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| **Press Release**  Joint Chambers Networking with MMBC, SAM & TBAM | CCI France Myanmar | **Malaysia-Myanmar Business Chamber (MMBC) embarks on Another Corporate Social Responsibility Effort for the People in Myanmar including in the Rakhine region affected the current surge of Covid-19 cases** |

After a month-long pause in total Covid-19 cases reported, Myanmar has seen an increasing number of cases after the first case of local transmission was found in Sittwe, the capital of Rakhine State. Nearly 300 cases have been reported in just two weeks, and the authorities have placed Rakhine State under semi-lockdown and imposed curfews to curb the spike of locally transmitted cases.

Heading the sacred call of leaving no one behind, MMBC embarked on another fund raising initiative in response to the recent spike in local transmission cases to support Myanmar authorities in battling the newest Covid-19 spread in the country particular in Rakhine. Thanks to generous support, the latest efforts able to collect funds totalling USD 7,700.00.

The MMBC in currently working out to distribute high grade Malaysia-made Personal Protection Equipment (“PPE”) and face masks to support temporary field hospitals. First consignment of PPE has arrived in Yangon on 13 Sept through Myanmar Airways International Relief Flight. It will be handed over to the management of the field hospital at Thuwana Stadium on 18 Sept. Similar items will also be contributed to the Rakhine region, which will be coordinated by Mercy Malaysia with Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Assistance, Resettlement and Development (UEHRD).

Earlier in the pandemic, in a joint effort with its generous members’ organisations and companies, MMBC Initiated a Social Responsibility Program that supported many Myanmar and Malaysian frontline workers namely:

* 1. For Myanmar frontlines (coordinated by Mercy Malaysia)
     1. A contribution to the Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports: 25,000 units of surgical masks, 5,000 pairs of surgical gloves, other personal protective equipment (“PPE”) and 100 bottles of hand sanitizers – valued at USD 15,000 in early March;
     2. Additional contribution to Myanmar’s frontline workers coordinated by Mercy Malaysia valued at USD11,750 in third week of April.
  2. For Malaysian frontlines
     1. Contribution to frontline workers in Malaysia: 3,000 units of face shields produced by the Ladies Group of Taman Ixora, Bandar Baru Salak Tinggi valued at USD 1,500;
     2. Supporting the call by the Foreign Minister of Malaysia under the Ministry’ Diplomatic Equipment Stockpiles (MDES) with contribution of 7,500 face masks worth US2,500
     3. a contribution to Malaysia Sungai Buloh Hospital (MSBH): PPE by B2M Medical Sdn. Bhd. valued at USD 7,500; and

These CSR initiatives show MMBC’s members commitment to promoting and prioritising social accountability activities to benefit society beyond business.

MMBC wishes to express its profound gratitude to all of its members and their friends who generously contributed their time and money to these efforts.

**Background of Malaysia-Myanmar Business Chamber (MMBC)**

The Malaysia-Myanmar Business Chamber (“MMBC”) is a legal entity registered with the Department of Investment and Company Administration that is under the patronage of the Ambassador of Malaysia. It is also officially recognised by the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

Established in July 2011, MMBC’s main objective is to serve as a platform to facilitate Malaysian businesses in Myanmar. It is governed by a duly elected Executive Committee that comprises from prominent members of the business community and professionals together with the Ambassador of Malaysia to Myanmar as a patron.

MMBC organises regular events such as business, trade and investment briefings, seminars, and networking and information sharing, for the international and local business community.

In addition, MMBC has close relationships with other foreign and local business chambers and associations in Myanmar, which allows for the facilitation of knowledge exchange among not only the Malaysian, but also the local business community.

MMBC members also carry out a substantial number of corporate social responsibility initiatives, including providing in-kind donations to support the local community in its fight against recent pandemic.

Prepared by

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