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White Paper for An Equitable and Sustainable Malaysian Healthcare System

The Malaysian Health Coalition welcomes the Health Minister's proposed [White Paper](#) to reform Malaysia's health system. We propose three guiding principles to ensure achievable and practical targets:

1. Be Inclusive, Transparent and Holistic in Healthcare Resource Allocation

The Ministry of Health (MOH) should champion inclusive and holistic healthcare by ensuring equitable and accessible distribution of healthcare resources in society. This must focus on vulnerable groups such as the indigenous, people with disabilities, senior citizens, migrants, prisoners, stigmatised communities and other underprivileged populations. Healthcare must be universal to all human persons, regardless of socio-economic status, race, religion or identity. Therefore, the MOH must consult key stakeholders such as [patients](#), members of the public, healthcare workers, insurance companies, managed care organisations, and most importantly, other ministries in cultivating a culturally sensitive and sustainable approach. We urge that the distribution of financial, human and political capital be guided by demographic needs, disease burdens, and future strategies. The MOH must uphold the principles of transparency and accountability in these allocations to ensure justice and effectiveness.

2. Build Inter-agency Collaborations

While the healthcare system may be synonymous with the MOH, the MOH requires support from many other entities, such as the Ministry of Finance, Treasury, Public Service Division, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), private for-profit businesses, medical health associations and many more. We encourage [multi-sectoral](#) collaboration, especially between ministries, in the preparation and implementation of this White Paper to ensure a smoother, more comprehensive delivery that will benefit the Rakyat. This can be achieved in interagency working groups across the multiple phases of drafting ranging from the earlier phases of gathering input to the more final phases of setting operational details. This allows for congruous policy making that will establish a strong foundation of "Health-in-All-Policies".

3. Use the Health Reform Commission as an Implementation Body

The implementation of the White Paper is critical. As such, MHC welcomes the proactive establishment of the [Health Reform Commission](#) to ensure accountability and continuity in the implementation of these policies. This commission will be tasked with monitoring, advising and reporting on the status of healthcare reforms to the Parliament and the public. It is also crucial to ensure a transparent process in appointing well-qualified individuals to HRC who will then act as a neutral and credible body in the implementation process. This undeniably injects stability into the healthcare political economy no matter what the future holds.

We look forward to the tabling of the White Paper and its subsequent implementation which we believe will greatly benefit the healthcare system and ultimately, our Rakyat.

BERKHIDMAT UNTUK NEGARA.

Malaysian Health Coalition (Full Signature List on myhealthcoalition.org)

12 July 2022

Full signature list:

Organisations

1. Academy of Medicine Malaysia
2. Association of Malaysian Optometrists
3. College of Anaesthesiologists
4. College of Physicians
5. College of Surgeons Academy of Medicine of Malaysia
6. IKRAM Health Malaysia
7. Islamic Medical Association of Malaysia
8. Lung Cancer Network of Malaysia
9. Malaysian Association for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology
10. Malaysian Association of Clinical Biochemists
11. Malaysian Association of Dental Public Health Specialists
12. Malaysian Association of Environmental Health
13. Malaysian Association of Medical Assistants
14. Malaysian Coalition on Ageing
15. Malaysian Dental Association
16. Malaysian National Society of Audiologist
17. Malaysian Nurses Association
18. Malaysian Paediatric Association
19. Malaysian Pharmacists Society
20. Malaysian Society of Clinical Psychology
21. Malaysian Society of Geriatric Medicine
22. Malaysian Society of Intensive Care
23. Malaysian Society of Ophthalmology
24. Malaysian Thoracic Society
25. Medical Practitioners Coalition Association of Malaysia
26. MedTweetMy
27. Obstetrical and Gynaecological Society of Malaysia
28. Perinatal Society of Malaysia

Individuals

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