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CUM MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR PARIT SULONG**
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1 July 2019

**PRESS STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE DATUK DR
NORAINI AHMAD, CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
COMMITTEE (PAC) CUM MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR
PARIT SULONG REGARDING THE ATTENDANCE OF
WITNESSES IN PAC PROCEEDING MEETINGS**

- 1) I would like to remind the Secretary-General (KSU) / Head of Service (KP) as the officer in charge for a Ministry, Government Department or Agency to give priority to attend every PAC Proceeding Meetings when called as a witness for the proceedings.
- 2) In my duration chairing the PAC Proceeding Meetings since being appointed as the PAC Chairman on 11 April 2019, there were KSU/KP who failed to attend the PAC Proceeding Meetings despite they had been served with a notice of attendance at least 10 days in advance, as stipulated in the Standing Order 9 of the Standing Orders of the Dewan Rakyat.
- 3) Instead, KSU/KP only sent representatives to attend the PAC Proceeding Meetings.
- 4) The PAC members and I are even more disappointed when the KSU/KP did not reply to the notice of PAC meeting to inform their official absence.

5) This attitude clearly showed disrespect towards the Institution of Parliament, as the highest legislative body of the country as stipulated in the Parliamentary Democracy System practiced in this country.

6) I would like to clarify that KSU / KP are subject to the General Circular No. 2 of 1982 which clearly defines that KSU is also responsible for... “The Public Accounts Committee on controlling expenses and accurate saving accounts for each task being held;”

7) At the same time, the Treasury Directive (AP) of Article 12 also stipulates that the KSU / KP / Officer in Charge are responsible to the PAC, as defined as follows... “Any Officer in Charge can be summoned to the Public Accounts Committee established by the legislative body to consider the Auditor General’s Report on the public accounts, and may be required to assist the Committee in its investigation of any wasteful spending, no revenue collections, or any expenses incurred without authorisation in the departments or offices under the control of its finances.”

8) I understand the busy duties and responsibilities of KSU / KP and the Committee is open to any date proposal from the KSU / KP if they cannot attend on the date set to have the PAC Proceeding Meetings.

9) An official letter from the KSU / KP should be submitted to PAC to inform on the attendance or suggestion of another date for the PAC Proceeding Meetings.

10) For this reason, I will write to the Chief Secretary to the Government (KSN) on this matter, so that all KSU / KP understand their duties and responsibilities to attend the PAC Proceeding Meetings.

Thank you.

Hon. Datuk Dr. Noraini Ahmad
Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC)
Parliament of Malaysia