

PIKOM, MDEC AND CYBESECURITY MALAYSIA JOIN HANDS TO ENHANCE DATA SECURITY

[KUALA LUMPUR, 12 AUGUST 2023]: The National Tech Association of Malaysia (PIKOM), together with the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) and CyberSecurity Malaysia, released the **Malaysia Data Security Governance Reference Book: Unleashing the Value of Reliable Data** at the Cyber Digital Services, Defence & Security Asia (CyberDSA) to improve Malaysia's data security governance maturity and efficiency.

The book, which was launched by the Minister of Communications and Digital YB Fahmi Fadzil, provides guidelines for organisations in Malaysia to protect their data and build trust with their customers. It covers a wide range of topics, including data sovereignty, key standards and global advanced practices as well as recommendations for the way forward.

"The ultimate purpose of data security governance is to create value. As the organisation that represents Malaysia's technology industry with over 1,000 active members, commanding 80% of the total tech business in the country, we know that data security governance maturity is a necessity to improve the competitiveness of a country's digital economy. This reference book provides a digital trade standards system framework which could be a reference to facilitate Malaysia in implementing international cyber security standards at the national level in line with Malaysia's domestic situation. It will also be a guide to data security governance and in safeguarding national data sovereignty. I hope that this book will help to raise awareness of the importance of data security in Malaysia. By working together, we can create a more secure and trustworthy digital environment for everyone," said Mr Ong Chin Seong, the Chairman of PIKOM.

"It is very critical to build up the awareness of the importance of data security in Malaysia,. The Malaysia Data Security Governance Reference Book is just in time to be an essential resource for every organisations that is embarking on its digital transformation and a crucial guideline in supporting the initiatives set out in the Malaysia Digital Economy Blueprint." said Dato' Ts. Dr Haji Amirudin Abdul Wahab, Chief Executive Officer, CyberSecurity Malaysia.

He continued, "As a national cybersecurity specialist and technical agency, CyberSecurity Malaysia provides and supports initiatives for multi-stakeholders to address concerns and issues in various facets of the cybersecurity industry and develop action plans for the growth and development of the local industry. This will also open opportunities for greater alliances

within the local and regional ICT industry to gain a competitive advantage and propel the industry into the future."

Ts. Mahadhir Aziz, Chief Executive Officer of MDEC said, "Aligning with the Malaysia Digital (MD) national strategic initiative and PEMANGKIN programmes, we have identified 10 pivotal tech drivers, with Cybersecurity standing at the forefront. Through MDEC's interventions and initiatives, we are catalysing digital transformation, driving policies and enabling programmes that significantly advance our nation's digital economic landscape. Strengthening our cybersecurity is not only a necessity to protect businesses and their stakeholders but also a strategic investment that fortifies resilience, nurtures trust, and enhances competitiveness in Malaysia's digital economy, further elevating Malaysia as the Digital Hub of ASEAN."

Digital transformation initiatives embarked on globally, be it at Government levels or the private sector, will inevitably bring about unprecedented challenges to the cyber security of ICT infrastructure.

Addressing this will become increasingly crucial to ensure valuable data assets are protected and in ensuring the right high-quality data is made available to the right people at the right time.

This book aims to be a valuable resource tool that organisations can refer to as a guide in securing their data and their institutions. For more info or to download a copy of the Reference Book, please visit www.pikom.org.my



From the left : PIKOM Cybersecurity Chapter Chair Alex Loh, PIKOM Chairman Ong Chin Seong, Minister of Communications and Digital YB Fahmi Fadzil, CyberSecurity Malaysia Chairman General Tan Sri Dato' Sri (Dr.) Haji Zulkifeli Bin Mohd Zin, CyberSecurity Malaysia CEO Dato' Ts. Dr. Amirudin Abdul Wahab