MINISTRY OF ECONOMY
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA

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

Leading Index improved to negative 0.3 per cent in September 2023 as compared to negative 0.5 per cent, anticipating a healthier economic prospect in the near future

*PUTRAJAYA, November 24, 2023 - Today, the Department of Statistics Malaysia released the **Malaysian Economic Indicators: Leading, Coincident & Lagging Indexes for September 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.*

*Chief Statistician Malaysia, Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin said, "The Leading Index showed better movement for three consecutive months to negative 0.3 per cent by recording 109.3 points in September 2023 as compared to negative 0.5 per cent in the previous month **(Exhibit I)**. The Bursa Malaysia Industrial Index (20.8%) and Number of Housing Units Approved (17.6%) contributed positively to the LI. Meanwhile, declines were observed in imported goods, particularly in the Real Imports of Other Basic Precious & Other Non-ferrous Metals (-16.2%) and Real Imports of Semi Conductors (-14.5%). Referring to the monthly performance, LI recorded a negative 0.4 per cent in the reference month as against 0.7 per cent in the preceding month, owing to unfavourable performance in the Real Imports of Other Basic Precious & Other Non-ferrous Metals (-1.0%) and Number of New Companies Registered (-0.8%)".*

Looking at the smoothed long-term trend in September 2023, LI remained below 100.0 points trend. Although still below trend, Malaysia's economy is expected to grow

moderately, supported by encouraging local demand amid currency challenges and world economic slowdown (Exhibit II).

The Coincident Index (CI) which reflects the current economic condition, rose by 2.1 per cent to 123.8 points in September 2023 as compared to 121.2 points in the same month previous year. This upturn was led by the Real Contributions, EPF (8.6%), followed by Volume Index of Retail Trade (3.6%). Simultaneously, the monthly change in CI also climbed by 0.2 per cent with Total Employment of Manufacturing being the main contributor to the increase (0.3%).

DOSM has launched OpenDOSM NextGen as a medium that provides a catalog of data and visualisations to facilitate users' analysis of various data and can be accessed through https://open.dosm.gov.my.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) will conduct the Agricultural Census in 2024. Please visit https://www.myagricensus.gov.my/ for more information. The Theme is "Agriculture Census, Key to Agriculture Development".

*The Government of Malaysia has declared National Statistics Day (MyStats Day) on October 20th each year. MyStats Day theme is "**Statistics is the Essence of Life**".*

Released by:

THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
24 NOVEMBER 2023

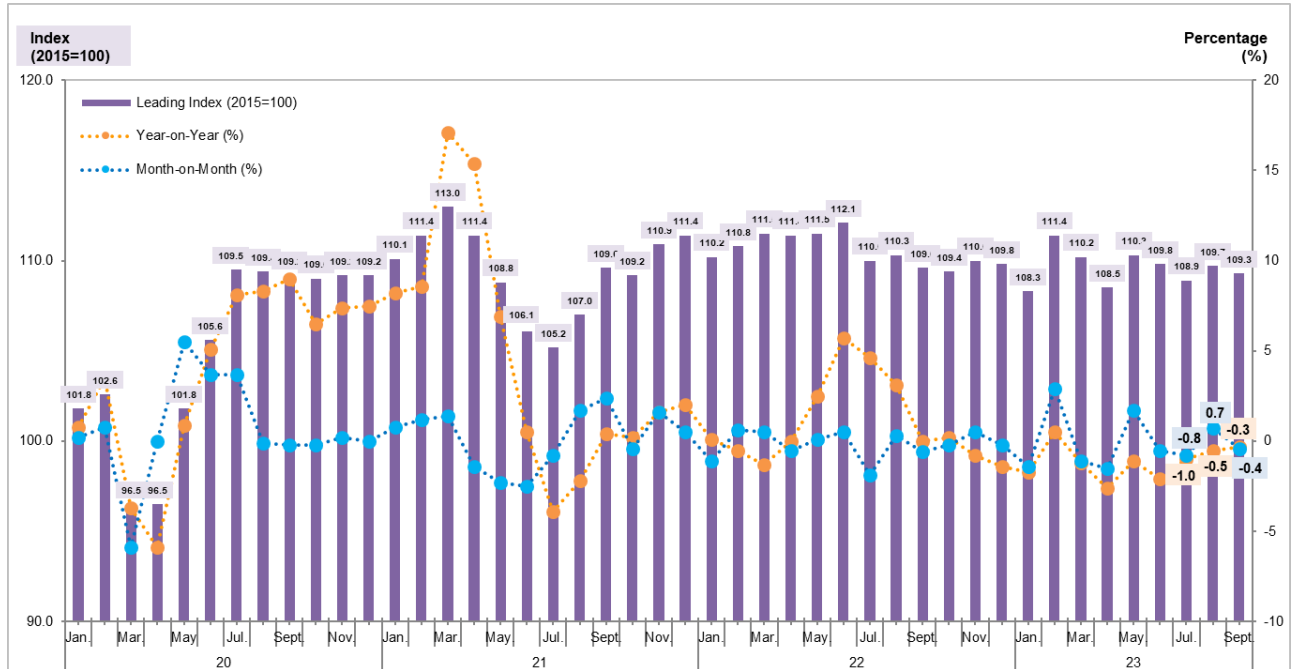## Exhibit I: Leading Composite Index

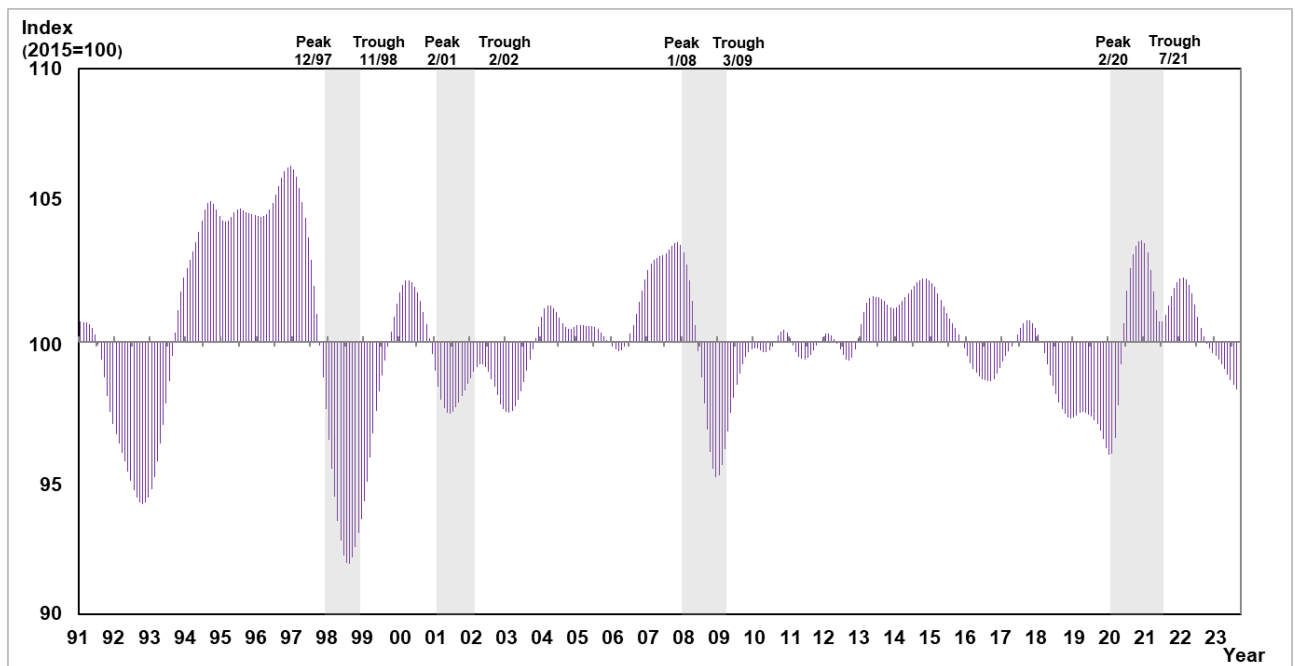## Exhibit II: Leading Composite Index (Long Term Trend = 100) and Business Cycle

Exhibit III: Annual Changes of Leading Index Components

REAL MONEY SUPPLY, M1

BURSA MALAYSIA INDUSTRIAL INDEX

REAL IMPORTS OF SEMI CONDUCTORS

REAL IMPORTS OF OTHER BASIC PRECIOUS & OTHER NON-FERROUS METALS

NUMBER OF HOUSING UNITS APPROVED

EXPECTED SALES VALUE, MANUFACTURING

NUMBER OF NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED