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**MEDIA STATEMENT BY HON. DATUK SERI DR RONALD KIANDEE, CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (PAC) REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT AS THE CHAIRMAN OF PAC FOR THE FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT**

- 1) I would like to express my gratitude for the mandate given by the members of the House of Representatives, the Opposition Leader and the Government for being unanimously elected as the Chairman of PAC.
- 2) This appointment is historical to the Parliament when a member from the Opposition is elected as a Chairman and I welcome the progressive measures taken by the Government in view of the task and responsibility of PAC which are to examine all financial matters of the nation, regardless the current or the previous government, if needed.
- 3) There will definitely be political debates regarding the level and financial scope of the Government but it will be by consensus of the Members, regardless of parties, as public money should be effectively and efficiently spent.
- 4) The PAC at this juncture, needs to play its roles effectively in providing a mechanism for 'check and balance' in the democratic system by being more open and accountable.
- 5) I would also like to emphasize that it is important to preserve the integrity of Parliament based on the concept of separation of power in seeking truth to each issue related to the public money.
- 6) By that, all actions taken by PAC has to be done in an open, transparent and democratic manner. Thus, increasing the confidence in the process of democracy.
- 7) In this regard, I urge all PAC members who will be chosen by the Select Committee to put aside their political ideologies when they attend PAC meetings so that all PAC proceedings can be conducted without fear or favour of any party. Certainly, my experience as a former Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives is an added value for me as the Chairman of PAC.
- 8) Following these, I hope to ensure that PAC under my leadership will:
  - i) Examine all Government-funded projects;
  - ii) Ensure all recommendations and suggestions by PAC to the Government will be taken actions accordingly;

- iii) Hold discussions with all members of Parliaments and always open to all proposals for PAC to investigate any Government projects.
- 9) At the same time, I would like to suggest to the Speaker of the House of Representatives to:
- i) Review Standing Order 85 of the House of Representatives that does not allow PAC proceedings to be done openly. This is to ensure all PAC proceedings are conducted in a transparent, accountable and credible manner.
  - ii) Increase the number of permanent representatives / Ex-Officio of PAC by including representatives from the Attorney General Chamber and Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) other than representatives from Ministry of Finance (MoF), the National Audit Department, the Accountant General's Department of Malaysia, Economic Planning Unit and the Public Service Department (JPA).
  - iii) That report of PAC is to be debated in the House of Representatives with a special time slot allocated for the debate.
  - iv) That a full report by MoF on the actions taken on each PAC's recommendations and suggestions to the PAC based on the Treasury Instructions 304 (b).

Thank you.  
Hon. Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee  
Chairman of PAC  
7 August 2018