara Performing Arts Centre. This concert was one of the TI-M initiatives to raise funds to remain sustainable and pursue our dream of making Malaysia a nation free of corruption and a society with integrity. TI-M worked with Voice of Hope KL (VOHKL) and stand-up comedian, Monti for this noble cause.



Performance by VOHKL (left) and Monti (right)

CALLING FOR TRAINERS!

We are collecting data on relevant speakers for training programs organized by TI-Malaysia, and would like to invite all members to send in your profiles consisting of:



1. Subject matter expertise
2. Background
3. Training track record and relevant supporting documents

Kindly email all the relevant documents to the Secretary General, Mr Raymon Ram at raymon@transparency.org.my.