



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO FOSTER STRONGER COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION AMIDST COVID-19

The Secretary General, Ministry of Communications and Multimedia of Malaysia, Dato' Suriani Dato' Ahmad and the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Communications and Information of Singapore, Ms Yong Ying-I co-chaired the virtual 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) on Information and Communications Co-operation between the Government of Malaysia and the Government of the Republic of Singapore on 2 November 2020.

Hosted by Malaysia this year, the JCM underscores the close ties and strong cooperation between Malaysia and Singapore in the fields of information and communications amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Dato' Suriani and Ms Yong discussed various issues of mutual interest between their countries, including digital information and communications, digital economy, cybersecurity, and professional exchanges for translators and journalists at the half-day meeting. They also exchanged information and experiences on their respective governments' public communications and engagement efforts to deal with COVID-19.

Both Malaysia and Singapore acknowledge the JCM to be an important platform to deepen the bilateral cooperation between the two countries, which should continue despite the difficulties presented by COVID-19. Both countries believe it especially important to be able to continue and initiate meaningful digital cooperation projects that can support both countries' recovery from the pandemic. The increased adoption and interoperability of digital technologies during COVID-19 is an opportunity to strengthen our digital economies and enhance connectivity between our businesses and people.

The next JCM will be hosted by Singapore in 2021. Malaysia is also scheduled to host the 14<sup>th</sup> Muzika Ekstravaganza next year. Muzika Ekstravaganza is an annual variety co-production by Malaysia's Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) and Singapore's Mediacorp.

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