

## COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)



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🏠 Business Integrity Alliance Berhad  
(1181016-T)  
Unit 1320, Level 13, Lift 4  
Block A, Damansara Intan  
47400, Petaling Jaya  
Selangor, Malaysia  
☎ +603 7611 7610

### The Business Integrity Alliance (BIA)

#### Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 1 December 2016

To: 1 March 2019

#### Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

27 March 2019

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that the Business Integrity Alliance reaffirms its support to the United Nation Global Compact and its 10 Principles in the area of human rights, labour, environment and anticorruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the UN Global Compact.

In this Communication of Engagement we describe the actions that our organisation has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organisation like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Lovatt'.

Dr Mark Lovatt

Secretary-General

Business Integrity Alliance

## Part II. Description of Actions

The Business Integrity Alliance remains committed to its mission of acting as the liaison between the private and public sectors. The last two years have surfaced significant advancements and challenges for the BIA, which have helped the alliance focus its goals. Our actions have included:

- **Launch of the Business Integrity Alliance—1 December 2016**
  - In December of 2016, the BIA was officially launched after a year of planning and development, at the Impiana KLCC Hotel
  - The launch breakfast was attended by the Minister for Governance and Integrity at that time, YB Datuk Paul Low, who gave the keynote speech.
  - The event introduced the Alliance to potential partners and the media, and helped set the stage for our future events.
- **Facilitated discussions between the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) and the EU-Malaysia Chamber of Commerce & Industry (EUMCCI)—26 May 2017**
  - On the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2017, the BIA's Secretary General, Dr Mark Lovatt, helped facilitate an official visit of EUMCCI representatives to the MACC as part of its work to establish partnerships between the public and private sectors, especially investors and businesses from the European Union;
  - Former MACC commissioner Datuk Dzul kifli Ahmad was present, as was Mr Roberto Benetello, EUMCCI CEO.
- **Establishment of the BIA as the Malaysian government's "smart partner" thorough a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)—2 October 2017**
  - The BIA was appointed as the government's "smart partner" in its effort to combat private sector corruption;
  - The MOU forms the basis of the BIA's relationship to the government, providing it with a direct reporting function to various public sector departments;
  - Through this MOU, the BIA has helped facilitate various talks, briefings and consultations with the government.
- **Established membership within the private sector**
  - To date, the BIA has on-boarded a group of private sector companies, ranging from small- and medium-sized companies, to larger corporates; the Alliance continues to actively recruit
  - These partners form the basis of the BIA's relationship to the private sector;
  - Our partners include: Digi Telecommunications, Infineon, Top Glove, Thumbprints Utd and Trident Integrity Solutions.
- **Best practice sharing session—30 March 2018**
  - The Alliance held its first best practice sharing session at the Royal Lake Club in Kuala Lumpur, with the aim of imparting the knowledge and experience of its partner companies to the wider community;
  - The Alliance's partners discussed issues around establishing cultures of integrity, with the former Head of the JITN in attendance
  - The event was attended by more than 70 members of the private and public sector

- **Consultation with government partners on “Adequate Procedures Guidelines” (2018)**
  - The BIA was invited to be involved in the drafting and finalisation of the “Adequate Procedures Guidelines”, a document designed to assist companies seeking to remain compliant with the new corporate liability legislation enacted in May 2018;
  - The BIA’s Secretary General, Dr Mark Lovatt, was a main resource for the document;
  - The BIA also attended the launch of the Guidelines in November 2018.
- **Appointment of Dr Mark Lovatt as Head of the Transparency and Integrity Committee at the European-Malaysian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (EUMCCI) on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018**
  - The BIA’s Secretary-General Dr Mark Lovatt was appointed to head the EUMCCI’s new Transparency and Integrity Committee, which replaced the previous Business Integrity Committee set up by the EUMCCI in 2017.
  - Through this appointment the BIA strengthened its relationship with the EUMCCI through a partnership to conduct joint best practice sharing sessions, and develop strategies to target corruption challenges faced by European businesses in Malaysia.

### Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

- The BIA has significantly raised its profile among the private and public sector, with tangible results, for instance the inclusion of the Alliance in the drafting and development of a major anti-corruption document published by the Government of Malaysia;
- Companies continue to express interest in the BIA's efforts to combat corruption through collective action, and our membership is holding steady;
- Our best practice sharing session resulted in a high turnout, which suggests a positive reception to the Alliance's work; the interest of the EUMCCI to continue to work with the BIA on future best practice sharing sessions is indicative of this;
- The new government departments working on anti-corruption (Governance, Integrity and Anti-Corruption Commission) have expressed their interest to continue working with the BIA, which is now in process of being formalised.