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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Engaging the Public for Graft War

SEPANG: Five key law enforcement agencies – the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), the police (PDRM), the Road Transport Department (JPJ), the Royal Customs and Immigration – today took the Government Transformation Programme (GTP)'s National Key Results Area (NKRA) to aggressively fight corruption to another level with the launch of an inter-agency campaign that features a new anti-corruption mascot, as well as a hotline for reporting corruption.

The objective, as Datuk Liew Vui Keong, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, put it is to encourage and engage the public to be an active corruption-busting partner with the government.

Liew, who officiated the event, which was attended by high-ranking officers from MACC, PDRM, JPJ, the Royal Customs and Immigration said the five enforcement agencies were key players in the government's war against graft, and it was important, if not critical, for the public to lend their support to these enforcement officers to ensure the fight against corruption achieves its set out objectives.

The mascot is an eagle named 'Agent Lang' who has been aptly chosen to be the official 'spokesperson' of this campaign to rally the public to join him in fighting corruption alongside these enforcement agencies.

This campaign is unique as it is universal in nature, Liew pointed out. "The campaign not only enables the enforcement agencies to present a united front in this war, but also targets the younger generation and brings everyone together in a concerted manner. This is important because the more people understand this, the easier it will be to keep corruption at bay."

Another aim of the campaign is to ensure that the public is aware of a single, easily recalled hotline number specifically designed to take all corruption complaints across the five enforcement agencies -1-800-88-6000 — which is the existing MACC hotline number.

The Kuala Lumpur International Aiport (KLIA) was chosen as the location for the launch as it was the place where the operations for all five of the enforcement agencies were based – all under one roof. This tied in neatly with one of the objectives of the campaign, Liew said, which is to provide a clear platform for the five key enforcement agencies to unite in the war against graft, as part of their continued commitment towards the GTP's anti-corruption initiatives. "As a passenger makes their way through an airport, there are many points at which they come into contact with officers of the various enforcement agencies, and therefore, the airport was a very effective location to deliver the message of this campaign."

The campaign also aims to encourage the Rakyat to support the enforcement agencies to fight corruption by being vigilant and aware of the issue as well as playing their part where they can. This involves reporting instances of corruption if they are encountered, Liew said, which is why one of the most prominent features of the campaign is the unveiling of the special hotline number.

"We have very precise procedures for the handling of calls made to the hotline and the public can be confident that their reports would be received in a secure manner," said MACC Chief Commissioner Datuk Seri Abu Kassim Mohamed. "The MACC has been working with other key enforcement agencies to ensure cooperation among the agencies in this fight against corruption and will continue to do so with reports received through this hotline. Further rollout of the campaign will focus on other entry points into the country as well as points of interaction between the enforcement officers and the public."

"Business people arriving on our shores will get to witness the government's anticorruption efforts first hand, and to date, they seem to be visibly impressed with the special focus given toward this initiative. Visitors to Malaysia will be more secure in making investments and pursuing business interests in this country when they have confidence with the effectiveness and integrity of our law enforcement," said Datuk Hisham Nordin, MACC's Director of the NKRA Corruption Monitoring and Coordination Division.
