



**EUROCHAM
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EU-MALAYSIA CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

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Unofficial Translation
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE MALAYSIA
MEDIA STATEMENT

EMPLOYMENT AND RE-EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN WORKERS AND TRADE OFFICERS

1. **PUTRAJAYA** - Referring to the statement issued by The Center for Market Education (CME), the Ministry of Human Resources (KSM) would like to clarify on the arising concerns in relation to the employment and re-employment of foreign workers and trade officers.
2. KSM fully recognises the need for certain industries or certain key positions to recruit foreign employees or trade officers, and will not reject the applications of employers if there is a strong justification that the respective positions needs to be filled by non-citizens.
3. The rationale behind the compulsory requirement to make a job vacancy announcement on the KSM national employment portal, MYFutureJobs for a period of at least 30 days arises from the Government mandate to facilitate the recruitment of local talent and ensure local job seekers are given priority for any job opportunities.
4. Employers are required to conduct interviews to assess the suitability of local candidates for the advertised position as a precondition in applying for foreign workers or trade officers. Employers can conduct these interviews either at the employer's premises, during the weekly open interviews organised by the Social Security Organization (SOCSO) at SOCSO offices or at the Department of Manpower (JTK) nationwide.
5. KSM will not interfere in the affairs of the interview session. Employers only need to report the results of the interviews conducted to support the application to employ foreign workers or trade officers.
6. Employers can also use other platforms and channels other than the MYFutureJobs portal to get local talent.
7. KSM would like to emphasise that it is not proper to view this move as a factor that will affect the inflows of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to the country. Instead, it is a positive move to potentially increase FDI in the future.

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8. There are many advantages to hire local workers among local talents who are experienced and competent in the market. Apart from understanding the multiracial language and culture of Malaysia, they also understand the local market, have a network of local business contacts and have the advantage of interacting with customers and motivating local employees. These skills are also very useful if employers plan to expand operations to the Asian region.
9. In addition, employers can take advantage of PENJANA Employee Incentives if they employ local workers. Employers are not only eligible for incentives up to RM1,000 per employee for up to 6 months, but also have the opportunity to improve the skills of local talents or provide other related skills from the 5,000 courses offered, without incurring any costs. This approach is clearly a win-win situation for local job seekers and employers, including multinational companies in Malaysia.
10. The key stakeholders, especially employers and related organisations are called upon to work with the Government in supporting the recruitment of local people, especially during this challenging period. The government is also very concerned with the unemployment rate in the country, especially when about 300,000 new graduates enter the job market this year.
11. KSM will issue Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and Application Guidelines accordingly before 1 November 2020. Relevant session will be held extensively for employers and employers' unions to provide more details on the process.
12. For further information or any enquiries about employment services and also the MYFutureJobs portal, please contact KSM agency, SOCSO at **03-8901 5300**.

DATUK SERI M. SARAVANAN
MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES
PUTRAJAYA
29th OCTOBER 2020

DISCLAIMER: The original document is written in Malay language. EUROCHAM Malaysia has translated this from the original Malay version at our best understanding and knowledge. Should there be any inconsistency or difference between the English translation and the original Malay version, kindly note that the original Malay document is the final governing and prevailing version.

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