

CIRCULAR: 22/2020

17 March 2020

UPDATES ON THE RESTRICTION OF MOVEMENT ORDER (17.03.2020/12.30 PM)

Dear Members,

Please be advised that representatives of MPMA has just attended a meeting chaired by MITI Minister and his entire team today. Attendees of the meeting were mostly from the national trade associations and chambers which also represent the manufacturing industry. In view of the severity of the COVID 19 in the country as well as to keep the people safe, all attendees were informed that no sectors except for some critical food sectors can continue their operations. However, there is an overwhelming call from all attendees to reconsider this decision as the manufacturing sector is very dependent on critical supply chain. The plastics industry is an important supporting sector for many major industries including food.

We were informed that at this stage, MITI and the government are taking a firm stand and no exemptions would be given, until they figure out further appeals from the manufacturing sector. MITI is not in a position to decide and this has to be discussed at the National Security Council (NSC) Meeting to be chaired by the Prime Minister scheduled at 2.30 pm today. MITI Minister is fully aware of the predicament of the Manufacturing Sector and has requested the attendees to submit the necessary information and justification. In this regard, MPMA has submitted the necessary information and justification for the plastics industry to continue its factory operation.

MPMA highlighted to MITI that all plastics manufacturing factories are practising **Good Manufacturing Practices** in combating the spread of COVID 19. In addition, the factory workers are under close monitoring and reporting system, unlike any public gatherings. As such, the risk of workers exposure to COVID 19 is also being kept to minimal level.

Meanwhile, we will have to await the decision of the NSC Meeting, expected to be out late evening today. We will update once we receive further information.

Thank you.

Malaysian Plastics Manufacturers Association (MPMA)mpma.org.my