1. Malaysia aspires to be a developed and prosperous country where development and economic growth promote equal opportunities in all segments of society. This is the underlying idea of the Malaysian Government when they announced the Shared Prosperity Vision 2030 on October 5, 2019. This vision aims to ensure that Malaysia continues to grow in a sustainable, equitable, and inclusive manner. This vision will create efforts to close the economic gap while increasing income and participation in the value chain. In this regard, Malaysia places emphasis on the lower-income group (or B40) and with special focus on youths, women, and senior citizens so that they too can enjoy the quality of life that the nation has to offer.

2. To fulfil this aspiration, Malaysia strives to create a dynamic entrepreneurship ecosystem where the beneficiaries from all segments of society will also be able to explore their potential and opportunities to actively participate in more entrepreneurial activities. This goal ultimately leads to the launch of the National Entrepreneurship Policy 2030 (NEP2030) on July 11, 2019, a long-term strategic document that sets the direction of the country towards an outstanding entrepreneurial nation by 2030, led by the Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperatives (MEDAC).

3. Before the introduction of NEP2030, there has not been any specific legislation or legal framework to push forward the development of social enterprises in Malaysia. To further promote and accelerate the nation's social entrepreneurship agenda, Strategic Thrust 3 of NEP2030: Stimulating Holistic and Integrated Entrepreneurship Development was created. Specifically, Strategic Thrust 3 aims to bridge the income gap between the people through additional income generation and the creation of new job opportunities that will contribute towards the country's socio-economic growth. In the effort to stimulate and encourage entrepreneurship among Malaysians particularly the disadvantaged and marginalized segments of the society, Malaysia has identified social entrepreneurship and cooperatives as the platform that will move forward the nation’s inclusive socio-economic development agenda.

4. Malaysia’s exuberant support towards social entrepreneurship development is elucidated through three (3) main initiatives:
(i) Promote awareness and better understanding of social entrepreneurship through stronger community building;

(ii) Provide on-going support and capacity development programmes for social entrepreneurs to expand their market and business opportunities as well as scalability and sustainability of their enterprises; and

(iii) Encourage Inclusive Business model approach to benefit low-income communities by including them in the value chain of big companies such as LLCs and MNCs.

5. Continuous support and capacity development programmes are provided for social entrepreneurs to increase their business opportunities, market expansion, scale-up, and be sustainable. Subsequently, they will help to create a stronger and more resilient social enterprise community.

6. MEDAC also coordinates the development of this sector by fostering collaboration between the public, private and international bodies. Among the initiatives is a social policy landscape study entitled “Social Enterprise in Malaysia: Next Steps for Policy”. The study was conducted by MEDAC in collaboration with British Council and United Nations ESCAP to update the Ministry on the status of its works and efforts in developing Malaysia’s social enterprises.

7. To further advance the development of this sector, the Ministry will be developing the Social Entrepreneurship Blueprint 2021-2025 that will provide a five-year strategic direction to unleash the social and environmental impact and stimulate economic growth through social entrepreneurship. By the year 2025, the Government aims for the social enterprise sector to be fully self-sustaining, equitable, and people-centric to empower and yield impact-driven entrepreneurs.

8. At international fora, Malaysia works closely with APEC and ASEAN to create an enabling inclusive business (IB) environment by vigorously promoting IB practices in the region.