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Malaysian Timber Council Appoints New CEO

18 December 2015, Kuala Lumpur - Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim Haji Nik, the former Deputy Secretary General (Environment) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC). He succeeded Datuk M Nagarajan, the former Interim CEO who is also the Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities, effective 16 November 2015.

In his new role, Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim will continue to spearhead MTC's efforts in promoting the growth of the Malaysian timber trade and industry, and develop the market for Malaysian timber and furniture products globally.

In welcoming Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim, MTC Chairman Datuk Wee Jeck Seng said, "We are delighted to have on board an individual with such broad and relevant expertise. Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim brings with him a wealth of experience and is passionately committed to helping the industry face all current and future challenges.

"We look forward to Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim's contributions in furthering the interests of the Malaysian timber industry and securing Malaysia's position as a top exporter of value-added timber products," added Datuk Wee.

During his tenure at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Datuk Dr Abdul Rahim coordinated and supervised policy issues relating to environmental management, climate change, forestry, biodiversity, wildlife and marine parks. He was also involved in the organization and operations of various national councils, including the Green Technology and Climate Change Council, the National Biodiversity Council, and the National Water Resources Council.

His notable achievements include serving on several boards of government, semi-government bodies, professional and non-governmental organisation, namely the Malaysian Forestry Research and Development Board (MFRDB); the Malacca Green Technology Council; the Approval and Implementation Committee of Iskandar Malaysia, Johor; MTC; the International Council member of International Union of Forestry Research Organisation (IUFRO) based in Vienna (2010-2015) and WWF Malaysia Advisory Council. He is also an Associate Fellow and Fellow of Academy Science Malaysia since 2012 and 2015, respectively.

Dr Abdul Rahim began his career as a research officer in Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) in 1981 in-charge of the hydrology and watershed research. He completed his Ph. D. degree in Forest Hydrology from the University of Wales, United Kingdom in 1990 and has a bachelor degree in forestry and master degree from Louisiana State University (1979) and University of West Virginia (1981), USA, respectively. He has published more than a hundred technical and semi-technical papers in scientific journals and edited over 15 books.

About the Malaysian Timber Council (MTC)

The Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) was established in January 1992 to promote the development and growth of the Malaysian timber industry globally. MTC's main objectives are to promote the Malaysian timber trade and develop the market for timber products globally, to promote the development of the industry by upgrading the industry's manufacturing technology base, to augment the supply of raw materials, to provide information services and to protect and improve the Malaysian timber industry's global image. Further information on the Council's activities can be obtained from www.mtc.com.my.

Issued on behalf of Malaysian Timber Council by GO Communications Sdn Bhd:

For further information kindly contact:

Elsy Tan, Senior Brand Director

Mobile: +6017 203 2959 / 03 7710 3288

E-mail : elsy@gocomm.com.my

Lim Huei Yuih, Senior Brand Executive

Mobile: +6012 635 3278 / 03 7710 3288

Email: hueiyuih@gocomm.com.my