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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

More New Initiatives to Improve Productivity of the Private Healthcare

9 July 2020, Kuala Lumpur – Three new initiatives have been presented by the Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) supported by the Private Healthcare Productivity Nexus (PHPN) to YB Minister of Health, YB Dato' Sri Dr. Adham Bin Baba to improve the productivity and economic growth of the healthcare sector. According to YBhg. Dato' Dr. Jacob Thomas, Champion of PHPN, the proposed initiatives involved three key dimensions mainly regulation, technology and innovation and workforce and performance and was finally presented to the minister on the 26 June 2020.

The regulatory initiatives have been introduced since 2017 with collaborations of MPC, PHPN, MOH, KPKT and PEMUDAH (FGDCP). Initially, it took more than 800 days to obtain approval in setting up a new private hospital. After implementation of various initiatives such as baseline study, educational programmes and issuance of four handbooks the whole process was reduced to 300 days in 2019.

Ready to use guidelines will be issued and online permit application will be introduced to further improve the application process in setting up a new private hospital. With these latest improvements the whole application process is anticipated to take less than 100 days and will be ready for use later this year.

The newly proposed regulatory initiative includes self-regulatory of private healthcare advertisements with anticipated benefits of RM2.1 billion healthcare travel revenue for the country. In this initiative, current regulations will be amended to allow self-regulatory practice in private healthcare advertisements. Additionally, it is expected to have multiplier effects on the economy in sectors such as accommodation, transportation, food and beverages and retail.

For technology and innovation, the sharing of underutilized medical technology resources is proposed. This initiative optimised the establishment of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) resource utilization model to enable the sharing of resources and facilities between public and private hospitals. It will also enhance private sector participation and improve the delivery of public facilities. For workforce and performance, an initiative was proposed to identify and enable selected private hospitals to be speciality training centres in high demand areas which will resolve the shortage of medical specialists in specific key areas of the country. A standard

framework will be developed for private hospitals as speciality training centres.

The meeting also agreed on several key issues such as resources sharing and pooling between public and private hospitals to reduce backlogs at public hospitals. In the meeting, YBhg. Dato' Abdul Latif, MPC Director-General took the opportunity to congratulate the Ministry of Health for the excellent efforts in handling COVID-19 pandemic in the country. Apart from YB Dato' Sri Dr. Adham Bin Baba and YBhg. Dato' Abdul Latif, also attended was En. Zahid Ismail, MPC Deputy Director-General and YBhg. Dato' Dr. Jacob Thomas, Champion of MPC's PHPN.

End.

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About Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC)

Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC) is a statutory body under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). MPC promotes productivity, quality and competitiveness to the industries and organisations in Malaysia. MPC's vision is to be the leading organisation in productivity enhancement for global competitiveness and innovation.

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