



18 August 2023

MEDIA STATEMENT ON THE PRESENCE OF WITNESSES AT THE PAC PROCEEDINGS

1. The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) welcomes the statement made by Tan Sri Dato' Seri Mohd Zuki bin Ali, Chief Secretary to the Government that all serving and former Government officers must always be ready to cooperate with the PAC.
2. The PAC has never faced any problem from any former high-ranking Government officers when they were called to be present before the PAC. For example, Tan Sri Dr. Mohd Irwan Serigar bin Abdullah, former Secretary General of Treasury and Tan Sri Dr. Abdul Aziz Jaafar, former Chief of Royal Malaysian Navy had given full cooperation and attended the PAC proceedings in 2018 and 2021 respectively even though they have retired.
3. In fact, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, former Prime Minister and Datuk Seri Dr. Ronald Kiandee, former Minister of Agriculture and Food Industries also presented before the PAC in 2018 and 2021 respectively to provide an explanation to this Committee.
4. As per my previous statement, it was a reminder to all PAC witnesses, especially former high-ranking Government officers to always be prepared to attend the PAC proceedings when being summoned. It is expected that the former Secretary General, former Chairman and former Board of Directors, if required, will be called to present before the PAC proceedings

on the Management of COVID-19 Pandemic: Expired Vaccines, Unusable Ventilator Equipment and Surplus of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and proceedings on the Minister of Finance (Incorporated) – FELCRA Berhad.

5. The PAC does not want to use the powers under Section 9(a) of the House of Parliament (Privileges and Powers) Act 1952 [Act 347] as it will have a negative impact on the individuals involved including the possibility of arrest if the fine is not paid. However, the PAC will not hesitate to use the powers provided under the relevant Act to ensure that the credibility of this Committee is maintained.

Thank you.

Hon. Datuk Wira Mas Ermieyati binti Samsuddin
Chairman of PAC