

## PRESS STATEMENT

## INAUGURAL VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH LAW MINISTERS ACTION GROUP (LMAG)

- 1. The Inaugural Commonwealth Law Ministers Action Group (LMAG) was convened on 23 November 2023 via video-conference. The Rt Honourable Patricia Scotland, Secretary General delivered the inaugural address and His Honourable Maneesh Gobin, Attorney General and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade of Mauritius chaired the meeting.
- 2. Malaysia was represented by YB Dato' Sri Azalina Othman Said, the Minister in the Prime Ministers' Department (Law and Institutional Reform). She has been chosen as one of the three distinguished representatives for the Commonwealth in the Asia-Pacific region. This prestigious appointment places her alongside counterparts from other nations, including the Ministers of Law from Tanzania, Namibia, Mauritius, Samoa, Bangladesh, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, Malta, and Rwanda.
- 3. The formation of LMAG is a culmination of decisions made during the Senior Officials of Law Ministries (SOLM) Meeting and Commonwealth Law Ministers Meeting (CLMM), held on 22 to 25 November 2022, in Balaclava, Mauritius.
- 4. The LMAG served as a platform to assess progress and provide guidance on key strategies, action plans, and projects pertaining to the rule of law and equal access to justice. The focus areas included promoting member countries' realization of their Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 targets, implementing decisions and action plans adopted by Law Ministers at their biennial meetings, and executing decisions endorsed by Commonwealth Heads of Government at their biennial meetings.

5. Expressing gratitude for the opportunity, Malaysia takes pride in its role as one of the three representatives from the Asia-Pacific region within LMAG. Malaysia is committed to actively contribute to the betterment of Commonwealth, the Asia-Pacific region, and, most definitely, Malaysia itself.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS 24 NOVEMBER 2023