



MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES

PRESS STATEMENT

ABSENCE OF WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVE AT THE 113TH INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

PUTRAJAYA, 7 June 2025 – The Ministry of Human Resources (KESUMA) acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the absence of a workers' representative in Malaysia's delegation to the 113th International Labour Conference (ILC) held in Geneva, Switzerland.

KESUMA wishes to clarify that the absence of a workers' representative this year is due to the current lack of leadership within the Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC), which serves as the principal umbrella organisation for trade unions in the country.

On 21 February 2025, the Court of Appeal directed MTUC to conduct a re-election of its leadership within 90 days, to be managed by a Joint Special Committee (JSC). The elections, originally scheduled for May 2025, were subsequently postponed to 10 August 2025. As a result, MTUC does not currently have a legitimate leadership able to represent Malaysian workers on official platforms, including the ILC.

The JSC was established solely for the purpose of conducting the re-election and does not have the mandate to make policy decisions or to nominate individuals to represent workers at international forums. Any such nomination by the JSC to the ILC falls outside its legal jurisdiction as outlined by the court, and has also been contested by several MTUC affiliate members.

KESUMA underscores that the selection of Malaysia's delegation to the ILC was conducted transparently, in full compliance with the guidelines set by the International Labour Organization (ILO), and following legal advice from the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC) regarding MTUC's current status. Therefore, allegations that the Government deliberately obstructed workers' participation are baseless, misleading, and malicious.

The Government remains firmly committed to the principle of tripartism and fully supports the legitimate participation of trade unions in international forums. KESUMA urges that the MTUC re-election process be completed as soon as possible to safeguard the integrity of the labour movement and ensure full representation of Malaysia at the ILC in 2026.

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ANNEX**BACKGROUND OF KESUMA**

The Ministry of Human Resources, abbreviated as KESUMA, is the ministry responsible for skills development, employment, occupational safety and health, trade unions, industrial relations, labour market information and analysis, and social security.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF KESUMA

- To develop and produce competent, productive, responsive, and resilient human capital in the national labour market to enhance national productivity.
- To ensure the smooth operation of the national labour market.
- To enhance the employability and employment of the local workforce to meet national labour market needs.
- To ensure harmonious and conducive industrial relations.
- To prioritize aspects of occupational safety and health.
- To ensure a comprehensive, dynamic, and progressive social security network.

DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES UNDER KESUMA

DEPARTMENTS	AGENCIES
Department of Manpower (JTM)	Social Security Organisation (PERKESO)
Industrial Court of Malaysia (MPM)	National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Department of Skills Development (JPK)	Human Resources Development Corporation (HRDC)
Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH/JKKP)	Talent Corporation Malaysia Berhad (TALENTCORP)
Department of Labour Peninsular Malaysia (JTKSM)	Skills Development Fund Corporation (PTPK)
Department of Industrial Relations Malaysia (JPPM)	
Department of Trade Union Affairs (JHEKS)	
Department of Labour Sabah	
Department of Labour Sarawak	