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Public Consultation on the National Digital ID Framework

Further to our [e-Alert](#) issued in January on the implementation of the National Digital ID (**NDID**) framework by the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (**MCMC**) on behalf of the government of Malaysia, the MCMC has now embarked on a public consultation process to gather views and feedback on the development of the framework.

As a background, the NDID is a trusted digital identification that verifies a person's identity in the digital world. It will not replace MyKad as proof of citizenship, but rather complement our identity card as a form of digital identification when transacting online. The use of the NDID is voluntary and would not be made mandatory.

With the NDID, public and private sectors are able to electronically authenticate and verify the identities of individuals who utilise electronic services and perform online transactions in a secure and reliable manner. Some of the key use cases that have been identified, based on the expected socio-economic benefits that each use case may bring, include electronic health records sharing, government subsidy disbursement, financial institutions e-KYC and verification, e-commerce verification, telecommunications verification during customer onboarding and government online services.

From the legal perspective, Malaysia has existing laws and regulations that are relevant to the implementation of the NDID, such as the National Registration Act 1959 and the National Registration Regulations 1990, the Electronic Commerce Act 2006 and the Personal Data Protection Act 2010. Some regulations may have to be amended or revised to cater for or to facilitate the issuance of the NDID. In addition, sector-specific regulations and guidelines are also relevant and may need to be amended or revised to allow for the adoption of the NDID in each sector. Particularly, sector-specific regulations and guidelines that currently require the use of MyKad and other supporting documents for verification purposes, or that require individuals to

be physically present at branches to perform transactions to verify his or her identity, may need to be amended and revised, to allow for the use of the NDID as an option to the MyKad and to allow transactions to be performed from home.

With the potential uses of the NDID in mind, this public consultation is launched with the main aim of seeking views and feedback on the potential adoption of the NDID by various stakeholders and the public, to ensure that the NDID will serve its intended socio-economic purpose. The inputs received will help the government to understand the potential adoption opportunities and benefits of the NDID across a multitude of industries and organisations. It will also allow the government to evaluate and improve the proposed NDID framework for Malaysia.

The link to the public consultation can be accessed [here](#).

This public consultation period is from 24 July to 7 August 2020.

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** Adlin Abdul Majid and Lau Wai Kei are part of the consultancy team advising on the implementation of the NDID framework.*

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