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**Media Statement by Hon. Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee,
Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and Member of
Parliament for Beluran on the Courtesy Visit from Datuk Nik Azman Nik
Abdul Majid, the Auditor-General, on Public Accounts Committee (PAC)**

- 1) Today, together with the PAC members, I received a courtesy visit from the new Auditor General, Datuk Nik Azman Nik Abdul Majid, who was appointed as the Auditor General on 23 February 2019 and will serve for two(2) years.
- 2) I would like to express my utmost appreciation and congratulate Datuk Nik Azman on his appointment as the Auditor General.
- 3) During the courtesy visit, Members of PAC exchanged views on how to improve the working relationships with the National Audit Department (NAD).
- 4) PAC recognises the role played by NAD as the main stakeholder that assists PAC. Besides that, NAD is also one of the seven agencies appointed to the PAC as ex-officio.
- 5) Regarding other developments, PAC expects to conclude the investigation on the issue of GST Refund arrears that involves RM19.4 billion before the sitting of the House of Representatives ends on 11 April 2019.
- 6) The proceeding on this issue started on 12 September 2018 and PAC had held eight (8) meetings, and NAD gave briefing to PAC twice regarding its audit on the GST Refund arrears amounted to RM19.4 billion.
- 7) PAC asked NAD to conduct a thorough audit on all the claims for GST refund amounted to RM19.4 billion to verify that the claims are valid for refund.
- 8) PAC has also heard the explanations from the stakeholders involved in this issue including the Director General of Royal Malaysian Customs, Ministry of Finance, former Minister of Finance, Former Minister of Finance II, Minister of Finance, Former Treasury Secretary General and Treasury Secretary General.

- 9) PAC gives assurance that all the summaries and recommendations submitted to the Government in its report on the issue of GST Refund arrears amounted to RM19.4 billion cover all the aspects concerned and are supported with data from the audit done by NAD.
- 10) PAC have also gotten all the opinions including that of Attorney General, Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) and Accountant General's Department (AGD) during the proceedings and when preparing the report on this issue.
- 11) Regarding the proceeding on Road Charges (RC) and Vehicle Entry Permit (VEP) under the Ministry of Transport, I would like inform that PAC will proceed with the meetings on this issue on 26 Mar 2019 and 27 Mar 2019.
- 12) PAC started the proceeding on this issue on 20 February 2019 by summoning the Secretary General of the Ministry of Transport, Datuk Mohd Khairul Adib Abdul Rahman to give explanations.
- 13) However, after hearing the explanations from Datuk Mohd Khairul Adib, PAC unanimously agreed to have the proceeding on this issue to be continued on 26 Mar 2019 by summoning the Secretary-General, Datuk Seri Dr Ismail Bakar who served as the Secretary General of the Ministry of Transport from 18 November 2014 to 15 December 2015.
- 14) PAC will also summon Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai who was the Minister of Transport from 25 June 2014 to 9 May 2018 to attend the proceeding regarding the same issue on 27 Mar 2019.
- 15) The explanations from the two of them are very important to assist PAC to complete the investigations and submit the summaries and recommendations to the Government on this issue.
- 16) The letters to summon both witnesses were issued on 18 Mar 2019 in accordance with the Standing Order 83 (9) of the House of Representatives.
- 17) The members of the public who are interested to see the picture of the courtesy visit by the Auditor General can download the picture at PAC website: www.parlimen.gov.my/pac.

Thank you.

Hon. Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee
Chairman of PAC of Parliament Malaysia