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MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

**MEDIA STATEMENT
FOR MALAYSIAN ECONOMIC INDICATORS
LEADING, COINCIDENT & LAGGING INDEXES
FEBRUARY 2023**

***Leading Index rebounded 0.6 per cent to 111.6 points in February 2023,
signalling an optimistic economy in the near term***

PUTRAJAYA, APRIL 20, 2023 - Today, the Department of Statistics Malaysia released the ***MALAYSIAN ECONOMIC INDICATORS: LEADING, COINCIDENT & LAGGING INDEXES FOR FEBRUARY 2023***. The Leading Index (LI) is a predictive tool used to anticipate economic upturns and downturns in an average of four to six months ahead.

According to the Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, "The annual change of Leading Index (LI) rebounded by registering a growth of 0.6 per cent to attain 111.6 points from 110.9 points in February 2022 (***Exhibit I***). The growth was underpinned significantly by the good performances in the Number of Housing Units Approved, Real Imports of Other Basic Precious & Other Non-ferrous Metals and Number of New Companies Registered. The trend is in line with the monthly change of LI which posted a growth of 2.9 per cent in February 2023 as against a negative 1.5 per cent in the previous month. Almost all components showed increases attributed mainly by the Number of New Companies Registered (1.0%).

Looking at the smoothed long-term trend in February 2023, LI recorded better index points compared to the previous month which was 99.41 points (January 2023 : 98.61 points) (***Exhibit II***). Although it remained below the trend of 100.0 points, the economic outlook is expected to improve in the near term supported by domestic demand and resilient policy measures under Budget 2023.

The Coincident Index (CI) which reflects the current economic condition, showed better year-on-year growth by registering 121.6 points in February 2023 as against 116.3 points in February 2022. The increase was contributed by all components mainly Real Contributions, EPF (16.8%). In the meantime, the monthly change in CI recorded 1.8 per cent in the reference month, up from a negative 0.7 per cent in January 2023. The largest positive contribution was shown by the Industrial Production Index (0.5%).

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) is conducting the Economic Census in 2023. DOSM greatly appreciates the cooperation of respondents to provide information and ensuring the success of this census. Please visit www.dosm.gov.my for more information.

DOSM has launched OpenDOSM NextGen as a medium that provides a catalogue of data and visualisation to facilitate users in analysing various data. OpenDOSM NextGen is an open source data sharing platform and accessible through <https://open.dosm.gov.my> portal.

Please be informed that the Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20 each year. MyStats Day theme is “Connecting the World with Data We Can Trust”.

Released by:

**THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
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Exhibit I: Leading Composite Index

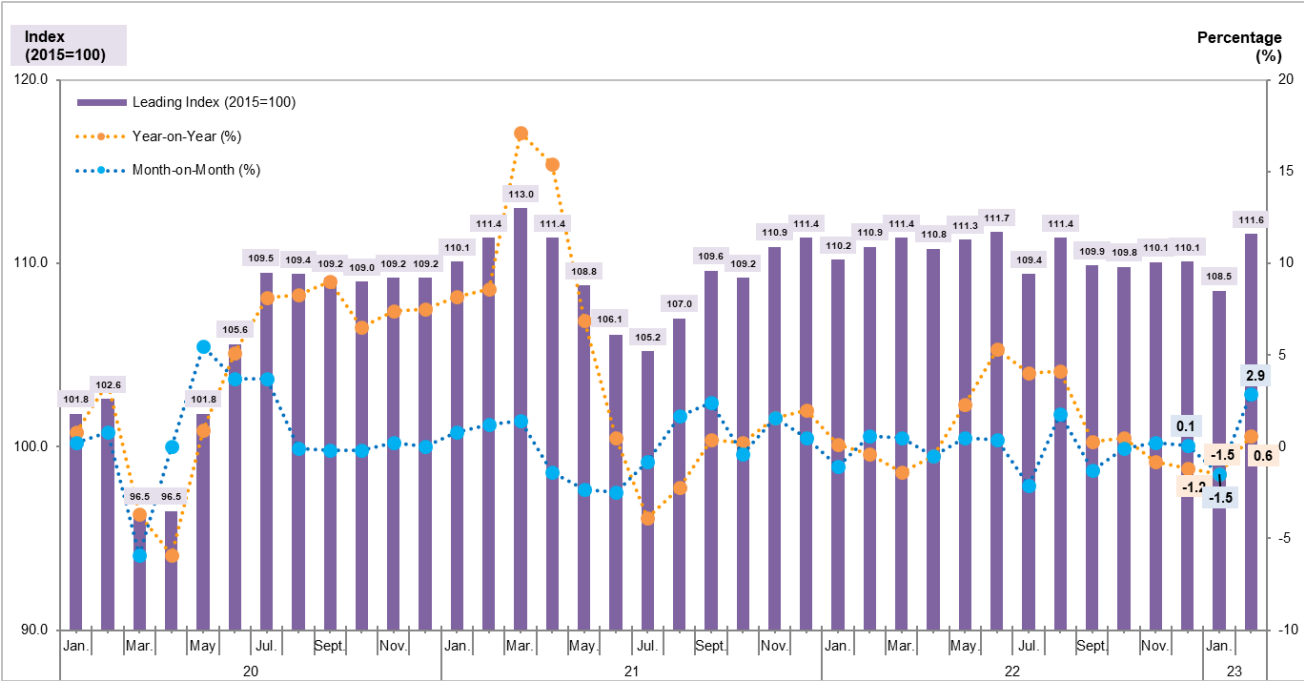


Exhibit II: Leading Composite Index (Long Term Trend = 100) and Business Cycle

