
Interview Request by Hakem Hassan, Journalist from The Sun
Tuesday, 19 January 2021

1) Toyota and Honda have reportedly had to close down plants due to MCO 2.0. How has MCO 2.0 affected things?

We have not heard of any similar action from our members and they have not faced any operational or on-the-ground difficulties. It may however be too soon for us to comment on MCO 2.0 as it has only been about a week since we went into the lockdown. We hope that the infection rate will be lowered by the effort.

2) Are there signs that more foreign investments will follow suit?

AMCHAM remains cautiously optimistic that the country will remain resilient as it has through other times of turmoil. The Chamber will continue to address the needs of industry sectors as represented by our members.

3) What should the government do to prevent this from occurring even more?

The Government says it is committed towards ensuring business continuity and sustainability in order to rebuild the Malaysian economy.

To keep stability in the business community, accurate and clear information needs to be available for companies to navigate MCO 2.0. By providing clear and effective communication of policy and regulations, the Government can help allay concerns and support investor confidence.

Strategic forward planning is continually happening. As companies assess what will be more efficient and beneficial to manage its global value chains, Malaysia is in a position to showcase what it can offer and deliver. The ability to stay active in the global supply chains is important as is COVID-19 management.

Continuous, open and effective stakeholder engagement therefore will be critical so that regional and global decision makers can assess the situation on the ground accurately for its needs. Paramount at this juncture is information on the vaccine rollout. This would help not only to boost confidence but to also allow companies to understand which countries they can rely more heavily on as they move towards recovery.

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ABOUT AMCHAM MALAYSIA

The American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM) was founded in 1978 as an international, non-profit, private-sector business association. It comprises more than 1200 members representing about 280 American, Malaysian and other international companies with strong ties to American business. The Chamber is a member of the AmChams of Asia Pacific.

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