Introduction
The Malaysian Association of Social Workers (MASW) in collaboration with Social Welfare Department of Malaysia (JKMM) and Social Institute of Malaysia (ISM) are organising a two-day International Social Work Symposium in conjunction with its 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 27th & 28th April 2019. The theme is “Empowering People and Ensuring Inclusiveness and Equality”. This particular theme will be addressed at the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2019 at the United Nations (UN) Headquarters in New York with the involvement of the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW). The theme covers some of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on quality education; decent work and economic growth; reducing inequalities; climate action; peace, justice and strong institutions; and partnerships for the goals. As part of the UN Agenda 2030, member states are urged to develop partnerships and promote the Agenda with civil societies, business and (local) government to “transform our world.”

Objectives
We acknowledges that social work practice and education in Malaysia needs to enhance its professional role in promoting the SDGs at a local, subnational, national and international level. Social workers have an important role to play in implementing the SDGs as social work shares the values of human rights and social justice prescribed in the SDGs. Social work practice engages with individuals, families, and groups within their communities or organisations, and also their environment, which provide opportunities for empowering people, ensuring inclusiveness, advocating equality, and environmental sustainability. It is hoped this Symposium will be a meaningful conduit for social workers to share their expertise, experience, expectations, partnerships, and plans in working towards meeting the goals of UN Agenda 2030.

Call for Papers
MASW therefore calls on social work students, practitioners and educators to present papers on social work practice (skills, advocacy, knowledge and values), policy and planning, and social work research. They can share experiences from their own perspective as member states of ASEAN Social Work Consortium and other countries. The paper must consist component or implications of social work practice. Paper writing and presentation should focus on the following sub-themes and topics related to the respective sub-themes:

- **Sub-theme**: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Suggested topics for this sub-theme include:
  - Early childhood development
  - Accessibility to education
- **Sub-theme:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. Suggested topics for this sub-theme include:
  - Social entrepreneurship
  - Employment in the social work setting
  - Youth unemployment

- **Sub-theme:** Reduce inequality within and among countries. Suggested topics for this sub-theme include:
  - Social work intervention with migrant workers
  - Working with refugees and undocumented persons

- **Sub-theme:** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Suggested topics for this sub-theme include:
  - The role of social workers in Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)
  - Working with individuals, families, groups, and communities in response to climate change
  - Psychosocial impacts of climate change on individuals, families, groups, and communities.
  - Indigenous social work
  - Mid-life crisis
  - Disaster management
  - Aging
  - Health and mental health

- **Sub-theme:** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Suggested topics for this sub-theme include:
  - Reducing violent crime
  - Sex trafficking
  - Forced labor
  - Child welfare and protection
  - Access to justice and social services
  - Substance abuse and addiction
  - HIV and AIDS
  - Social protection
  - Crime prevention

- **Sub-theme:** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. Suggested topics for this sub-theme include:
  - International cooperation and collaboration
  - Developing multi-stakeholder partnerships to share knowledge, expertise, technology, and financial support.
  - Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and social work practice
  - Social development and administration
- Professional social work development
- Transnational social work practice

Tentative Program

DAY ONE                                April 27, 2019 (Sat)
8.30 am                                      Registration & Breakfast
9.00 am                                      Panel Group Discussion 1 (Malaysian Perspective on
                                               Selected Themes)
10.30 am                                     Tea Break
11.00 am to 12pm                             Opening Ceremony
12.00pm to 1pm                               Parallel Sessions 1
1pm                                          Lunch
2.30pm                                       Parallel Sessions 2
4.00pm                                       Tea
4.30pm                                       MASW AGM
8.00pm                                       Meet and Greet Session

DAY TWO                               April 28, 2019 (Sun)
8.30 am                                      Breakfast
9.00 am                                      Panel Group Discussion 2 (International Perspective on
                                               Selected Themes)
10.30 am                                     Tea Break
11.00 am to 1pm                              Parallel Sessions 3
1pm                                          Lunch
2.30pm                                       Parallel Sessions 4
4.00pm                                       Tea
4.30pm                                       Parallel Sessions 5
6.00pm                                       Closing Ceremony

SECRETARIAT

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