INTERVENTION NOTES

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

AGENDA ITEM 3:

REGIONAL ACTIONS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL COOPERATION ON SOCIAL PROTECTION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

TUESDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 2022 2.00 – 4.00 PM

Excellencies,

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Government of Malaysia has always been committed to provide equitable social protection to all its citizen, as demonstrated in the Twelfth Malaysia Plan 2021-2025. Strengthening social protection and service delivery mechanisms have been identified as key priority in poverty eradication and building resilience to ensure an inclusive and just society.

The Government is working towards enhancing the efficiency of social protection service delivery to vulnerable groups including women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and informal workers. With this in mind, the Malaysia Social Protection Council (MySPC) has been established to strengthen the national social protection system.

2. Members of this high-powered council consist of 15 ministers, the Chief Secretary General to the Government and the Governor of the Central Bank. This Council serves as a centralised coordinating body to develop a comprehensive national social security system, which is based on lifecycle needs and taking adequacy, affordability, sustainability and robustness into consideration.

- 3. This Council is supported by four working committees on Social Assistance, Social Insurance, Labour Market Intervention and Data Management. The working committee will execute and monitor the Malaysia Social Protection Framework which comprises five main thrusts namely:
 - (i) Rationalization of social protection policy and programmes;
 - (ii) Empowerment of service delivery and resource management of social protection programmes;
 - (iii) Determination of coverage of social protection target groups;
 - (iv) Empowerment of social protection target groups; and
 - (v) Integrity and efficiency of data management.
- 4. Malaysia is also determined to strengthen social safety net programmes through the development of a Social Protection Database as the primary database. This database will be the single gateway, as well as the sole reference for social protection programmes and profiles of recipients that will cover the components of social assistance, social insurance and labour market interventions across agencies.
- 5. MySPC aims to fulfil the national development priorities by adopting a whole-of-nation approach with the principle of "leaving no one behind". The targeted outcomes from MySPC are to optimize fiscal resources, to ensure sustainable economic growth, higher quality of life, a healthier and active nation, as well as to provide productive human capital ready to cope with the future, and to reduce inequality.
- 6. The Government is optimistic about achieving the target of zero hardcore poverty in the country as planned by December 2025. This target

is a new approach involving integrated actions by all the parties involved and continuous monitoring to ensure no one would be left out in the initiative.

Thank You.