



UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

PRESS STATEMENT

ECONOMIC SECTOR ENCOURAGED TO INCREASE WORKING FROM HOME PRACTICE FOR MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORY STAFF

1. The National Security Council (NSC) Special Session chaired by the YAB Prime Minister yesterday discussed the feedback and current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a preemptive measure to arrest the spread of COVID-19, the Ministry of Health (MOH) is of the view there is an urgent need to tighten the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) during the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO) period by restricting the movement of the public especially in the States of Selangor and Kuala Lumpur which has a dense population and serves as one of the country's main industrial hubs. The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) takes seriously MOH's call to advise the public to continue staying at home to flatten the curve in the near future.
2. As a caring and responsible Government, the balance between protecting public health and the continuation of economic activity is important to achieve.
3. Based on the MITI COVID-19 Intelligent Management System (CIMS), the number of registered workers in the manufacturing, services and construction sectors in Sabah, Labuan, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor and Putrajaya is 3.1 million. In taking collective responsibility to protect the health of the people and workers, MITI will immediately implement the decision of the NSC for industry to introduce Work From Home policies for management and supervisory staff as a measure in reducing the risk of infection transmission of the COVID-19 pandemic especially in areas undergoing the CMCO.
4. Out of the total number of workers above, based on feedback received from industry, a total of 776,135 employees or 25%, are employees in management

and supervisory fields. It is mandatory for this group to WFH starting 22 October 2020 in line with the decision of the NSC.

5. However, taking into account the needs of industry which require the presence of a small number of management and supervisory-level employees, MITI agrees to allow a maximum of 10% of employees whose tasks involve accounting, finance, administration, legal, planning and ICT to be in the office, limited to 4 hours only from 10am to 2pm, 3 days a week.
6. Companies do not need to submit an application for this purpose. Employers only need to issue a travel permission letter for each employee allowed to work during the CMCO period. Employers are required to set WFH guidelines appropriate for their respective company's needs.
7. The Government will continue to work with the private sector and industry in the effort to enhance the implementation of WFH as a new normal in line with the latest sophisticated technology and online applications. MITI will continue to conduct rigorous monitoring and enforcement to ensure implementation and adherence to SOPs by industry.

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21 October 2020