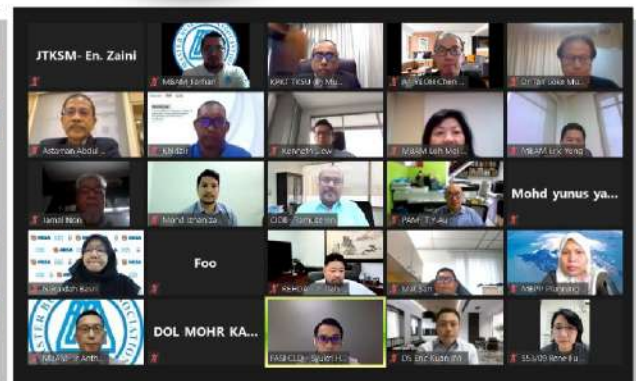


# BULLETIN

February  
2021

FOR  
MEMBERS  
ONLY



**MBAM EVENTS . MBAM TRAININGS . OTHER KEY EVENTS ATTENDED BY MBAM**



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**Dato' Sri Eric Kuan**  
MBAM Secretary General

Happy Chinese New Year to members who are celebrating the lunar New Year. I am sure that members have found creative ways to celebrate the festive season in the new norm to keep up with the spirit to usher in the Metal Ox year.

As we have adapted and adopted new ways of working, do keep an eye on MBAM's official platforms as we are planning to roll out more exciting programmes available for you digitally from the comfort of your office or even home.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### MBAM Event(s)

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### Event(s) Attended by MBAM

- pg.1 Meeting between DOSH Top Management and Industry Players on Construction Site Safety
- pg.2 Special Meeting on Short-Term and Long-Term Solutions for the Planning, Development and Operation of Foreign Workers' Temporary Accommodation by PLANMalaysia
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## MBAM Event(s)

## Input for Improvement of Malaysia's Temporary Measures for Reducing the Impact of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Act 2020 ("COVID Act")



President Tan Sri Sufri handing over the proposal to Datuk 'Asri

MBAM President Tan Sri Sufri Hj Mhd Zin paid a visit to see Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Malaysia Chief Executive Datuk Ir. Ahmad 'Asri Abdul Hamid at the latter's office to hand over the above proposal to improve the Act for the benefit of MBAM members and the construction industry. Accompanying the meeting was MBAM General Manager Lenny Lim.

The Temporary Measures for Reducing the Impact of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (Extension of Operation) Order 2020 i.e. COVID Act has been extended for another three months until 31 March 2021. However, MBAM hopes that the Government can further improve the Act to offer more solid and permanent protection to construction industry players especially with regards to extension of time provision and cost sharing. Contractors have been taking proactive measures to test their workers even when there is no surety of claims and currently there is no provision for this actual expense. As it is, margins are already thinning and this is still an unresolved matter for many members.

## Event(s) Attended by MBAM

## Meeting between DOSH Top Management and Industry Players on Construction Site Safety



Snapshot of meeting attendees

The virtual meeting on 27 January was chaired by the Director General of Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) Ir. Zailee Dollah. DOSH is concerned about the high accident rate involving falling from height at construction sites with the record of 32.6% out of the total 144 fatality cases in year 2019. All the parties in the meeting voiced out their opinions on the possible root causes of falling from height accidents. In conclusion, the lack of awareness and insufficient training among site workers on dealing with risks of working at height are poor.

DOSH together with the support and engagement from relevant Associations and industries players have planned stages of initiatives in the effort to reduce accidents of falling from height. Among the initiatives are:

- Stage 1: All Associations in the meeting to identify potential hazards in common activities which involve working at height.
- Stage 2: DOSH together with MBAM and other Associations to organise workshops which would target participation from G1-G5 contractors.
- Stage 3: Associations are required to submit workshops' reports on ways to improve and risk control of high risk jobs.
- Stage 4: Presentation of workshop outcome and risk control for OSH at job sites by practicing best practices, using of latest technology and collective protection rather than self-protection.

Ir. Zailee stressed that DOSH is taking serious attention to reduce the accident rate related to falling from height. He hopes that industry players especially Associations could work hand in hand with DOSH to achieve the objective.

MBAM was represented by Council Member and Chairman of Safety & Health Committee Michael Yap, Deputy Chairman Alec Chong, Executive Director Loh Mei Ling, Secretariat Chai Min Fung and Shirley Foo. Other organisations involved in the meeting were from Tenaga Nasional Berhad, Petroliaam Nasional Berhad (Petronas), Telekom Malaysia, Prasarana Malaysia Berhad, Mass Rapid Transit Corporation Sdn Bhd, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers and etc.



## Special Meeting on Short-Term and Long-Term Solutions for the Planning, Development and Operation of Foreign Workers' Temporary Accommodation by PLANMalaysia



Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) through PLANMalaysia (Department of Town and Country Planning) has prepared a draft of the Planning Guidelines (GPP) for the Accommodation of Foreign Workers in collaboration with the Department of Manpower Peninsular Malaysia (JTKSM) as well as various other stakeholders. This is in line with the Joint Committee Meeting between the Minister of Home Affairs and the Minister of Human Resources on the Management of Foreign Workers for the Second Time on 28 February 2019 which agreed on the need to prepare GPP for the Accommodation of Foreign Workers. KPKT through the Local Government Department (JKT) has also prepared a Procedure for Application of Temporary Building Permit for Workers' Houses at construction site.

The meeting has deliberated and discussed on the draft GPP and Procedure which was prepared as a guide for stakeholders, namely employers or accommodation providers, developers, State Authorities and Local Authorities in planning, developing and controlling the provision of more conducive and inclusive accommodation for foreign workers.

The online meeting on 4 February was chaired by the KPKT Deputy Secretary General (Management), Tuan Muhammad Razman Bin Abu Samah. The meeting was attended by MBAM President Tan Sri Sufri Hj Mhd Zin, Immediate Past President and Chairman of Human Resources Committee Foo Chek Lee, Vice Presidents Chung Soo Kiong and Eric Yong, Deputy Secretary-General 1 Ir. Anthony Teoh, Deputy Secretary-General 2 Datuk Astaman Abdul Aziz, Secretariat staff and I.

## Workshop on Improving Efficiency of Regulatory Delivery in Dealing with Construction Permits (DCP) Through Public and Private Sectors Collaboration



### Improving Efficiency of Regulatory Delivery in Dealing with Construction Permits (DCP) through Public and Private Sectors Collaboration

The online meeting and workshop on 8 February organised by Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) was attended by related stakeholders from the public and private sectors and was facilitated by the Special Task Force to Facilitate Business (PEMUDAH) through its Technical Working Group on Dealing with Construction Permit. The meeting aimed at finding the best solutions to the challenges faced by the business community on the inconsistencies between regulations and practice in obtaining construction permits approval, issues on labour quarters and many other matters that hopefully will improve construction productivity in Malaysia. MBAM was represented in the Stream C: Deeming clause required for BOMBA and DOSH clearance for CCC and Stream D: Issue on Centralised Labour Quarters (CLQ). MBAM hoped that the recommendations made can be turned into reality.



The workshop was co-chaired by the Deputy Secretary General (Management), Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Tuan Muhammad Razman Bin Abu Samah and PEMUDAH Co-Chair Dato' Dr Andy Seo Kian Haw. Attended from MBAM were President Tan Sri Sufri Hj Mhd Zin, Immediate Past President Foo Chek Lee, Vice Presidents Chung Soo Kiong and Eric Yong, Deputy Secretary-General 1 Ir. Anthony Teoh, Deputy Secretary-General 2 Datuk Astaman Abdul Aziz, Council Member Michael Yap, Member Tony Kok, Secretariat staff and I.

*Note: MBAM has submitted the feedback and proposal on the Draft Garis Panduan Perancangan Penginapan Pekerja Asing to KPKT via PLANMalaysia on 19 February 2021.*



## BNM Engagement with SME Associations on Moratorium and Targeted Relief Assistance



Screenshot of over 60 attendees

The opening remark for the online session by Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) on 10 February was delivered by BNM Assistant Governor, Financial Development and Innovation Sector, Adnan Zaylani Mohamad Zahid. There was a discussion on solutions for complaints or issues regarding Moratorium and Targeted Relief Assistance and sharing by the Credit Counselling and Debt Management Agency (AKPK) on assistance for Small and Medium Enterprise (SME). MBAM Treasurer-General Yeoh Keong Yuan and I attended the engagement session. Also in attendance was General Manager Lenny Lim.

In the session, I raised to BNM the request to extend the moratorium for at least six months to one year and the need to provide new financing loan facilities at minimal interest rate for those who need it. Furthermore, I suggested that the extension of moratorium or financial assistance should be extended to non-SMEs because the number of 500 workers definition would actually exclude many construction companies.

It is hoped that there will be more such engagement in the future so as to provide a platform for MBAM to raise our members' concern.

## Briefing Session by Malaysia Automotive, Robotics & IoT Institute (MARii)

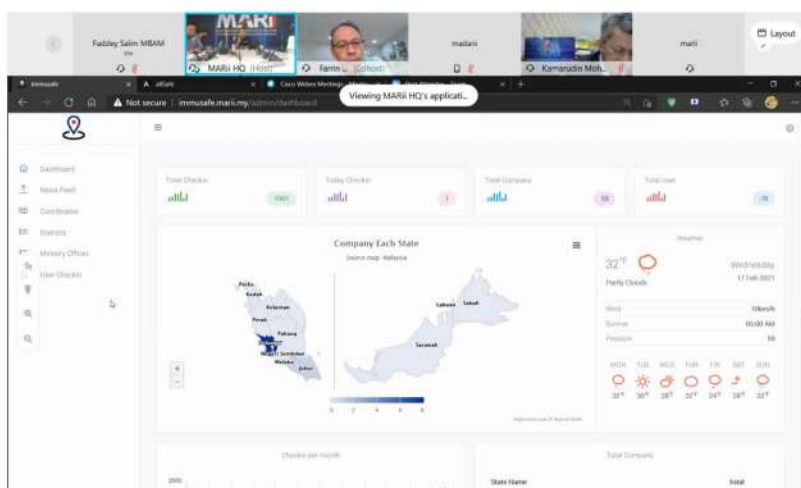
MBAM was invited to an online briefing session on 17 February by Malaysia Automotive Robotics and IoT Institute (MARii) on ImmuSAFE Tracker and ImmuSAFE Test Kit organised by Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) Malaysia. CIDB Senior General Manager of Policies and Corporate Sector, Ahmad Farrin Mokhtar welcomed the attendees and introduced MARii in his opening speech followed by presentation from the Chief Executive Officer of MARii, Dato' Madani Sahari.

Dato' Madani explained on ImmuSAFE Tracker, an intelligent contact tracing real-time application developed by MARii and the cooperation with National Security Council (NSC), various ministries and government agencies specifically for health management for business during pandemic. The application can trace workers' close contact with others and precisely contact tracing in real-time. The application is available for construction industry in the third week of February 2021.

Session continued with the explanation on ImmuSAFE Test Kit that can provide a test for an antibody of workers and it is a supplementary test that can give a complete image whether a person has been infected by COVID-19. The test kit will not replace the existing tests.

The briefing session was attended by MBAM Deputy President Oliver Wee, Council Member and Technical & IBS Deputy Chairman Nalla Sundran, Technical Director Ir. Quah Beng Teong, some Committee Members, Members and Secretariat staff.

Members who are interested to find out more details on the ImmuSAFE Tracker and ImmuSAFE Test Kit may contact MBAM Secretariat.



An example of the real-time ImmuSAFE Tracker dashboard

## Other key events attended by MBAM

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### 4 February

PEMUDAH Private Sector Virtual Meeting No.1/2021 was attended by Immediate Past President Foo Chek Lee.

### 16 February

Technical Working Group on Registration of Property (TWGRP) Virtual Meeting was attended by General Manager Lenny Lim.

### 19 February

PEMUDAH Private Sector Virtual Meeting No.2/2021 was attended by Immediate Past President Foo Chek Lee.

### 22 February

ASEAN Business Advisory Council for a Virtual Dialogue was attended by Council Member and Deputy Chairman of International Affairs Committee Ir. Chee Weng Loon and Assistant General Manager Lee Siew Mei.

### 23 February

Virtual Meeting with REHDA Institute – Discussion on IBS and QCLASSIC Making It Work for the Industry was attended by Council Member and Chairman of Technical & IBS Committee Datuk Kow Choong Ming, Technical & IBS Committee Members Tan Ek Khai and Foong Fatt Kee, and Secretariat Mohd Farhan and Muhammad Fadzley.

### 26 February

CIDB Interaction Session of Career Incentive Program 2.0 under the 2021 Budget was attended by Executive Director Loh Mei Ling, Assistant General Manager Lee Siew Mei and Executive Officer Jocelyn Ng.

G25 Malaysia and Edunity Foundation's upcoming Webinar entitled "COVID-19: Seeking Solutions for Foreign Workers" via online live sessions was attended by Immediate Past President Foo Chek Lee, Deputy Secretary-General 2 Datuk Astaman Abdul Aziz, Human Resources Committee Member Mazlan Haron and Senior Manager Chai Min Fung.

CIDB Construction Industry Standards (CIS) Technical Development Committee Meeting No.2 for (1) CIS 22: Safe Use of Scaffolding in Construction and (2) CIS 23: Safe Use of Falsework & Formwork in Construction was attended by Council Member and Chairman of Safety & Health Committee Michael Yap and Manager Mohd Farhan.