HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET 2023

Budget 2023 was unveiled on 7 October 2022 by the Finance Minister, Tengku Datuk Seri Utama Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz. Themed "Keluarga Malaysia, Makmur Bersama", Budget 2023 focuses on measures to ensure the wellbeing of the rakyat, business continuity, economic prosperity and public service delivery efficiency.

We have extracted in this Highlights, proposals in Budget 2023 which in our view would be relevant from both the business and individual perspectives to our clients for their consideration.

The implementation of the proposals would be subject to any clarification and guidance from the relevant authorities and being legislated where applicable. Consequent to the dissolution of the 14th Parliament on 10 October 2022, Budget 2023 will have to be re-tabled in the next Parliament sitting by the new government. As such, further details on the proposals are expected to be released by the authorities in due course.

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Glossary	Glossary		
MAFI	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry		
MIDA	Malaysian Investment Development Authority		
MOE	Ministry of Education		
MOTAC	Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture Malaysia		
SMEs	Companies with paid-up share capital \leq RM2.5m and annual sales \leq RM50m		
YA	Year of Assessment		

A	INDIVIDUAL TAX				Effective
1.	 Review of Individual Income Tax Rate Individual income tax rate to be reduced by 2% for each chargeable income band between RM50,001 to RM100,000 Income tax rate be increased by 0.5% for chargeable income band of RM250,001 to RM400,000 				YA2023
	Chargeable income band > RM50,001 to RM70,000	Tax assessed at	Tax payable - RM400		
	>RM70,001 to RM100,000	19%	- RM600		
	>RM250,001 to RM400,000	25%	+RM750		
2.	Expansion of Scope for Tax Relief on I				YA2023
	• The scope of tax relief of up to RM8,000 is expanded to cover dental examination and treatment expenses for taxpayer, spouse or child up to RM1,000 from dental practitioners registered with the Malaysian Dental Council				
3.	Extension of Tax Relief for the National	al Education Savir	ngs Scheme (SSPN)	YA2023 &
	The relief of up to RM8,000 on net annual savings in the SSPN be extended for 2 years to YA2024				YA2024
4.	Expansion of Scope for Tax Relief on Payment for Life Insurance premium or			YA2023	
	 Takaful contribution The relief of up to RM3,000 is expanded to cover <i>additional</i> voluntary contribution to EPF This new treatment is applicable to civil servants under the pension scheme 				
5.	Extension of Tax Relief for Child Care Centre or Kindergarten Fees				For YA2024
	The relief of RM3,000 for fees paid to a childcare centre registered with the Social Welfare Department or kindergarten registered with MOE be extended for a year to YA2024				
6.	Expansion of Tax Relief for Covid-19 Detection Test				YA2023
	The scope is expanded to cover test conducted in a laboratory recognised by the Ministry of Health Malaysia (in addition to hospital and clinic) for taxpayer, spouse or child				
7.	Review of Tax Incentive for Women Career Break				Application
	 Existing conditions for income tax exemption for women returning to workforce be reviewed as follows: career break of at least 2 years on the date of application received by Talent Corporation Malaysia Berhad; and tax exemption on employment income received from year of assessment 2023 until year of assessment 2028. 				received by Talent Corp from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2027



В	CORPORATE TAX				Effective
1.	 Review of Income Tax Rate for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) The tax rate on chargeable income for the first RM100,000 be reduced by 2% from 17% to 15%, and the tax rate for the remaining taxable income be maintained at 17% and 24% as follows: 				YA2023
	Chargeable income	Tax assessed at	Tax payable		
	First RM100,000	15%	- RM2,000		
	RM100,001 to RM600,000	17%	N/A		
	RM600,001 and above	24%	N/A		
2.	 Review of Tax Deduction on Cost of Listing in Bursa Malaysia The existing tax deduction of up to RM1.5 million on the cost of listing on the ACE and LEAP Markets be extended for a period of 3 years to YA2025 Tax deduction is also expanded to cover the cost of listing technology-based companies on BURSA Main Market 				YA2023 to YA2025
3.	 Tax Deduction on Issuance Cost of Sustainable and Responsible Investment (SRI) Linked Sukuk Tax deduction on the cost of issuing SRI-linked Sukuk that is approved or permitted or deposited with the Securities Commission Malaysia be given for a period of 5 years 				YA2023 to YA2027
4.	Extension Period for Carry Forwar	d Unabsorbed Loss	ses		To be
	• Companies from long gestation period, e.g. forest plantations and hydroelectric projects are allowed to carry forward their unabsorbed business losses for 20 years as compared to 10 years under the current legislation				confirmed
5.	Expansion of Definition of Plant for • The definition of plant is extended		=	oftware	To be confirmed

C	TAX INCENTIVES					
1.	New Schedule for Reinvestment of Hotel and Selected Tourism Projects					
	 Reinvestment allowance at 60% on qualifying capital expenditure for a period of 5 years consecutively and to be set-off against 70% of statutory income. This tax incentive is for renovation, expansion and modernisation activities for the following: 1 to 5-star hotels registered with MOTAC selected tourism projects namely theme park and convention centre with a capacity of at least 3000 participants and registered with MOTAC Effective From YA2023 to YA2027 					
2.	Extension of Tax Incentive for Medical Tourism					
2.	• Existing income tax exemption equivalent to Investment Tax Allowance of 100% of					
	qualifying capital expenditure for a period of 5 years and can be set-off against up to 100% of statutory income					
	• Extended for 3 years					
	Effective Application received by MIDA from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2025					

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\mathbf{C} TAX INCENTIVES (Cont'd) 3. Special Tax Deduction for Expenditure on Malaysian-Made Handicraft by Hotel Industry Special tax deduction be given for expenditure on qualified Malaysian-made handicraft purchased from handicraft entrepreneur certified by Perbadanan Kemajuan Kraftangan Malaysia incurred by hoteliers up to RM500,000 Effective From 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2023 4. **Review of Tax Incentives for Tour Operators** Existing income tax exemption of 100% on statutory income derived from the business of operating tour packages within or to Malaysia, the conditions be reviewed as follows: Tourism packages within Malaysia with participation of at least 400 local tourists per Tourism packages to Malaysia with participation of at least 200 inbound tourists per year. Extended for a year Effective For YA2023 5. **Extension of Tax Incentive for Export of Private Healthcare Services** Existing income tax exemption of 100% of increased value in exports of services and can be set-off against 70% of the statutory income derived from the export of healthcare services to foreign healthcare travellers either from Malaysia or abroad Extended 3 years Effective For YA2023 to YA2025 6. Expansion of Scope of Tax Deduction for Employment of Senior Citizens, Ex-Convicts, Parolees, Supervised Persons and Ex-Drug Dependants The scope of tax incentive be expanded to include remuneration paid to inmate and ex-inmate of Henry Gurney School under Malaysian Prison Department, protection and rehabilitation institution and registered care centres under the Social Welfare Department Effective From YA2023 to YA2025 7. Tax Deduction for Sponsorship of Smart Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Driven Reverse Vending Machine Tax deduction under Section 34(6)(h) of the Income Tax Act 1967 be given to companies and other than companies (individuals, partnerships, trusts and cooperatives that have business income) that make donations or sponsorships of Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Driven Reverse Vending Machine Effective For application received by MOF from 1 Jan 2023 until 31 Dec 2024 8. **Review of Green Technology Tax Incentives** Activities other than Solar and Solar + Battery Energy Storage System (BESS): Green Investment Tax Allowance (GITA) 100% GITA on capital expenditure for qualifying project, green building and asset for 5 years to be set-off against 70% of statutory income Green Income Tax Exemption (GITE) 70% GITE on statutory income for qualifying green services for 5 YAs

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\mathbf{C} TAX INCENTIVES (Cont'd) Review of Green Technology Tax Incentives (Cont'd) 8. Activities related to Solar: Green Investment Tax Allowance (GITA) 60% GITA on capital expenditure for qualifying green asset and project for 3 years to be set-off against 70% of statutory income Green Income Tax Exemption (GITE) 70% GITE on statutory income for qualifying green services for 3 YAs Solar Leasing: Green Income Tax Exemption (GITE) 70% GITE on statutory income for up to 10 YAs Effective Application received by MIDA from 1 Jan 2024 to 31 Dec 2025 9. Tax Incentives for Rental of Electric Vehicle (EV) Tax deduction for rental of EV is limited to RM300,000 Effective From YA2023 to YA2025 10. Tax Incentives for Manufacturing of EV Charging Equipment Income tax exemption of 100% on statutory income from YA2023 to YA2032 Investment tax allowance of 100% for a period of 5 years and can be set-off against up to 100% of the statutory income for each YA Effective Applications received by MIDA from 8 Oct 2022 to 31 Dec 2025 Tax Incentives for Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) 11. Companies undertaking CCS in-house activity: Investment tax allowance 100% of qualifying capital expenditure for a period of 10 years and can be set-off against up to 100% of business statutory income; full import duty and sales tax exemption on equipment for CCS technology commencing from 1 Jan 2023 until 31 Dec 2027; and tax deduction for allowable pre-commencement expenses within 5 years prior to the date of commencement of operation Companies undertaking CCS services: Investment tax allowance of 100% of qualifying capital expenditure for a period of 10 years and can be set-off against up to 100% of statutory income; or tax exemption of 70% on statutory income for a period of 10 years; and o full import duty and sales tax exemption on equipment for CCS technology starting 1 Jan 2023 until 31 Dec 2027. Companies engaging CCS services be given tax deduction on fees incurred for use of CCS services **Effective** For application received by MOF from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2027 Tax Deduction can be claimed through the Income Tax Return from YA 2023 to YA2027 12. Tax Incentives for Chicken Rearing in Closed House System Accelerated Capital Allowance 100% on the qualifying capital expenditure and to be fully absorbed within a year Income tax exemption of 100% equivalent to the qualifying capital expenditure Effective From YA2023 to YA2025

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\mathbf{C} TAX INCENTIVES (Cont'd) 13. **Review of Tax Incentives for Food Production Project** Existing food production project incentives reviewed to further encourage the participation of industry player in agriculture sector: scope of tax incentive is expanded to include agricultural based projects on Controlled Environment Agriculture (e.g. greenhouses and vertical farms) tax incentive is extended for 3 years Effective For application received by MAFI from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2025 14. **Review of Tax Incentives for Bionexus Status Company** Existing tax incentives reviewed to further encourage more industry players: income tax exemption on statutory income be increased from 70% to 100% tax incentive is extended for 2 years Effective For application received by Malaysian Bioeconomy Development Corporation from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2024 15. **Extension of Tax Incentive for Intellectual Property Development (IP)** Existing incentive tax rate of: Income tax exemption 100% for up to 10 years for companies which undertake research and development for promoted products and develop IP in Malaysia Extended for 3 years Effective For applications received by MIDA from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2025 16. Review of Tax Incentives for Automation in Manufacturing and Services Sector Manufacturing and services companies which incur qualifying capital expenditure on automation equipment is given existing tax incentive as follows: Category 1: Labour-Intensive Industry (rubber, plastic, wood and textile products) Accelerated Capital Allowance (ACA) of 100% for automation equipment on the first RM4 million for qualifying capital expenditure incurred and can be utilized within 1 year Category 2: Industries other than Category 1 including the Services Sector ACA of 100% for automation equipment on the first RM2 million for qualifying capital expenditure incurred and can be utilized within 1 year The ACA for automation equipment be enhanced as follows: Scope of automation to include the adaptation of Industry 4.0 elements Scope of tax incentive is expanded to include agriculture sector Capital expenditure threshold for categories 1, 2 and agriculture be aligned and increased up to RM10 million Effective For applications received by MIDA/MAFI from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2027 17. **Extension of Tax Incentive for Pharmaceutical Companies** Existing incentive tax rate of: Income tax rate of 0% up to 10% for the first 10 years Income tax rate of 10% for the subsequent 10 years Extended for 3 years Effective For applications received by MIDA from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2025

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C TAX INCENTIVES (Cont'd)

18. Review of Tax Incentive for Equity Crowdfunding

- Existing incentive reviewed to further encourage individual investor through limited liability Partnership
- Extended for 3 years

Effective For investment made from 1 Jan 2024 until 31 Dec 2026

19. Extension of Tax Incentive for Angel Investor

- An angel investor who invests in an investee company in the form of ordinary shares is eligible for tax exemption equivalent to the amount of investment made
- Extended for 3 years

Effective For applications received by MOF from 1 Jan 2024 to 31 Dec 2026

20. Extension of Tax Incentive for Principal Hub 3.0

- Existing incentive tax rate of 0%, 5% or 10% for eligible principal hub
- Extended for 3 years

Effective For application received by MIDA from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2025

21. Extension of Tax Incentive for Global Trading Centre

- Existing incentive tax rate of 10% for 5 years and renewable for another 5 years for eligible global trading centre
- Extended for 3 years

Effective For application received by MIDA from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2025

D STAMP DUTY AND INDIRECT TAX

1. Stamp Duty Treatment for Transfer of Property by Way of Love and Affection

• The instruments of transfer of property between husband and wife, parents and children, as well as grandparents and grandchildren be imposed a fixed duty of RM10 on the condition that the recipient of the property is a Malaysian citizen

Effective From 1 Jan 2023

2. Stamp Duty Treatment for Educational Loan/Scholarship Agreement

The imposition of a fixed duty of RM10 be expanded to include educational loan/scholarship agreement to pursue education at all levels including certificate (education/skills/professionals) in any educational and training institutions

Effective For educational loan/scholarship agreement executed from 1 January 2023

3. Extension of Stamp Duty Exemption on

Restructuring or Rescheduling of Loan/Financing Agreement

• 100% stamp duty exemption on restructuring or rescheduling of loan/financing agreement be extended for 2 years

Effective Restructuring/rescheduling agreements executed from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2024



D STAMP DUTY AND INDIRECT TAX (Cont'd) 4. Import Duty and Sales Tax Exemptions on Studio and Filming Production Equipment Import duty and sales tax exemptions on studio and filming production equipment be given to equipment providers and production services including post-production, studio and cinema for a period of 2 years Effective For application received by the MOF from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2024 5. Review of Excise Duty and Sales Tax Exemption on Sale or Transfer of Individually owned Taxis and Hired Cars Existing excise duty and sales tax exemption on sale/transfer/private use/disposal of individually owned taxis and hired cars be reviewed as follows: Exemption is expended to executive taxis, TEKS1M and airport taxis (budget, premier and family) Vehicle age condition is relaxed to at least 5 years from the date of registration Effective For application received by the Royal Malaysian Customs Department from 1 Jan 2023 6. Extension of Import Duty and Excise Duty Exemption on Imported Completely Built-Up (CBU) EV Existing full import duty and excise duty exemption on imported CBU EV be extended for a period of 1 year Effective From 1 Jan 2024 to 31 Dec 2024 7. **Excise Duty Exemption on Tourism Vehicles** 50\% excise duty exemption be given on the purchase of new locally assembled tourism vehicles as follows: Hire and Drive Cars for Tourists **Excursion Bus** Effective For application received by the MOF from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2024 8. Extension of Sales Tax Exemption for the Purchase of Locally Assembled Bus Existing sales tax exemption of 10% on the purchase of locally assembled bus extended for 2 years to 31 Dec 2024 Effective For application received by the MOF from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2024 9. Import Duty and Sales Tax Exemptions on Nicotine Replacement Therapy Import duty and sales tax exemption be given to nicotine gum and nicotine patch for a period of 5 years Effective For application received by the MOF from 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2027 Service Tax on Digital Services Related to Banking/Financial Services 10. Service tax exemption be given to: recipients of digital payment services local non-bank digital payment service providers i.e. payment instrument issuers, merchant acquirers and payment system operators *Effective* o From 1 August 2022 until 31 July 2025 for local non-bank digital payment service providers From 1 January 2020 until 31 July 2025 for local financial institutions/banks and any qualified service providers

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OTHER BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

1. **Tax Identification Number (TIN)**

All Malaysians citizens and permanent residents reaching the age of 18 will be assigned a TIN automatically, and the TIN made mandatory for all stamping documents and instruments

Effective From Year 2023

2. **EPF Voluntary Contribution**

The contribution limit will be increased from RM60,000 to RM100,000 per year Effective From Year 2023

3. Mandatory contributions under the Self-Employment Social Security Scheme (SOCSO)

Self-Employment Social Security Scheme (SOCSO) will be mandatory for self-employed person (by stage), especially those in high-risk sectors, commencing with the public transportation sector and goods or food delivery sectors

Effective From Year 2023

4. Bantuan Keluarga Malaysia (BKM)

BKM assistance to households

	Assistance to households with			
Household income	No children	1-2 children	3-4 children	≥5 children
< RM2,500	RM1,000	RM1,500	RM2,000	RM2,500
RM2,501 - RM5,000	RM500	RM750	RM1,000	RM1,250

Additional assistance

Single parents with children	RM500
Single senior citizen	RM600
Singles	RM350

Effective From Year 2023

