



YBRS. TUAN AHMAD SABKI YUSOF
Chairman
Companies Commission of Malaysia

CHAIRMAN'S Foreword

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh, Salam Malaysia MADANI.

With a deep sense of responsibility, I am honoured to present the 2024 Annual Report of the Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM), which reflects significant achievements in strengthening corporate governance and driving comprehensive organisational reform. This year has seen SSM's evolving role from a regulator to a strategic partner in supporting sustainable business growth and enhancing market confidence. This foreword is delivered as a reflection of SSM's strategic direction in balancing regulatory needs with the aspirations for modernising the business sector.

As Chairman, I am proud to witness SSM's continued progress in fortifying the legal framework and improving service delivery efficiency. The implementation of amendments to the CA 2016 and the LLPA 2012 this year is not merely a technical adjustment, but a strategic and comprehensive move that reflects the organisation's commitment to strengthening the resilience of business entities. It also aims to ensure a higher level of transparency and accountability in ownership structures, while empowering corporate entities to better face financial challenges, foster a culture of ethics and build long-term sustainability more effectively.

Key enhancements introduced include:

1 Expansion of the Corporate Rescue Mechanism (CRM)

The scope of the CRM has been expanded to cover all types of companies (except those under special regulatory regimes) and for the first time, extended to limited liability partnerships (LLPs). This move enables more business entities to access structured recovery options, especially in times of financial distress.

2 Improvements to the Scheme of Arrangement or Compromise Process

The procedures surrounding the scheme of arrangement or compromise have been streamlined by clarifying the application process, approval requirements from shareholders/ creditors and judicial oversight of the agreement. This aims to expedite implementation and reduce uncertainty for stakeholders.

3 Priority for Rescue Financing

Access to rescue financing has been improved by granting priority status to rescue financiers, making it more attractive for lenders to support distressed companies. This aligns with international best practices for aiding business recovery.

4 Enforcement of Beneficial Ownership (BO) Reporting

Effective 1 April 2024, companies and LLPs are required to comply with an enhanced beneficial ownership reporting framework. This includes transparent BO registration, continuous monitoring by entities and lodgement of information to SSM. These improvements support national efforts to combat financial crimes,

including money laundering and terrorism financing and ensure compliance with the standards of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

In addition, our focus on digital transformation and customer experience has been reinforced through the launch of the e-BOS system and e-Advertisement platform, which enhance compliance efficiency and foster a more transparent and responsive regulatory relationship between SSM and the corporate community. At the same time, SSM established the SSM Customer Care (SSMCC), a modern call centre fully managed by SSM. This initiative integrates the handling of inquiries, complaints and feedback into an intelligent system, supported by advanced technology and a highly skilled workforce. The official launch of SSMCC by the Minister of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living in March 2024 reflects SSM's continued commitment to delivering more efficient, customer-friendly and high-impact services.



SSM remains steadfast in promoting social equity and national empowerment. Key initiatives such as the *Skim Pendaftaran Perniagaan Percuma (SPPP)* for B40 entrepreneurs and full-time students of higher learning institutions, the *1 OKU 1 Business Scheme (S1O1P)* and the extension of *BizTrust* incentives continue to narrow the gap by enabling underserved

communities to formally participate in the national economy. These programmes are crucial components in advancing the country's inclusive growth agenda.

I also appreciate SSM's continued contributions to community welfare. Through its corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes and corporate zakat wakalah initiatives, SSM has extended meaningful assistance to flood victims, underprivileged entrepreneurs and public healthcare institutions. These initiatives reflect our strong belief that effective governance must be accompanied by compassion and inclusivity.

On behalf of the Commission, I extend my deepest appreciation to the Honourable Minister of Domestic Trade and Cost of Living, the ministry's leadership, strategic partners and all parties who have supported SSM's mission throughout the year. I also acknowledge the strong commitment of the Executive Management and the entire SSM workforce for their professionalism, agility and integrity.

With continued determination and the support from all stakeholders, I am confident that SSM will remain a transparent, resilient and forward-looking regulatory organisation. Let us move ahead with the spirit of MADANI to build a business landscape that is not only efficient and competitive but also ethical and principled.

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Thank you

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Chairman

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