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#### **JOINT WEBINAR**

# HOW MALAYSIAN PLCs CAN BENEFIT FROM LABUAN IBFC

Wednesday • 24 November 2021 • 3.30PM – 4.45PM (GMT +8)





Farah Jaafar, CEO, Labuan IBFC Inc.





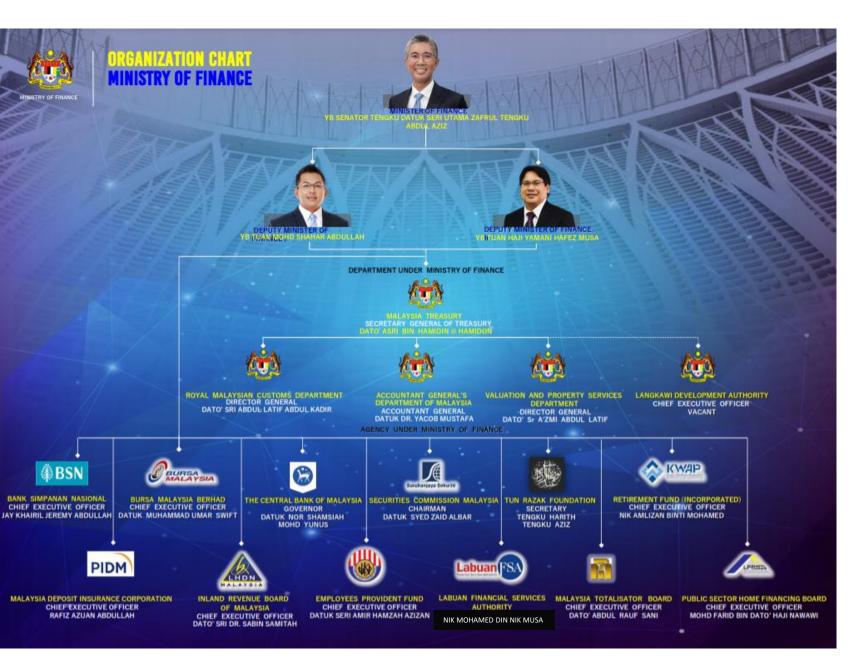
### **Labuan IBFC – Gateway to Asia Pacific**

### More than 30 Years of Intermediating Asia

- ➤ An international business and financial centre set up by Malaysia in 1990 to intermediate trade, finance, risk and wealth.
- ➤ A tax-efficient substance enabling MIDSHORE jurisdiction to facilitate businesses, trading, investments through financial services and a wide array of legal structures.
- > Well-balanced legal and regulatory framework, proportionality in regulatory stance.
- ➤ Robust governing legislations passed by the Malaysian Parliament, administered by Labuan Financial Services Authority, a statutory body under the Ministry of Finance, Malaysia.

> Adheres to Malaysia's AMLCFT requirements and international standards and best practices set by multilateral global institutions.







# THE REGULATOR

Labuan Financial Services Authority

Labuan Financial Services Authority a statutory body under Ministry of Finance, Malaysia1



### Why the Mid-shore Balance?

Labuan is part of Malaysia, one of Asia's fastest growing nations. Labuan IBFC is thus part of all the protocols the country adheres to, such as antimoney laundering and anti-terrorism financing regulatory requirements.

Conformity to international standards and regulatory requirements by international standards setting bodies such as OECD, APG, FATF, have always been key to Labuan IBFC.

Labuan IBFC has put in place relevant legislation to allow the exchange of information with the tax authorities of Malaysia's double tax treaty partners as well as the tax information exchange agreements signed by Malaysia.

The range of unique and bespoke structures are cost-efficient, tax and currency neutral.

### A Comprehensive Suite of Legislation

**Adherence to International Standards and Best Practices** 



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#### Inland Revenue Board

- i. Labuan Business Activity
  Tax Act 1990 (LBATA)
- ii. Income Tax Act 1967 including relevant gazette orders
- iii. Stamp Act 1949

#### Labuan FSA

- i. Labuan Financial Services Authority Act 1996
- ii. Labuan Companies Act 1990
- iii. Labuan Financial Services and Securities Act 2010
- iv. Labuan Islamic Financial Services and Securities Act 2010
- v. Labuan Trusts Act 1996
- vi. Labuan Limited Partnerships & Limited Act 2010

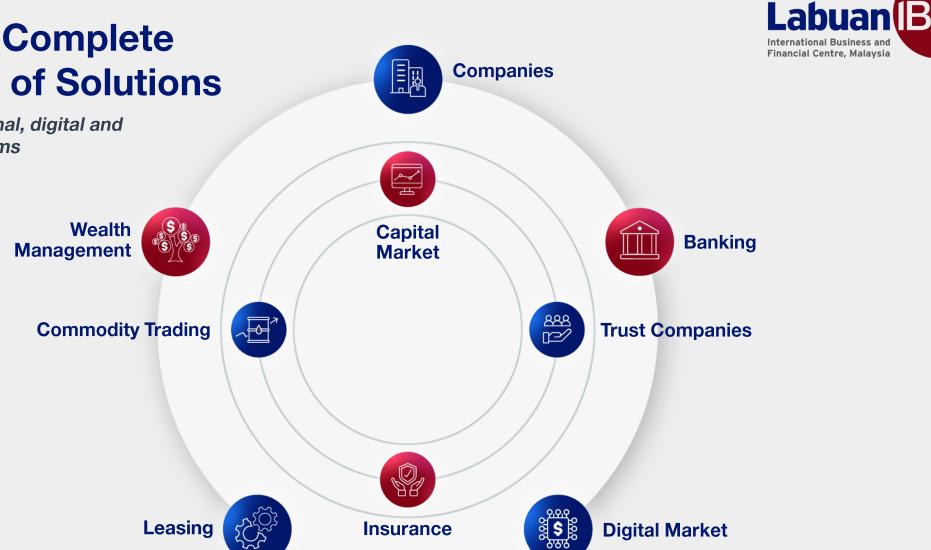
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# Acts of General Applications include

- i. Anti-Money Laundering and Anti
  Terrorism Financing and
  Proceeds of Unlawful Activities
  Act 2001
- ii. Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 2002
- iii. Malaysia Anti Corruption Commission Act 2009
- iv. National Anti- Financial Crime Centre Act 2019
- v. BNM's Foreign Exchange Notices

**Creating A Complete Ecosystem of Solutions** 

Available in conventional, digital and **Shariah-compliant forms** 



# Fiscal Structure and Corporate Entity Benefits

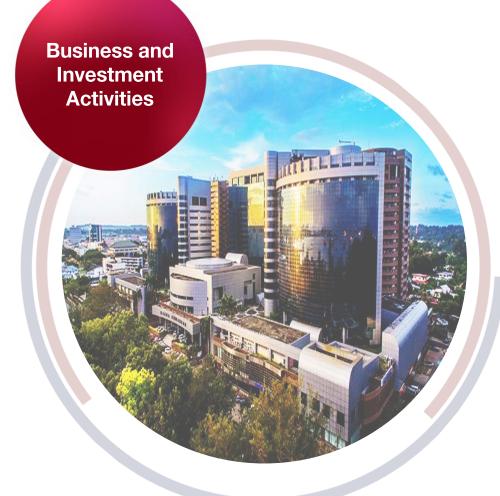
#### **Tax Structure**

- Income from Labuan trading activities (as defined) taxed at 3% of net audited profits
- Non-trading income (e.g. from investment holding activities) attracts no tax
- Clear and prescribed Substance Requirements based on business activities via a Gazette issued by Parliament of Malaysia
- Fiscal Regime is perpetual not time bound

#### **Other Benefits**

- Exemption from withholding tax on dividends, interest, royalties, service fees and lease payments to non-residents
- Exemption from stamp duty
- Access to most of Malaysia's 70+ double taxation agreements\*
- 100% foreign ownership
- Access to live in Malaysia





<sup>\*</sup> Labuan entities enjoy the benefits of most of Malaysia's tax treaties, but certain treaties have specifically excluded Labuan entities from treaty benefits

### **Home to International Brands**















### Labuan IBFC is NOT a Tax Haven



#### **Typical Tax Haven Characteristics**

No or nominal tax rate

Non-compliance to international standards and minimal enforcement

Lack of transparency

No or unwillingness to exchange information

Absence of substance requirements

#### **Labuan IBFC's unique Midshore features**

Tax is imposed on Labuan trading activities, provided substance requirements are met in order to enjoy preferential tax rates

Compliant or largely compliant as assessed by International Standard Setting Bodies (i.e. OECD, IMF, FSAP, APG Mutual Evaluation Exercise Assessment & FATF, GIFCS and IOSCO)

- Labuan (Malaysia) a member of BEPS Inclusive Framework and signatory of the Multilateral Instrument on BEPS
- Complied with FHTP's tax standards on transparency
- Wide network of Tax Treaty and Mutual Legal Assistance on Tax Matters
- Has 23 MOUs with other jurisdictions' supervisory body mutual supervisory collaborations

Prescribed economic substance requirements in Labuan, i.e., local spending and employment

### Why Labuan IBFC?





#### **REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Southeast Asia is estimated to be 4<sup>th</sup> largest economy by 2050, investors and businesses can gain access to a larger marketplace into the region via Labuan IBFC.



## EFFICIENT AND FLEXIBLE TAX SYSTEM

Simple and straightforward tax system to carry out a Labuan business activity as defined by the Labuan Business Activity Tax Act 1990.



### SUBSTANCE CREATION AND TRANSPARENCY

Complying with the latest global regulatory standards including requirements for transparency and substance creation.



## WELL – REGULATED JURISDICTION

A robust regulatory framework to ensure entities remain in compliance with international best standards.



## EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

Ease of doing business with cost – effective solutions and structures.

#### WIDE ARRAY OF SOLUTIONS AND STRUCTURES INCLUDINGS SHARIAH – COMPLIANT OPTIONS

Banking | Risk Management | Leasing | Wealth Management | Commodity Trading | Protected Cell Companies | International Business Companies

#### **GLOBALLY RECOGNISED INDUSTRY MEMBERSHIPS AND RECOGNITIONS**





















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# **Thank You**



# **Terima Kasih**

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### INTERNATIONAL TAX DEVELOPMENTS

Base Erosion & Profit Shifting (BEPS) Package with 15

Action Plans

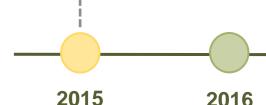
7. Prevent Artificial 1. Address Tax Avoidance of PE Challenges of **Digital Economy** Status 12. Taxpayer to 4. Limit Base Disclose Erosion via Aggressive Tax Interest Planning 8 – 10. Assure **Deductions** 2. Neutralise Arrangements 14. Make Dispute **Transfer Pricing** Effects of Hybrid Resolutions Outcomes are in Mismatch Mechanisms More Line with Value Arrangements Effective Creation 5. Counter Harmful 13. Re-examine **Transfer Pricing** Tax Practices Documentation More Effectively 15. Develop a 11. Measuring and 3. Strengthen CFC Multilateral Monitoring BEPS Rules Instrument 6. Prevent Treaty Abuse



# BEPS 2.0: PILLAR 1 & PILLAR 2 – TIMELINE

- Adoption of BEPS package of 15 Actions to counter tax avoidance
- Action1 Digitalisation of the economy
- Discussions to address the tax challenges of the digitalisation of the economy
- Release of "blueprints" for a 2-pillar solution in Oct 2020
- 136 IF members join the Statement on the 2-Pillar Solution with a Detailed Implementation Plan

Target date for the implementation of the 2-Pillar Solution





2017 to 2020

July 2021 October 2021

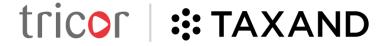
2022

2023

- Establishment of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework (IF) on BEPS
- Currently comprising
   140 members

Over 130 IF members join the **Statement on** the **2-Pillar Solution** 

Target dates for development of model legislation, etc for the implementation of the 2-Pillar Solution



## BASE EROSION AND PROFIT SHIFTING (BEPS)



#### **BEPS 1.0**

- BEPS Project implemented by OECD
- To address tax challenges of the digital economy (Action 1)
- Difficulties faced in reaching a consensus under BEPS Action 1



#### **BEPS 2.0**

- To provide a consensus-based long-term solution
- Divided into two pillars







#### **REASONS**

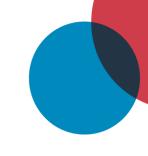
- To ensure fairness & equity in tax systems
- Reforming international tax framework due to new business models







### BASE EROSION AND PROFIT SHIFTING (BEPS) – PILLAR 1



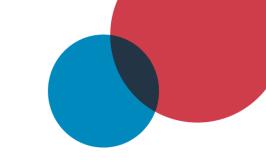


Focus on nexus rules & profit allocation

- Allocate greater share of residual profits to market jurisdictions by using a nexus rule without reference to physical presence in a country
- Who decides? What if there are disputes between countries?
- Applies to multinational groups that have more than €20bil (RM97bil) in global turnover & profit above 10% (i.e. PBT / Revenue)
- Unlikely to impact any Malaysian corporate group



# BASE EROSION AND PROFIT SHIFTING (BEPS) – PILLAR 2



#### Pillar 2



Focuses on other challenges by ensuring large companies pay a **minimum level of tax** 



Set a global minimum tax rate of 15%



For MNCs which meet or exceeds annual gross revenue ≥ €750mil (RM3.6bil)

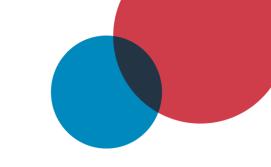


Effective from Year 2023 (Expected)

Future of tax incentives? May no longer be very effective.....



# BASE EROSION AND PROFIT SHIFTING (BEPS) – PILLAR 2 (CONT'D)



#### Pillar 2



MNCs enjoying tax incentives & low effective tax rate in Malaysia

- Subject to a "top-up" tax in their home jurisdiction
- Tax incentive is neutralized at the group level



Malaysia should re-look at its approach to tax incentives



Improve sustainable investment factors & enablers.



To look at non-tax incentives/ assistance, business friendly policies, etc.



## **EU WATCHLIST ("GREY LIST")**



Impacts countries that receive passive foreign-sourced income, such as dividends, interest and royalties

Malaysia proposes to remove its exemption of tax on all foreign income

Required to commit to EU's request by 31 December 2022



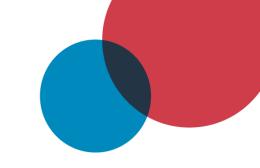
Why not consider the way Hong Kong responded to their inclusion in the "Grey List" by implementing substance requirements

Fundamental change to Malaysia's tax system – Knee-jerk reaction?

Once the commitment is fulfilled, Malaysia will be removed from the "Grey List"



### **WAY FORWARD**









# Technical Update: Latest Structures and Solutions for Malaysian PLCs



## **Labuan IBFC Development**

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Established Labuan
Offshore Financial
Services Authority LOFSA

Repositioned as a MIDSHORE centre

1990

1996

2010

2013

2019

Labuan declared as an International Offshore Financial Centre Whitelist on OECD with holistic legislation framework

Amendment of LBATA and substance requirement



- ✓ Fund Raising Cash flow
- ✓ Captive Insurance Cost optimization
- ✓ Private Foundation -Protection for loved ones



# **Fundraising Through Labuan**

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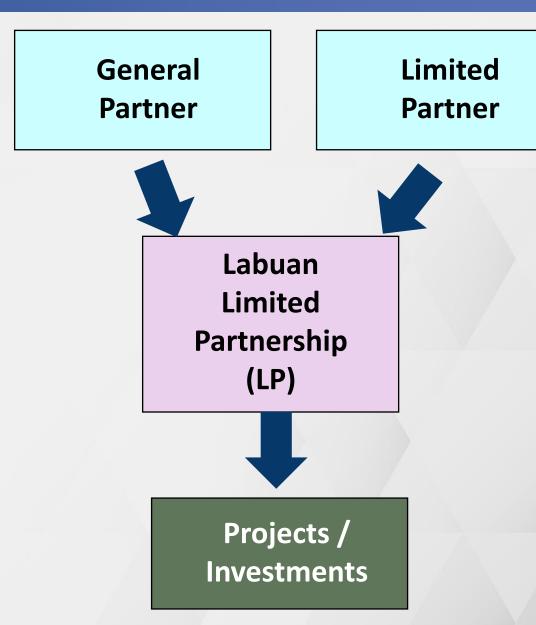
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#### **Labuan Limited Partnership (LP)**

- General Partner manages the operation, personally responsible for the liabilities
- Limited Partner (Investors) to contribute funds with no voting rights

#### **Labuan Limited Liabilities Partnership (LLP)**

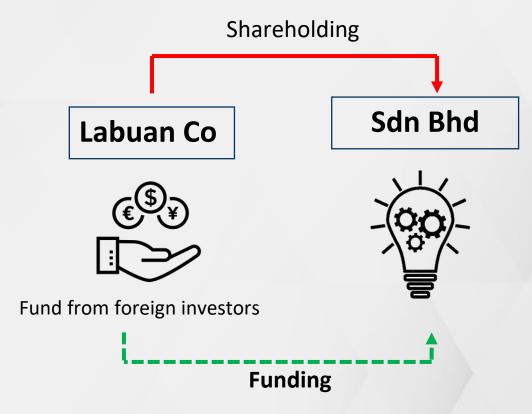
- Designated Partner & Limited Partner manages the operation together.
- Joint-Venture business, shielded from liability for partnership obligations
- Mostly used for professional services providers



### **Private Fund Structure**

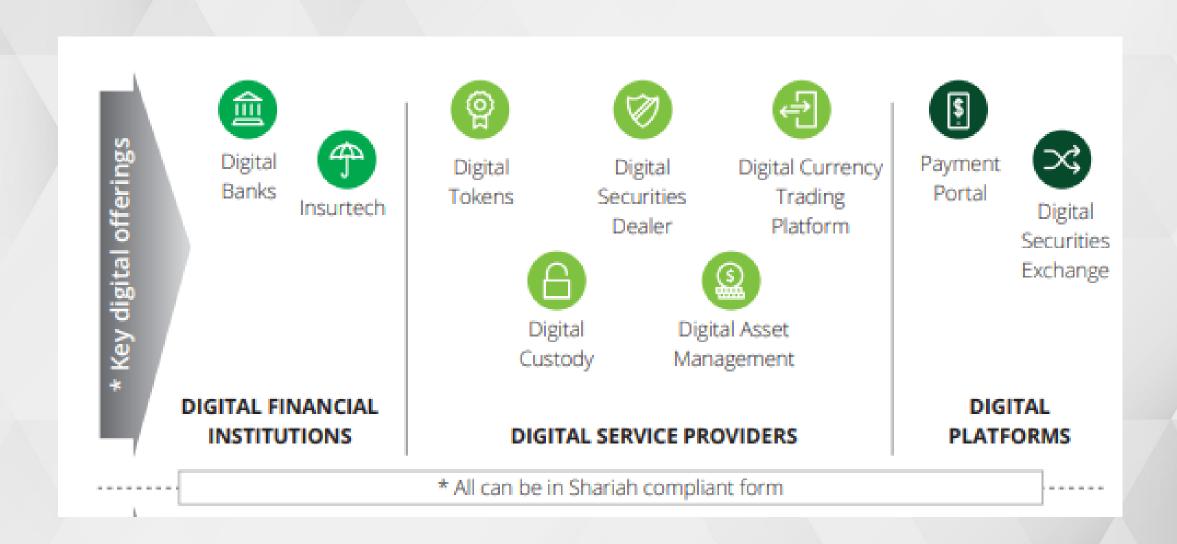
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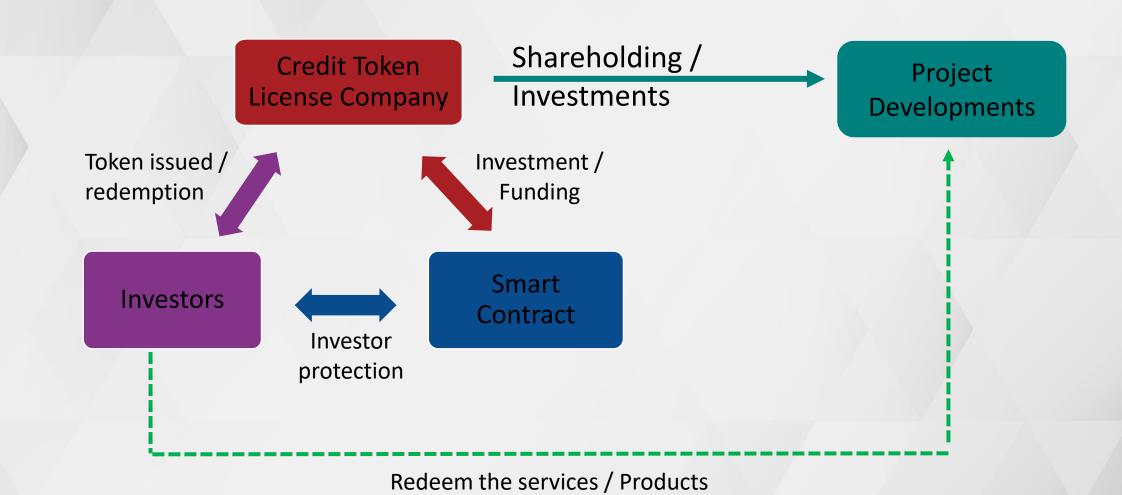


- ✓ ≥ 50 investors where the initial investment of each is not less than RM500,000 or equivalent in any foreign currency;
- ✓ ≤50 investors where the initial investment is not less than RM250,000 or equivalent in any foreign currency;
- ✓ Prospectus or information memorandum lodge to LFSA

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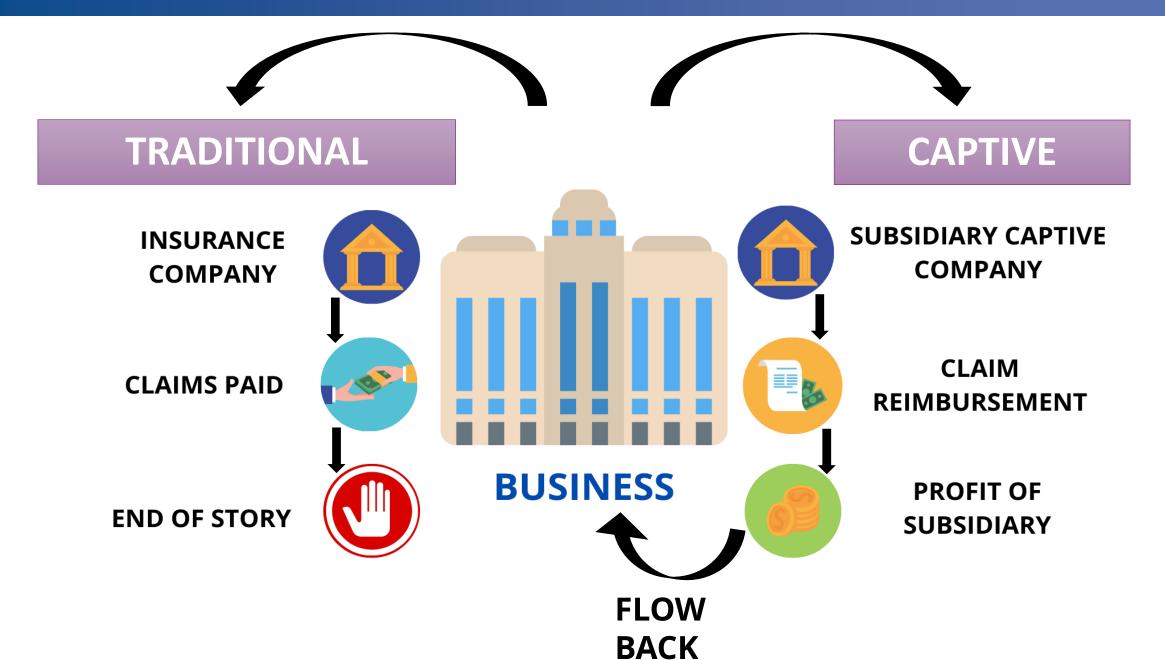


# **Labuan Captive Insurance**



### **Labuan Captive Insurance**

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### TRADITIONAL INSURANCE



### **CAPTIVE INSURANCE**



# **Captive Review Awards**

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Labuan IBFC won the 'International Captive Domicile" Award at the European Captive Review Awards 2021

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### **Private Foundation**

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**Protection & Privacy** 



OMPANY



**Management & Operation** 



**Labuan Private Foundation** 

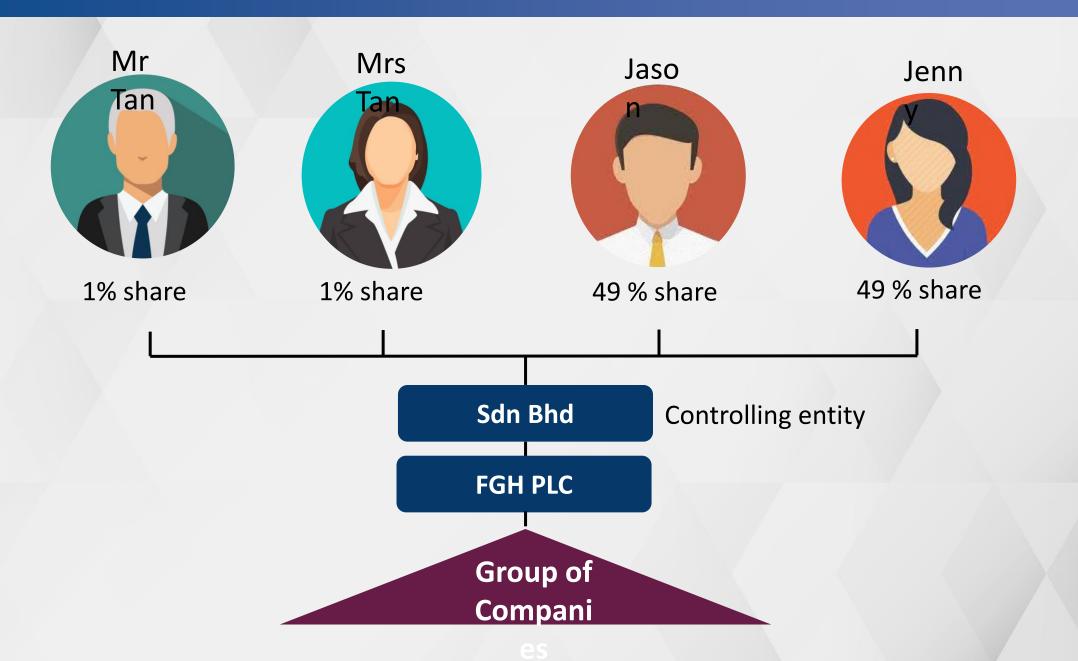


**Cost Effective** 

**100% Control** 

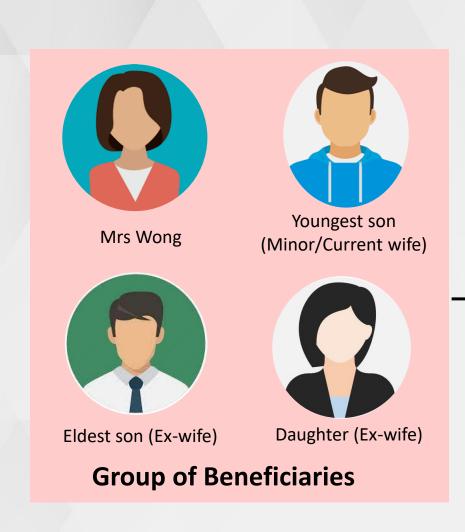
### Mr and Mrs Tan Family

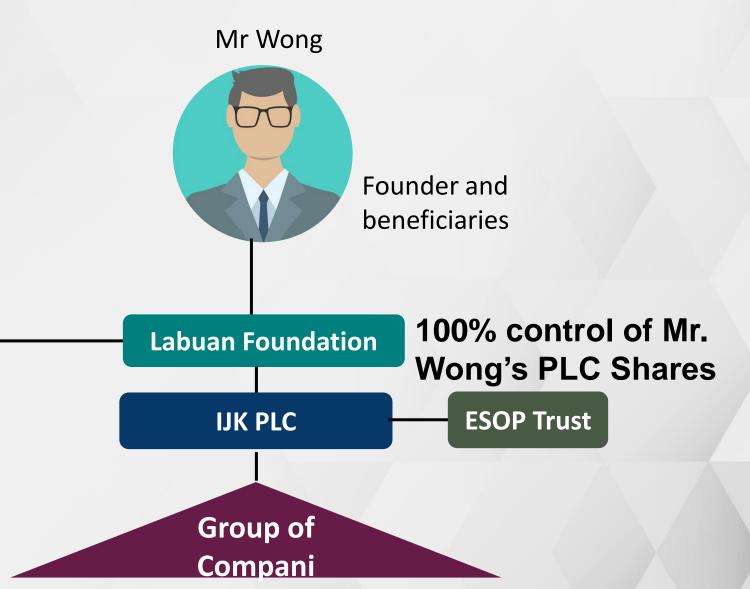
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### **Mr Wong Family**

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### **Ultimate Investment Holding Structure**





## Thank you

Please direct any enquiries to:

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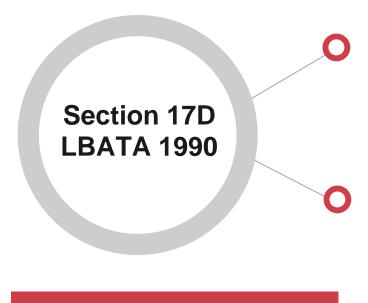
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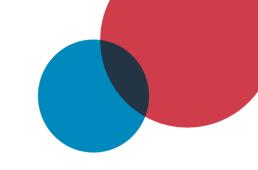
Where a person enters into a transaction with an associated person for the acquisition or supply of property or services, that person shall determine and apply the arm's length price

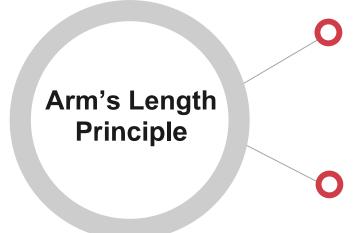
Where the DG has reason to believe that the transacted price is either less than or greater than the price in a transaction between independent persons, he may in the *determination of the chargeable profit* of the person substitute the price in respect of the transaction to reflect an **arm's length** price

w.e.f YA2020



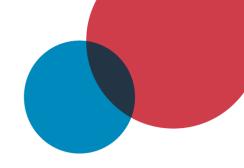
### **ARM'S LENGTH PRICE**





The transfer price should not differ from the prevailing market price for a comparable transaction





**Associated Person** 

- Persons one of whom has control over the other; or
- Persons both of whom are controlled by some other person

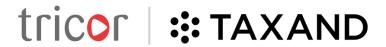
Control

Section 17C(6)(a) definition of "control"

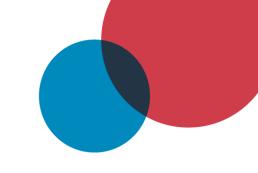
 A person shall be taken to have control over the other if he exercises or is able to exercise or is entitled to acquire control (whether direct or indirect) over the company's affairs and in particular,..if he possesses or is entitled to acquire the greater part of share capital or voting



- What is 'control'?
  - Section 17D(5) definition of "control" w.e.f. YA 2020
    - Refers to persons one of whom own shares of the other person, or a third person who owns shares of both persons, where the percentage of the share capital held in either situation is twenty per cent or more and –
      - a. The business operations of that person depends on the proprietary rights, such as patents, non-patented technological now-how, trademarks, or copyrights, provided by the other person or a third person;
      - b. The business activities, such as purchases, sales, receipt of services, provision of services, of that person are specified by the other person, and the prices and other conditions relating to the supply are influenced by such other person or a third person; or
      - c. Where one or more of the directors or members of the board of directors of a person are appointed by the other person or a third person.

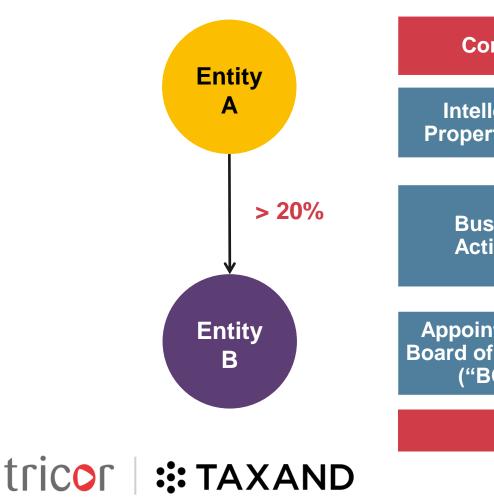






Section 17D(5) definition of "control"





Intellectual Property ("IP")

Business operations of B are dependent on IP provided by A

OR

• B's business activities (e.g. purchases, sale, receipt / provision of service) are specified by A; and
• Pricing and related T&Cs are influenced by A.

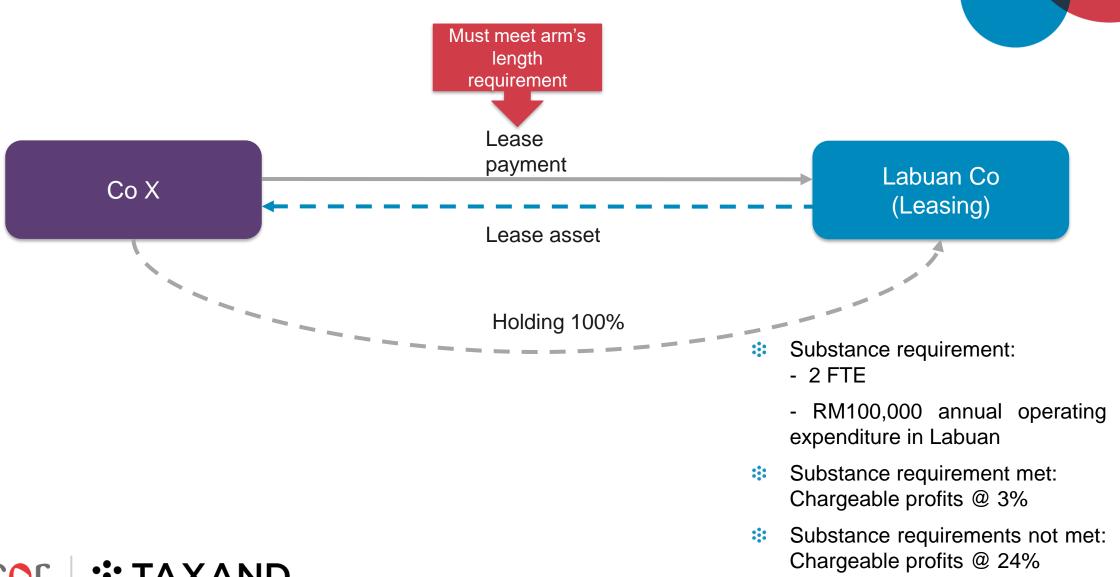
Appointment of Board of Directors ("BOD")

1 or more of B's BOD is appointed by A

w.e.f. YA 2020

OR

#### **CONTROLLED TRANSACTION - EXAMPLE**



#### TPD – BASIS FOR ARM'S LENGTH POSITION

#### Other documents

 Intercompany agreements, basis to support transfer pricing analysis

#### **Benchmarking**

 Where TNMM is selected, external benchmarking required in determining arm's length price

## Selection of TP method

- Which of the 5 methods are applied?
- · Basis for selection

### **FAR** analysis

Comparability, functions, assets & risks analysis



## Organisational structure

Includes organization chart

## **Business** description

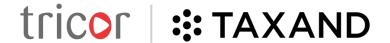
 Details of business activity, industry and market conditions

## **Controlled transactions**

- · Who is Labuan Co transacting with?
- Where are related companies located?

## **Business strategies**& pricing policy

- Factors that influence the setting of prices
- Strategies and related assumptions



#### PENALTY FOR FALSE DECLARATION





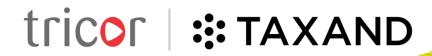
- Section 25
  - Where any person willfully or negligently makes an incorrect or false statutory declaration under section 5, or 10, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding one million ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years or to both



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