PRESS RELEASE

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SIGNING CEREMONY BETWEEN ISLAMIC RELIEF MALAYSIA AND INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

BANGI, May 14, 2024 – The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between Islamic Relief Malaysia (IR Malaysia) and the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) was held today at the IR Malaysia office.

The MoU was formalized by Datuk Nur Iskandar A Samad, a Member of the Board of Trustees of IR Malaysia, and Prof. Dr. Akmal Khuzairy Abd. Rahman, Deputy Rector (Student Development and Community Engagement) of IIUM, witnessed by Mr. Mohd Shukor Tahir, Chief Executive Officer of IR Malaysia, and Mr. Anizam Hj. Ali, Senior Deputy Director, Office of the Deputy Rector (Student Development and Community Engagement) IIUM.

This MoU was established as a result of the mutual agreement between IR Malaysia and IIUM to enhance humanitarian activities at various levels, not only at IIUM Gombak Campus but also at other campuses.

Datuk Nur Iskandar emphasized that IR Malaysia is honored to formalize this collaboration and always welcomes any parties to become part of the organization in empowering communities and alleviating the suffering of those in need.

"The collaboration with IIUM is a significant event in IR Malaysia's mission to provide aid and support to communities in need. By combining our expertise and resources, we can contribute more to society and achieve maximum impact, insya-Allah.

"I believe that this strategic partnership will help IIUM students and staff in shaping their character and becoming individuals with a strong sense of humanity.

"They will be exposed to various real-life stories of the community and will have the opportunity to gain valuable experiences to understand and grasp the true meaning of humanity," he said.

As an organization experienced in conducting charitable and community work, this collaboration is expected to pave the way for various joint programs and projects, including student development, smart partnerships in the form of academic research, and student involvement in volunteer activities and awareness campaigns.

IIUM has actively involved its students in engaging with the local and global community in ensuring the sustainable growth of life and bringing *Rahmatanlil Alamin* to mankind.

IIUM advocates the concept of Communiversity in ensuring that IIUM students understand their role as Khalifah and believes that education is beyond classrooms and the obligation to contribute back to society.

This MoU marks the nurturing efforts and a formal setting of cooperation between the two parties, each providing and sharing expertise, experience, resources, and networking to build a better society and improve the quality of life for the community globally.

With diversified ethnic backgrounds coming from different parts of the world, IIUM believes this mutual agreement will bring tremendous benefits toward the objectives and mission of our respective endeavors.

Collaboration between IR Malaysia and IIUM

Since 2011, IR Malaysia has collaborated with IIUM through various programs, including visits to Orang Asli villages, humanitarian expos, the *Lelaki Dari Dhaka* theatre, Humanity Night, the Lombok Humanitarian Mission, the Water Balloon Charity Run, and many more.

"It is my great hope to see IR Malaysia and IIUM form such collaborations that will benefit both parties, especially in academic terms and in building industry and community networks with other strategic partners of IIUM," added Datuk Nur Iskandar.

Also present at this historic event were the management, senior officers, and volunteers from both organizations.

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About Islamic Relief (IR)

Islamic Relief is an independent international humanitarian aid and development organization. Islamic Relief is headquartered in the United Kingdom and was founded in 1984. Islamic Relief serves in more than 45 countries, assisting hundreds of millions of people. The scope of Islamic Relief assistance covers emergency assistance, integrated sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, and advocacy.

About Islamic Relief Malaysia (IR Malaysia)

Islamic Relief Malaysia was established in 2005, which aspires to continue Islamic Relief humanitarian assistance in the Asia-Pacific region. Islamic Relief Malaysia serves as a fundraising and project implementer for international and local projects.

Kindly visit the Islamic Relief Malaysia website, <u>www.islamic-relief.org.my</u> for more information.

About International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)

The International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) was established in 1983. IIUM aims to integrate Islamic values into its academic programs, fostering a balanced development of students who are spiritually and professionally equipped to lead and serve the Muslim Ummah. The university operates across several campuses, with the main administrative center located in Gombak, Selangor, and additional campuses in Kuala Lumpur, Pahang, and Johor. IIUM offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs and is committed to its mission of Integration, Islamisation, Internationalization, and Comprehensive Excellence (IIICE).