



## ADVISORY

### ISSUANCE OF NEW NOTIFICATION OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE TARGETS BY MCMC

**CYBERJAYA, 26 March 2021** --- The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) has issued a new Notification of Universal Service Targets (UST), in accordance with subregulation 4(1) of the Communications and Multimedia (Universal Service Provision) Regulations 2002 (USP Regulations). The latest UST notification issued on 24 March 2021 refers to the designation of an additional 111 Mukims in Peninsular Malaysia in the states of Kedah, Penang, Kelantan, Terengganu, Perak, Negeri Sembilan, Melaka, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur, Selangor and Johor.

The inclusion of the new areas under the UST list is to enable MCMC to plan and address the digital divide in these areas for the purposes of providing and improving coverage and quality to the rakyat under the Universal Service Provision framework. It will allow MCMC to provide communications infrastructure and network services such as towers, transmitters and bandwidth services amongst others; to enable people in rural areas in particular; to have adequate coverage in order to access public cellular and broadband services.

MCMC has issued four other notifications in 2002, 2004, 2008 and 2011 respectively. The identification of an area as a UST shall not be construed to mean that the UST is automatically entitled to be funded by the Universal Service Provision Fund under the USP Regulations. MCMC will have to conduct further assessment, consideration and prioritisation in the provisioning of universal services in all areas that are identified as USTs based on the requirements specified under Regulations 3 and 3A of the USP Regulations. This is necessary to ensure that the USP Fund is used effectively for the benefit of as many Malaysians as possible, particularly in rural areas.

MCMC, through the implementation of the Jalanan Digital Negara (JENDELA), is committed to deliver communication services to 96.9% of populated areas by the end of the first implementation phase in 2022. The reach will be increased further during the second phase of JENDELA after 2022 to ensure that no Malaysian is left behind as the nation gears up to pursue its digital ambitions based on technology and inclusivity.

**CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT, MCMC**

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