PRESS RELEASE

Kuala Lumpur, February 22, 2023

BEM MALAYSIA ASSUMED CHAIRMANSHIP OF ASEAN ACPECC & BSSWG

Malaysia, through the Board of Engineers Malaysia (BEM) has excellently chaired two (2) ASEAN meetings held at ASEAN Secretariat Office in Jakarta, Indonesia. Datuk Ir. Mohd Adnan bin Mohd Nor chaired the ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer Coordinating Committee (ACPECC) Meeting on 21st February 2023 whilst the Business Services Sectoral Working Group (BSSWG) Meeting which reports to ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Services (ASEAN CCS) was chaired by Datuk Wira Ir. Md Sidek bin Ahmad on 22nd February 2023. These hybrid meetings gathered more than 50 delegates from 10 ASEAN countries representing professional regulatory authorities from four (4) different professional services such as engineering, architectural, accountancy and surveying services.

Malaysia has been appointed as ACPECC and BSSWG Chairman for a period of two (2) years respectively starting from 1st January 2023 until 31st January 2024. For the record, ACPECC discusses the updates on Assessment Statements and Monitoring Committees; consider and approves applications from 10 ASEAN countries to be registered as ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineers and Registered Foreign Professional Engineers (RFPE). ACPECC also discusses the Mobility of ASEAN Engineers, and Roadmap and Implementation Plan.

BSSWG on the other hand discusses the outcomes ACPECC, ASEAN Architect Council (AAC), ASEAN Chartered Professional Accountant Coordinating Committee (ACPACC); and ASEAN Competent Authority Committee on Surveying (ACACS) Meetings.

BEM Malaysia is also proud to inform that it has been the pioneer in developing an online registration system for ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer (ACPE) and Registered Foreign Professional Engineer (RFPE) since year 2020 in the middle of Covid-19 pandemic. Our efforts in successfully establishing an online registration system resulted in Malaysia becoming the country with the highest number of registered ACPE among ASEAN countries, standing at 2,550 registered ACPE's ahead of other ASEAN countries (as shown in Table 1: Registered ASEAN Professionals).

Registering as an ACPE enhances our engineer's mobility among ASEAN countries. BEM have always encouraged our Malaysian engineers to be able to offer their expert services to other countries as opposed to only plying their trade in Malaysia. ACPE and RFPE registrations allows for mobility for Professional Engineers that opens the opportunity of offering our expert services to the 10 ASEAN countries. For instance, with the upcoming capital movement from Jakarta to Kalimantan, there will be poised to be mega projects that require expert services that our Malaysian engineers can jump at the opportunity.

On the mobility front, there are more activities being discussed at the ASEAN level among them are Shared Capacity Building, Internship exchange program and ASEAN Engineering Awards. We have always passionately championed these initiatives at BEM in ensuring the bond between ASEAN professionals' remains as strong as ever.

End.

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Table 1: The latest status of the registered ASEAN Professionals

Member States	Engineering (ACPEs)		Architecture (AAs)		Accountancy (ACPAs)		Commenting
	Cumulative	Active	Cumulative	Active	Cumulative	Active	Surveying
Brunei Darussalam	32	32	19	18	8	7	-
Cambodia	106	102	33	31		-	-
Indonesia	1475	1461	185	178	2309	2309	-
Lao PDR	17	17	22	20	-	-	-
Malaysia	2560	2550	51	51	1660	1660	-
Myanmar	625	613	16	16	477	472	-
Philippines	791	791	143	132	138	138	-
Singapore	328	326	132	72	1075	1064	-
Thailand	235	235	29	29	753	707	-
Viet Nam	328	328	41	41	186	186	-
Total	6497	6455	671	588	6606	6543	-

About BEM

BOARD OF ENGINEERS MALAYSIA

The Board of Engineers Malaysia (BEM) is a federal statutory agency under the Ministry of Works Malaysia. It was established under the laws of Malaysia, the Registration of Engineers Act 1967 (Act 138), with primary role to register Engineers, Engineering Technologists and Inspectors of Works. BEM also registers Engineering Consultancy Practices in the form of sole proprietorships, partnerships and body corporates providing professional engineering services. BEM also regulates the professional conduct and practice of registered person in order to safeguard the interest of the public.

VISION

An authoritative body of international standing that regulates engineering practice.

MISSION

Regulate engineering services, conforming to professional ethics and international best practices, in ensuring public safety.

ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Engineering Services

The Government of 10 ASEAN Member Countries on 9th December 2005 in Kuala Lumpur have agreed and signed the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Engineering Services, which aims to:

- · facilitate mobility of engineering service professionals, and
- · exchange information in order to promote adoption of best practices on standard and qualifications.

ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer Coordinating Committee (ACPECC)

The ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer Coordinating Committee (ACPECC) have the authority to confer and withdraw the title of ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer (ACPE). Members of the ACPECC shall comprise of representative from each Monitoring Committee (MC) of the participating ASEAN Member Countries. ACPECC meets at least twice a year usually together with ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS) that also involves Architects, Surveyors and Accountants

Permanent Secretariat: INDONESIA

Business Services Sectoral Working Group (BSSWG)

Role of BSSWG. BSSWG is appointed by the CCS to -

- Support and facilitate all the initiatives under the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) of the respective Professional Coordinating Committees towards realising the aspiration of one economic zone under ASEAN without barriers.
- Coordinate and ensure the implementation of the ASEAN Blueprint initiatives under the respective Professional Coordinating Committee by 2025.
- Establish and operationalise a non-restrictive register (national treatment) for ASEAN Registered Foreign Professionals by 2025.

Authority of BSSWG

- To assist the Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS) in addressing and resolving all issues pertaining to the mobility of ASEAN Professionals within the ASEAN economic zone.
- To coordinate and monitor the implementation of all the initiatives under the respective MRA of the professional coordinating committee in tandem with the aspiration under the ASEAN Blueprint.
- To coordinate the registration of the ASEAN Foreign Professional within the ASEAN economic zone based on Good Regulatory Practice (GRP).
- to partake in addressing and resolving issues and barriers for the registration and practices of foreign professional within the ASEAN economic zone.
- To assess the level of readiness of respective ASEAN Member States (AMS) Professional Regulatory Authority (PRA) in accepting the registration and movement of ASEAN professionals without barriers and help close the gaps.
- To help facilitate and ensure all the ASEAN foreign registered professionals receive equitable national treatment status by the respective PRAs.
- To help promote the joint initiative for inter-ASEAN projects using ASEAN Professionals and resources.
- To undertake other tasks as assigned by the CCS.