

MEDIA STATEMENT

IDEAS: NEW GOVERNMENT MUST RESOLVE PANDEMIC AND ECONOMIC CRISES

Saturday, 21 August 2021, Kuala Lumpur – The Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS) congratulates YAB Dato' Seri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob on his appointment as the Ninth Prime Minister of Malaysia. The Prime Minister's appointment is in accordance with Article 43 (2) (a) of the Federal Constitution, after a thorough review process by His Majesty Yang di-Pertuan Agong. In line with the decree of His Majesty YDPA, a vote of confidence must be tabled in Parliament at the soonest possible time to prove his majority support.

With this appointment, IDEAS urges the new government to work immediately to resolve the twin pandemic and economic crises that the nation is currently facing. IDEAS hopes that under YAB Dato' Seri Ismail Sabri's administration, the government will carry on the key initiatives that have already been in place, including the National Recovery Plan and National COVID-19 Immunisation Programme. Utmost priority must be given to address the public healthcare system, due to the spike of COVID-19 cases across the nation. IDEAS previously issued a joint statement with recommendations on addressing this, which can be read [here](#).

Quoting Tricia Yeoh, CEO of IDEAS, "While it is positive that the political impasse has now ended, IDEAS cautions that the political position that the current coalition is in is relatively unstable. Given that the new Prime Minister has a slim majority, the Prime Minister must now work to instill confidence in his new administration in order to secure broad support."

In doing so, the government should commit to the slate of institutional reforms that has been laid out by the preceding Prime Minister. This includes the proposed two-term limit of a Prime Minister, immediate implementation of voting age to 18, equal constituency development funds (CDFs) to all members of Parliament, Parliamentary Reforms, an increase of COVID-19 funds to RM65 billion, and opposition representation within Parliamentary Select Committees for joint review and being provided with additional oversight roles.

Concluding, Yeoh said, "The new administration does not have a choice but to hit the ground running. By immediately resolving the public health crisis through accelerated vaccinations, the government's top priority must also be to restore our economic health. Malaysia has lost valuable time, and robust economic recovery will involve strong political will in introducing measures to improve our regional and international competitiveness, productivity, and innovation. We must adopt a whole-of-society approach in reigniting Malaysia's economic value through engagement with think tanks, civil society, professional networks and international bodies. Institutional reforms will also contribute to creating investor confidence. IDEAS wishes the Ninth Prime Minister the best as Malaysia navigates these turbulent times."

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About IDEAS

The Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS) is a nonprofit research institute, dedicated to promoting solutions to public policy challenges, focussing on three overarching missions – advancing a competitive economy, ensuring trust in institutions and promoting an inclusive Malaysia. IDEAS is Malaysia's first independent think tank, free of personal interests and partisan influences. For more information, visit www.ideas.org.my.

For enquiries, please contact:

Zokhri Idris, Ph.D

External Relations Director

zokhri@ideas.org.my

KENYATAAN MEDIA

IDEAS: KERAJAAN BAHARU HARUS SEGERA DALAM MENYELESAIKAN KRISIS KESIHATAN AWAM DAN EKONOMI MALAYSIA

Sabtu, 21 Ogos 2021, Kuala Lumpur - Institut Demokrasi dan Hal Ehwal Ekonomi (IDEAS) mengucapkan tahniah kepada YAB Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob atas pelantikan sebagai Perdana Menteri Malaysia yang kesembilan. Pelantikan YAB Perdana Menteri adalah selaras dengan Artikel 43 (2) (a) Perlembagaan Persekutuan, berikutan proses konsultasi KDYMM Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong bersama Ahli Parlimen. Selari dengan titah KDYMM Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong, undi percaya harus dibentangkan di Parlimen dengan kadar yang segera bagi membuktikan keabsahan kedudukan Perdana Menteri.

Sejajar dengan pelantikan ini, IDEAS menyeru kerajaan baharu agar segera menyelesaikan masalah kesihatan awam dan ekonomi yang kian meruncing di Malaysia. IDEAS berharap, dibawah kepimpinan YAB Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri, pihak kerajaan akan meneruskan inisiatif utama kebangsaan, termasuklah Pelan Pemulihan Negara dan juga Program Imunisasi COVID-19 Kebangsaan. Keutamaan khusus harus diberikan kepada sistem kesihatan awam, berikutan peningkatan kes jangkitan baharu COVID-19 seluruh negara. IDEAS, melalui kenyataan bersama telah menyarankan cadangan untuk menyelesaikan krisis pandemik ini. Kenyataan bersama tersebut boleh diperolehi di [sini](#).

Memetik kenyataan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif IDEAS, Tricia Yeoh, "Walaupun ketegangan politik negara dapat ditenangkan berikutan pelantikan Perdana Menteri yang kesembilan, IDEAS mengingatkan bahawa perikatan di pihak kerajaan masih belum kukuh sepenuhnya. Memandangkan YAB Perdana Menteri memperoleh majoriti yang tipis, beliau perlu mengukuhkan keyakinan pentadbiran terhadap kedudukan beliau."

Untuk itu, pihak kerajaan harus bersungguh-sungguh dalam melaksanakan perubahan seperti yang diusulkan oleh mantan Perdana Menteri. Ini termasuklah cadangan mengehadkan tempoh jawatan Perdana Menteri kepada dua penggal, pelaksanaan UNDI18, pengagihan peruntukan yang sama terhadap semua Ahli Parlimen, penambahbaikan Parlimen, pertambahan dana COVID-19 kepada RM65 billion, dan memperuntukkan wakil Pembangkang di dalam Jawatankuasa Pilihan Khas Parlimen.

Ujar Tricia Yeoh, "Pihak kerajaan yang baharu harus meneruskan gerak kerja yang sedia ada. Sementara menyelesaikan krisis kesihatan awam melalui program vaksin kebangsaan, krisis ekonomi juga harus dipulihkan. Belakangan ini, kedudukan ekonomi Malaysia semakin merudum, dan kestabilan politik amat diperlukan untuk memulihkan daya saing, produktiviti dan inovasi negara di peringkat antarabangsa. Kita harus menggunakan "*whole-of-society approach*" dengan melibatkan kerjasama daripada badan-badan pemikir, masyarakat sivil, jaringan professional dan organisasi antarabangsa. Perubahan dan penambahbaikan institusi penting untuk membina keyakinan pelabur luar. IDEAS mengucapkan selamat maju jaya kepada YAB Perdana Menteri kesembilan dalam mengemudi negara kelak."

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Tentang IDEAS

Institut Demokrasi dan Hal Ehwal Ekonomi (IDEAS) merupakan sebuah institut penyelidikan bukan berasaskan keuntungan, mengkhususkan kepada mempromosikan penyelesaian terhadap cabaran dasar awam, menumpukan kepada tiga misi menyeluruh - memajukan sebuah ekonomi yang kompetitif, memastikan keyakinan dalam institusi, dan mempromosikan sebuah negara Malaysia yang merangkumi semua. IDEAS merupakan badan pemikir bebas pertama Malaysia, tanpa kepentingan peribadi serta pengaruh berpihak. Untuk maklumat lanjut, lawati www.ideas.org.my.

Untuk pertanyaan, sila hubungi:

Zokhri Idris, Ph.D

Pengarah, Perhubungan Luar

zokhri@ideas.org.my