

MCCCIS hopes for more effective stimulus measures to help businesses affected by MCO

KUCHING: The Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sarawak (ACCCIS) is calling upon the government to come out with more effective stimulus measures to help the businesses affected by the movement control order (MCO).

It points out that the enforcement of the order would impact the business community and consequently, result in a series of problems deriving from the devastating effects of the outbreak of Covid-19, as well as the MCO.

“Most businesses are facing a variety of problems besides the shutdown in operations, including declining business volumes and very tight cash flow – in addition to all kinds of statutory contributions like Social Security (Socso) and Employees Provident Fund (EPF) to the employees.”

“During this critical time, ACCCIS hopes that the government would come out with more effective stimulus measures to help the businesses, as well as more pragmatic policies to rescue the vulnerable businesses – in particular, we would like to urge

the government to provide a 50-per cent subsidy on the salaries of the employees during the MCO period; provide preferential tax rates and even exemption for corporate and personal income taxes for fiscal year 2019; and also to expedite the approval and release of the loans provided under the stimulus package; so as to enable businesses to withstand the disastrous effects of the turmoil.”

At the same time, ACCCIS said it would continue to work closely with both the federal and state governments to ensure that

the impact of the outbreak on the economy and businesses in Sarawak would be minimised and all employees would be able to keep their jobs in the hope of an early economic recovery.

As the supreme organisation representing the interest of the Chinese business community in Sarawak, ACCCIS would continue to channel the views and problems facing the business community to the government.

Of late, it submitted a few proposals addressing the problems and concerns of the local business community to the

Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (ACCCIM), which would then table the same for deliberation during its dialogue with the Minister of Finance later on – with the hope that the government would assist the business community through more pragmatic and effective measures in the upcoming stimulus economic package meant to help businesses to overcome the problems and the challenges deriving from the Covid-19 outbreak.

Meanwhile, ACCCIS

expressed its full support on the enforcement of the MCO by the government to contain the spread of Covid-19.

“During this unprecedented time, ACCCIS urges everyone to cooperate and fully comply with the directives and guidelines prescribed by the relevant government departments, with respect to the MCO.

“Life is precious. During such critical moment, we appreciate the difficulties faced by our government in taking extraordinary measures, for the sake of public health and safety.”