



CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES COUNCIL OF MALAYSIA (82699-T)

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PRESS STATEMENT:

Implement Sustainable Measures to Reduce the Negative Impact of Manufacturing and Handling of Chemicals to Human Health and Environment

The Chemical Industries Council of Malaysia (CICM) noted the recent media reports concerning the air pollution incident which has regrettably impacted schools and students in Pasir Gudang, Johor. We also express our appreciation on the actions undertaken by the Government on the management of this incident, including the engagement with the chemical industry through the townhall session on July 1, 2019 in Pasir Gudang, Johor.

Chemicals are important in our daily lives; they are used as a component or raw materials in various sectors of the economy; manufacturing of industrial and consumer products such as clothes, vehicles, food, electronic equipment, pharmaceuticals, personal care products, cosmetics, etc., agriculture, construction as well as for utility services such as water supply. With its wide usage and application, CICM would like to emphasize that chemicals can be produced, stored, transported, used and disposed safely and responsibly by following the correct processes and procedures.

In Malaysia, the chemical industry is an important contributor to manufactured exports annually and also to our economy. CICM acknowledges that a good safety and health performance track record is very essential, for it is a license to operate by a chemical company. Such performance will also help to sustain and grow businesses. Additionally, it will make the Malaysian chemical industry a more responsible, safe and sustainable one.

Strict enforcement efforts must be stepped up by the Government to deter any illegal activities and irresponsible actions by companies in handling of chemicals and its waste disposal. Sustainable measures to reduce the negative impact of manufacturing and handling of chemicals to the human and environment must be identified and implemented. For this, CICM as an industry association representing the chemical industry in Malaysia will work with the Government and interested parties to address issues and concerns arising from these recent incidents.

To complement efforts by the chemical companies in complying with environmental regulations and protection of human health and the environment, CICM invites chemical companies to come forward and subscribe to the Responsible Care initiative, which CICM promotes.

Responsible Care is the global chemical manufacturing industry's signature environment, health, safety and security performance initiative. For more than 30 years, Responsible Care has helped the chemical industry worldwide to significantly enhance its performance and improve health and safety of their employees, the communities where they operate, and the environment as a whole. Responsible Care is made up of specific programme elements i.e. Guiding Principles and Codes of Management Practices, which are intended to drive operational excellence and effective management of products along the value chain; from its inception to its final safe disposal.



To date, Responsible Care is adopted by more than 66 countries throughout the world and CICM as the sole custodian of Responsible Care in Malaysia, has been advocating the adoption of Responsible Care by chemical companies in Malaysia since 1994. More than 130 chemical and associated member companies in Malaysia have committed to this initiative.

Released by the Chemical Industries Council of Malaysia (CICM) on July 5, 2019. Please attribute this press statement to CICM and not the sender. For further enquiries, please contact the CICM Secretariat (Ms Chan Pek Wan) at Tel: 03-6286 7200 / Fax: 03-6277 6714 / Email: secretariat@cicm.org.my / pek_wan@fmm.org.my

About CICM

Chemical Industries Council of Malaysia (CICM) is an industry association representing the chemical industry in Malaysia. Its membership of over 100 companies comprised of chemical manufacturers, traders, distributors and service providers. We are also affiliated with the various sub-sector chemical groups locally with a view to establish a stronger and better representation of the Malaysian chemical industry. Our main activities include liaison with the various Government Ministries and its agencies to discuss and resolve issues and problems faced by the industry, act as an avenue for members to meet and discuss mutual issues and problems, as well as promoting the continuous improvement of the health, safety and environmental performance of the chemical industry through Responsible Care.