# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT**

STOCK CODE:0185COMPANY NAME:HSS Engineers BerhadFINANCIAL YEAR:December 31, 2024

#### OUTLINE:

#### SECTION A – DISCLOSURE ON MALAYSIAN CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Paragraph 15.25 of Bursa Malaysia Listing Requirements.

# SECTION B – DISCLOSURES ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES PERSUANT CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Appendix 4 (Corporate Governance Disclosures) of the Corporate Governance Guidelines issued by Bank Negara Malaysia. This section is only applicable for financial institutions or any other institutions that are listed on the Exchange that are required to comply with the above Guidelines.

# SECTION A - DISCLOSURE ON MALAYSIAN CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Paragraph 15.25 of Bursa Malaysia Listing Requirements.

#### Intended Outcome

Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

#### Practice 1.1

The board should set the company's strategic aims, ensure that the necessary resources are in place for the company to meet its objectives and review management performance. The board should set the company's values and standards, and ensure that its obligations to its shareholders and other stakeholders are understood and met.

Application : Applied	
Explanation on application of the practiceThe Board is respond directions, develor also ensures that adequacy of interr compliance, as were It is also responsi- behaviour throughThe Group has a purposes, which strategic objectiveThe Board is guided specific duties and be found on the CIn carrying out its some of its respond Audit and Risk Mation Co Committee are Statement of the AWhile the responsi risk management the ARMC, the Bo Group's "risk tole monitoring, contu- uncertainties of t regular reports from	mission statement outlining its primary goals and helps to guide employees towards achieving its

	The Board promotes the application of sustainability practices throughout the Group, the benefits of which are believed to be able to translate into better corporate performance and ensure the integrity in the Company's financial and non-financial reporting.
Explanation for :	
departure	
Large companies are requi	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
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Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

# Practice 1.2

A Chairman of the board who is responsible for instilling good corporate governance practices, leadership and effectiveness of the board is appointed.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	<ul> <li>The Board is led by Dato' Mohd Zakhir Siddiqy Bin Sidek, an Independent Non-Executive Chairman. The Chairman's role and responsibilities have been set forth in the Board Charter which is available on the Company's website at www.hssgroup.com.my.</li> <li>The Chairman of the Board is responsible for instilling good corporate governance ("CG") practices in the organisation and leads the Board in the adoption and implementation of the same by setting the tone at the top, as well as and managing the Board's effectiveness by focusing on strategy, governance and compliance in regard to public interest.</li> <li>The Chairman also leads the meeting pace and discussion in an effective manner, allowing for expression of views in the spirit of "constructive challenge", effective debate and contribution from respective Board members to facilitate informed decision-making by the Board and ensures that the decisions made are a representation of the Board as a whole.</li> </ul>
Explanation for departure	:
Large companies are req to complete the columns	uired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.
Measure	:
Timeframe	:

Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

## Practice 1.3

The positions of Chairman and CEO are held by different individuals.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board delegated responsibilities for the management of the Group, through the Executive Vice Chairman (" <b>EVC</b> ") and Group Chief Executive Officer (" <b>GCEO</b> "), to the executive management. There is a clear division of responsibilities between the roles of the Chairman and the EVC / GCEO, which are set out in the Board Charter available on the Company's website at <u>www.hssgroup.com.my</u> . The Chairman of the Board is Dato' Mohd Zakhir Siddiqy Bin Sidek who leads and manages the Board by focusing on strategy, governance and compliance. The Company understands the importance of a balance of power and authority, such that no one individual has unfettered decision-making powers. However, due to the resignation of GCEO in 2020, Tan Sri Ir. Kunasingam A/L V.Sittampalam, who is the EVC of the Company and the Board have identified a suitable, competent and experienced candidate to assume the role of GCEO to spearhead the Company. As at to-date, the EVC in his capacity of acting GCEO is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Group, organisational effectiveness and implementation of the Board policies, strategies and decisions approved and/or adopted by the Board. The EVC, together with the Management team manages the business of the Group in accordance with the strategic plans, instructions and directions of the Board.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.	
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

# Practice 1.4

The Chairman of the board should not be a member of the Audit Committee, Nomination Committee or Remuneration Committee

Note: If the board Chairman is not a member of any of these specified committees, but the board allows the Chairman to participate in any or all of these committees' meetings, by way of invitation, then the status of this practice should be a 'Departure'.		
Application :	Departure	
Explanation on : application of the practice		
Explanation for : departure	The Chairman has been a ARMC member since the date of his appointment to the Board on 17 April 2015.	
	Currently, the ARMC consists of three (3) members, all of whom are independent directors. The Company wishes to retain the current composition in the ARMC as majority of the ARMC members (including the Chairman) have the qualification from the Malaysian Institute of Accountants which allows the ARMC to function effectively as in all members are financially literate, possess the appropriate level of expertise and experience, and have strong understanding of the Group's businesses.	
	size and is optimum. Hence, the Board opined that it is not required to appoint a new Independent Director to the Board to replace the ARMC's membership held by the Chairman.	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged		
to complete the columns b	elow.	
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

# Practice 1.5

The board is supported by a suitably qualified and competent Company Secretary to provide sound governance advice, ensure adherence to rules and procedures, and advocate adoption of corporate governance best practices.

Application :	Applie	d
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board is supported by two (2) Company Secretaries, namely Ms Samantha Tai Yit Chan and Ms Tan Ai Ning from Boardroom Corporate Services Sdn Bhd, who are responsible to the Board for ensuring that Board procedures are complied with. Both Company Secretaries are professionally qualified and fulfil the qualification requirements under the Companies Act 2016. They are also fellow members of the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (MAICSA).	
	in the	les and responsibilities of the Company Secretaries are provided Board Charter, which is available on the Company's website at <u>assgroup.com.my</u> . Among others, the Company Secretaries:
	f a S F C S	Provide full access and services to the Directors in fulfilling their iduciary duties. Updates on regulatory changes such as amendments to Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad's (" <b>Bursa</b> <b>Gecurities</b> ") Main Market Listing Requirements ("Listing Requirements"), Companies Act 2016 and Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance (" <b>MCCG</b> ") were provided by the Company Secretaries to ensure that the Board adheres with relevant egislation and regulations at all times.
	a a s r s	Attend all the Board and Board Committees' meetings and ensure all discussions and deliberations during these meetings are accurately recorded and properly maintained. The Company Secretaries also act as the custodian of the Company's statutory records to ensure compliance with the statutory requirements such as Companies Act 2016 and Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities.
	i	Facilitate proper communications and ensure the effective flow of nformation between the Board, Board Committees and the Management.
	â	Constantly keep themselves abreast with the regulatory changes and developments through attendance at various trainings and seminars.

	(5) Play an important role in ensuring that the proceedings in general meetings are in place and properly managed. The Company Secretaries assist the Chairman and the Board members in facilitating the conduct of the meetings and ensure the minutes are properly recorded.
	(6) Facilitated the annual assessment on the effectiveness of the Board, Board Committees and individual Directors for financial year 2024. The results were collated and tabled at the NRC Meeting in February 2024 and subsequently to the Board for deliberation.
	The Board was satisfied with the overall performance and support rendered by the Company Secretaries in discharging their duties and responsibilities as the Officers of the Company.
Explanation for : departure	
	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns b	elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Every company is headed by a board, which assumes responsibility for the company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the company.

# Practice 1.6

Directors receive meeting materials, which are complete and accurate within a reasonable period prior to the meeting. Upon conclusion of the meeting, the minutes are circulated in a timely manner.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	: Board meetings and meetings of Board Committees for each financial year are scheduled in advance for Directors to plan their schedule ahead. Additional or special meetings may be convened as and when necessary to enable the Board and Board Committees to deliberate and decide on any urgent proposals/matters.
	Prior to the Board and Board Committee meetings, a formal and structured agenda together with the agenda/meeting papers are forwarded to the Directors via both hardcopies and electronic mail within a reasonable period prior to the Board and Board Committees' meetings to ensure the Directors/ Committees' members have a proper and relevant depiction of the issues in hand, thus improving the Board and/or Board Committees' performance and overall effectiveness in decision-making.
	The Notice of meeting of the Board Committees' meetings are sent to the Directors/ Committees' members via e-mail at least seven (7) days prior to a meeting. Exceptions may be made for certain ad-hoc or urgent instances when Directors unanimously consent to a shorter notice period and elapsed timeframe for the provision of agenda papers.
	All key deliberations and decisions at Board and Board Committee meetings are duly recorded in respective minutes of meetings, including dissenting views and Directors' abstention from deliberation and decision on related matters. The draft minutes of the meetings are circulated to the Board of Directors and respective Committee members for their comments and necessary action in a timely manner before tabling for confirmation at the next meetings. In addition, minutes of Board Committees' meetings are presented at the Board meetings for notation.
Explanation for departure	:
Large companies are req to complete the columns	uired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.

Measure :	
Timeframe :	

There is demarcation of responsibilities between the board, board committees and management.

There is clarity in the authority of the board, its committees and individual directors.

#### Practice 2.1

The board has a board charter which is periodically reviewed and published on the company's website. The board charter clearly identifies–

- the respective roles and responsibilities of the board, board committees, individual directors and management; and
- issues and decisions reserved for the board.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	The Board Charter is available on the Company's website at www.hssgroup.com.my, which has been incorporated into the Group's governance system and document policies that the Board has decided upon to meet, among others, its responsibilities, compliance, governance and leadership as a description tool of how the Board operates.
	The Board Charter provides the requirement and guidance for Directors to maintain the highest degree of integrity and professionalism while at the same time promoting transparency and accountability in their actions. The roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors, Senior Independent Non-Executive Director ( <b>"Senior INED</b> "), Chairman, EVC and GCEO are clearly outlined in the Board Charter.
	The Board Charter also sets out a formal schedule of matters reserved to the Board for consideration and decision as well as of those which the Board may delegate to the Board Committees.
	The Board Charter is periodically reviewed by the Board and updated based on the latest developments in the MCCG, Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities, Companies Act 2016 and other relevant regulations and guidelines, to ensure relevance and effectiveness.
	The Terms of References of the ARMC and NRC are available on the Company's website. The Board Charter and Terms of Reference of the Board Committees were last reviewed on 26 February 2025.
Explanation for departure	:
Large companies are requised to complete the columns	lired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.

Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

The board is committed to promoting good business conduct and maintaining a healthy corporate culture that engenders integrity, transparency and fairness.

The board, management, employees and other stakeholders are clear on what is considered acceptable behaviour and practice in the company.

#### Practice 3.1

The board establishes a Code of Conduct and Ethics for the company, and together with management implements its policies and procedures, which include managing conflicts of interest, preventing the abuse of power, corruption, insider trading and money laundering.

The Code of Conduct and Ethics is published on the company's website.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	All of the Group's relationships are underpinned by high ethical standards, as expressed in our Code of Ethics of Directors, Code of Conduct, Anti-Bribery Policy, Whistle-Blower Policy, Gift, Hospitality and Donation Policy as well as Conflict of Interest Policy (collectively referred to as " <b>the Codes and Policies</b> "), which set acceptable practices and guide the behaviour of directors, management and employees. All the employees including Directors of HSS Engineers Berhad Group are required to read the Codes and Policies and understand how to deal with situations involving ethical dilemmas to ensure that they continuously uphold high standards of conduct while performing their duties.
	The Group is committed to preventing any conflict of interest between its various business and activities and between its clients, directors and employees. It promotes high standards of care, skill and fair dealing to ensure that conflict of interest is properly managed and mitigated to achieve the Group's business standards. In pursuit of this, the Group has established an ethical work environment which underpins the expected standards of conduct by having in place a Conflict of Interest Policy. This would further assist in identifying and properly managing any actual, potential and perceived conflict of interest situation.
	The Codes and Policies also include, inter alia, matters relating to confidentiality, proper use of the Company's assets and properties as well as knowledge and information on prohibited activities or misconduct involving gifts, gratuities, bribes and corruption, insider trading and money laundering. The reporting of unlawful or unethical behaviour is encouraged, particularly through the Whistle-Blower Policy. The Codes and Policies are available on the Company's website at <u>www.hssgroup.com.my</u> .
Explanation for : departure	

Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

The board is committed to promoting good business conduct and maintaining a healthy corporate culture that engenders integrity, transparency and fairness.

The board, management, employees and other stakeholders are clear on what is considered acceptable behaviour and practice in the company.

#### Practice 3.2

The board establishes, reviews and together with management implements policies and procedures on whistleblowing.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Whistle-Blower Policy serves as a guide to all employees of the Group and other interested parties on the avenues available to raise genuine concerns relating to possible improprieties in matters of financial reporting, compliance, corruption, bribery and other malpractices, so that the aforesaid can be objectively investigated and addressed. In light of privacy and security concerns, all complaints/reports in relation to the Group are channelled to the ARMC Chairman at a personal email address, to which the identity of the whistleblower and the complaints/reports are to be kept private and confidential. The Whistle-Blower Policy is available on the Company's website at www.hssgroup.com.my.
Explanation for :	
departure	
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to complete the columns b	elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

# Practice 4.1

The board together with management takes responsibility for the governance of sustainability in the company including setting the company's sustainability strategies, priorities and targets.

The board takes into account sustainability considerations when exercising its duties including among others the development and implementation of company strategies, business plans, major plans of action and risk management.

Strategic management of material sustainability matters should be driven by senior management.

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice	One of the duties and responsibilities of the Board under its Board Charter is to ensure that the strategic plan of the Company supports long-term value creation, which includes strategies on economic, environmental and social considerations underpinning sustainability. In this respect, the EVC through the Executive Committee, assists the Board in overseeing the formulation and implementation of effective sustainability strategies within the Group.	
	The Sustainability Steering Committee which was formed at the management level, regularly reports the Group's sustainability matters including progress towards sustainability targets, material sustainability risks and related mitigation actions to the Senior Management for deliberations at its quarterly meetings.	
	Accordingly, the Board is ultimately accountable for ensuring that sustainability is integrated into the strategic direction of HSS Engineers Berhad Group and its operations. To achieve this, the Board continuously ensures that there is an effective governance framework for sustainability within the Group to reflect the Group's values and the manner in which the Group performs its daily work.	
	The Company's effort in upholding sustainability is based on the following as stipulated in the Sustainability Framework:	
	<ul> <li>Valuing/Developing Human Capital</li> <li>Connecting Community</li> <li>Transforming the Nation</li> <li>Sustaining the Environment</li> </ul>	
	The sustainability framework also provides an overarching structure that is useful for implementing sustainability throughout the business operations. These factors have helped the Company focuses on key areas in its sustainability journey for the maximum benefit. It also helps	

	<ul> <li>the Company to create long-term value for the business and stakeholders.</li> <li>The details of the Company's latest efforts towards sustainability are disclosed in the Sustainability Statement in the Annual Report 2024.</li> <li>The Sustainability Policy, which sets out the Company's continuous commitment towards sustainability, is available on the Company's</li> </ul>	
Explanation for : departure	website at <u>www.hssgroup.com.my</u> .	
-		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

#### Practice 4.2

The board ensures that the company's sustainability strategies, priorities and targets as well as performance against these targets are communicated to its internal and external stakeholders.

Application :	Departure
Explanation on : application of the practice	
Explanation for : departure	The Company has an established stakeholder engagement practice for respective stakeholder groups, which aims to drive long-term sustainability by providing opportunities to further align practices with societal needs and expectations. The Company remains committed to three (3) main sustainability pillars: Economic, Environmental and Social as suggested in Bursa Malaysia Sustainability Guide. The Company undertakes to employ innovative ideas in the construction industry to reduce environmental impact, improve safety, drives down costs and improves overall project executive and timeliness. The Company is also committed to leveraging expertise and remaining resilient in supporting the nation's infrastructure development initiatives. The Group's sustainability activities are communicated to its internal and external stakeholders through various engagement channels which include (i) Corporate website; (ii) Annual Report; and (iii) Sustainability Statement. Please refer to Sustainability Statement enclosed in the Annual Report 2024 of the Company for further details.
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

#### Practice 4.3

The board takes appropriate action to ensure they stay abreast with and understand the sustainability issues relevant to the company and its business, including climate-related risks and opportunities.

Applied
<ul> <li>In order to ensure the Board is kept abreast on the sustainability issues which are relevant to the Group's business and operations, the Board, from time to time are encouraged to attend seminar/training programmes which are conducted either internally or externally to gather more insights in relation to sustainability risks and opportunities.</li> <li>As at to-date, below are some of the trainings/seminars attended by the Directors in relation to sustainability;</li> <li>1. 19<sup>th</sup> ITS Asia Pacific Forum (Jakarta)</li> <li>2. ITS Australia – Summit 2024</li> <li>3. ITS Word Congress</li> <li>4. Suwon ITS Invitational Workshop 2024</li> <li>5. Symposium on Climate Resilient Infrastructure 2024</li> <li>6. Asia Water Conference and Exhibition 2024</li> <li>7. MWA Water Conference</li> <li>In addition, the Board would be kept updated on the Sustainability and ESG matters through reports or updates on governance to ensure the Board is keeps abreast of the latest developments and trends, in the local and global scene.</li> </ul>
red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

## Practice 4.4

Performance evaluations of the board and senior management include a review of the performance of the board and senior management in addressing the company's material sustainability risks and opportunities.

Application	:	Departure
Explanation on application of the practice	:	
Explanation for departure	:	A detailed study is required for developing the criteria for the performance evaluations of the Board and Senior Management to address the material sustainability risks and opportunities of the Group.
	-	ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columr	ns be	elow.
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

#### Practice 4.5- Step Up

The board identifies a designated person within management, to provide dedicated focus to manage sustainability strategically, including the integration of sustainability considerations in the operations of the company.

Note: The explanation on adoption of this practice should include a brief description of the responsibilities of the designated person and actions or measures undertaken pursuant to the role in the financial year. Application : Not Adopted **Explanation on** In the absence of a dedicated person focused on managing : adoption of the sustainability, the Company is working closely with their sustainability practice team, which is led by the Acting GCEO, consisting of key Senior Management from various departments to monitor and manage overall sustainability performance, assesses materiality and operational requirements as well as to ensure sustainability reporting disclosures meet regulatory requirements.

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.1

The Nomination Committee should ensure that the composition of the board is refreshed periodically. The tenure of each director should be reviewed by the Nomination Committee and annual re-election of a director should be contingent on satisfactory evaluation of the director's performance and contribution to the board.

Application	: Applied
Application Explanation on application of the practice	<ul> <li>Applied</li> <li>The NRC assists the Board in reviewing the required mix of skills, experience and other qualities of the Board on an annual basis, including core competencies which Non-Executive Directors should bring to the Board.</li> <li>When recommending the Directors for re-election, the NRC considered the following:-</li> <li>Director's performance and contribution based on self and peer assessment result from the Board's evaluation;</li> <li>Director's level of contribution to the Board's deliberations through several aspects, i.e. skills, experience, time commitment, strength in qualities;</li> <li>Level of independence demonstrated by the Director (if applicable) and the Director's ability to act in the best interests of the Company;</li> <li>Compatibility within the overall composition of the Board to match the profile and activities of the Company;</li> <li>Degree of familiarity with the Company's business activities and its operating environment; and</li> <li>Directors' Fit and Proper Policy, which is available on the Company's website at www.hssgroup.com.my.</li> </ul>
	On top of that, the Board has formalised and adopted the Directors' Fit and Proper Policy which serves as a guide to the NRC and the Board in conducting assessment on potential candidates for appointment as directors as well as existing directors who are seeking for re-election and re-appointment. In February 2024, premised on satisfactory assessment results, the Board endorsed the NRC's recommendation to seek shareholders' approval for re-election of the Directors who were due for retirement and have offered themselves for re-election at the Company's 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM which was held in June 2024.

	In February 2025, the NRC had conducted the fit and proper assessments on Directors who are due for retirement and seeking for re-election at the forthcoming Tenth (" <b>10</b> <sup>th</sup> ") AGM.	
Explanation for :		
departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.2

At least half of the board comprises independent directors. For Large Companies, the board comprises a majority independent directors.

Application	: Departure
Explanation on application of the practice	:
Explanation for departure	: The Board comprises of one (1) Independent Non-Executive Chairman, one (1) EVC, three (3) Executive Directors, one (1) Non-Independent Non-Executive Director, two (2) Independent Non-Executive Directors and one (1) Alternate Director. The Independent Directors represented 37.5% of the Board composition.
	The Board is of the view that the current Board composition provides appropriate balance in terms of skills, knowledge and industry experience to lead and oversee the Group. The nominees for the major shareholders are balanced by the presence of the Independent Directors on the Board whose collective views carry significant weight in the Board's deliberation and decision-making process. The presence of Independent Non-Executive Directors of the Company provides check and balance on the Board as they are able to provide unbiased and independent views by taking into account the interests of the Group and minority shareholders, challenge management proposals constructively and review management performance in meeting agreed objectives and targets.
	All Independent Non-Executive Directors meet the criteria for independence as prescribed under the Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities and no politician is appointed to the Board of the Company as at the date of this report.
	The NRC and the Board have upon their assessment for the financial year under review, concluded that the Independent Non-Executive Directors were independent in their judgment and decisions.
Large companies are re to complete the column	quired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged s below.
Measure	:

Timeframe	:	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

#### Practice 5.3

The tenure of an independent director does not exceed a cumulative term limit of nine years. Upon completion of the nine years, an independent director may continue to serve on the board as a non-independent director.

If the board intends to retain an independent director beyond nine years, it should provide justification and seek annual shareholders' approval through a two-tier voting process.

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice	At the 9 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Company held on 6 June 2024, the shareholders had via a two-tier voting process approved the continuation in office of Dato' Mohd Zakhir Siddiqy Bin Sidek, an independent director of the Company, who has served the Board beyond a cumulative term of nine (9) years. As approved by the shareholders, he shall continue to serve as Independent Non-Executive Director cum Chairman of the Company from 16 April 2024 until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting, which is set to be held on 11 June 2025. Subsequently, Dato' Mohd Zakhir Siddiqy Bin Sidek shall be redesignated as a Non-Independent Non-Executive Director on 11 June 2025.	
Explanation for : departure		
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.	
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.4 - Step Up

The board has a policy which limits the tenure of its independent directors to nine years without further extension.

Note: To qualify for adoption of this Step Up practice, a listed issuer must have a formal policy which limits the tenure of an independent director to nine years without further extension i.e. shareholders' approval to retain the director as an independent director beyond nine years.		
Application	:	Not Adopted
Explanation on adoption of the practice	:	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.5

Appointment of board and senior management are based on objective criteria, merit and with due regard for diversity in skills, experience, age, cultural background and gender.

Directors appointed should be able to devote the required time to serve the board effectively. The board should consider the existing board positions held by a director, including on boards of non-listed companies. Any appointment that may cast doubt on the integrity and governance of the company should be avoided.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	: In recommending the appointment of Directors and Senior Management, the NRC considers salient attributes such as mix of skills and experience, expertise, strengths, expected contribution, independence (where applicable), time commitment and the multiple facets of diversity to ensure a balanced mix of talents on the Board and Senior Management level.
	The Board, alongside the NRC, undertakes periodic reviews on the composition of the Board and Senior Management to ensure that they remain diverse, in the context of the needs of the Company's businesses and strategies.
	The current composition of the Board includes a diverse mix of skill sets, knowledge, experience (e.g. Accounting, Finance, Business, Management and Engineering) and age (range between 34 years old to 72 years old).
	The Board also undertook an annual review of the composition of the Board in terms of mix of skills, experience, age, gender and competencies. An annual evaluation of each of the Board Committees was also carried out by the members of the committees via self and peer evaluation to assess the effectiveness of each Board Committee member.
	The Board is satisfied with the level of time commitment given by all Directors in discharging their roles and responsibilities. All Directors' attendances at the respective meetings of the Board and Board Committees held during the financial year 2024 are set out in the Corporate Governance Overview Statement of the Annual Report 2024.
	The Company's Fit and Proper Policy s applicable to the Company and its subsidiaries. The aforesaid Policy serves as a guide to the NRC and the Board of Directors in their review and assessment of candidates for appointment/re-election/re-appointment to the Board.

	The candidates are assessed based on the process and criteria as set out in the Policy to determine their fitness and probity. The Fit and Proper Policy was last reviewed and approved by the Board on 26 February 2025 and is available on the Company's website at www.hssgroup.com.my.
Explanation for :	
departure	
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

#### Practice 5.6

In identifying candidates for appointment of directors, the board does not solely rely on recommendations from existing board members, management or major shareholders. The board utilises independent sources to identify suitably qualified candidates.

If the selection of candidates was based on recommendations made by existing directors, management or major shareholders, the Nominating Committee should explain why these source(s) suffice and other sources were not used.

Application :	Departure
Explanation on : application of the practice	
Explanation for : departure	The current process with regards to the appointment of new Director to the Board is based on the recommendation of the NRC. The Board relies on the existing network and referrals from existing Directors, Senior Management and major shareholders as primary means to source for new Director as they represent a tried and tested method of sourcing high-calibre director with a sound understanding of the business. The appointment process is carried out based on methodical and robust process undertaken by the NRC. Candidate will be thoroughly assessed based on his/her competence, integrity, character, time commitment and experience as required pursuant to Paragraph 2.20A of the Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities. The Board will consider external and independent sources if applicable.
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.7

The board should ensure shareholders have the information they require to make an informed decision on the appointment and reappointment of a director. This includes details of any interest, position or relationship that might influence, or reasonably be perceived to influence, in a material respect their capacity to bring an independent judgement to bear on issues before the board and to act in the best interests of the listed company as a whole. The board should also provide a statement as to whether it supports the appointment or reappointment of the candidate and the reasons why.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	During the year under review, in order for the shareholders to make an informed decision on the re-election of the retiring Directors at the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company, the Company had included statements to support the re-election of Directors together with the justifications under the Explanatory Note 3 in the Notice of the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM dated 30 April 2024.
	The re-election of each Director was put for voting under separate resolutions during the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company. The profile of Directors who were standing for re-election at the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM were set out in pages 22, 27 and 28 of the Annual Report 2023 and statement to support the re-election of directors were set out in the explanatory note of the notice of annual general meeting on pages 161 and 162 of Annual Report 2023.
	The latest profile of all the Directors with regards to age, gender, nationality, date of appointment, attendance at Board meetings, qualifications and directorships in other companies, skills and experience are set out in the Company's Annual Report 2024.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

# Practice 5.8

The Nominating Committee is chaired by an Independent Director or the Senior Independent Director.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	<ul> <li>Dato' Sri Ir. Hj. Ismail Bin Md.Salleh, the Senior INED of the Company, is the Chairman of the NRC.</li> <li>The Board recognises the need for the NRC Chairman to be independent to ensure objectivity and independent judgement during deliberations.</li> <li>During the year under review, the Chairman led the NRC in carrying out the following activities to discharge its duties in accordance with the Terms of Reference of NRC:</li> <li>(a) Reviewed and recommended the NRC's Terms of Reference to the Board for approval and adoption;</li> <li>(b) Reviewed and recommended to the Board for approval, the reelection and retirement by rotation of Directors in line with the Fit and Proper Policy at the 9<sup>th</sup> AGM;</li> <li>(c) Conducted the annual assessment of the Board, the Board Committees and the individual Directors;</li> <li>(d) Reviewed the terms of office of ARMC and performance of the ARMC as well as each ARMC member;</li> <li>(e) Reviewed the independence of Independent Directors;</li> <li>(f) Reviewed the remuneration policy and remuneration framework;</li> <li>(i) Reviewed the remuneration policy and remuneration framework;</li> <li>(i) Reviewed the remuneration packages of the Executive Directors, Non-Executive Directors and Senior Management of the Company;</li> <li>(j) Reviewed and recommended the revised Directors' Fit and Proper Policy to the Board for approval and adoption; and</li> <li>(k) Reviewed and recommended the nomination of new Directors of HSS Engineering Sdn Bhd and SMHB Engineering Sdn Bhd to the Board for approval.</li> </ul>
Explanation for : departure	

Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

#### Practice 5.9

The board comprises at least 30% women directors.

Application :	Departure
Explanation on : application of the practice	
Explanation for : departure	<ul> <li>The Board has two (2) female representatives, namely Puan Ir. Sharifah Azlina Bt Raja Kamal Pasmah and Ms Vanessa A/P Santhakumar, representing 25% of the total Board members.</li> <li>The Company has in place a Diversity Policy which outlines its approach to achieving and maintaining diversity (including gender diversity) on its Board of Directors and Senior Management positions.</li> <li>The Board recognises the challenges in achieving the right balance of diversity in the Company. This will be done over time, taking into account the present size, the valuable knowledge and experience of the present Senior Management and the evolving challenges to the Company over time.</li> </ul>
Large companies are requ to complete the columns l	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

#### Practice 5.10

The board discloses in its annual report the company's policy on gender diversity for the board and senior management.

Application	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	<ul> <li>The Company has in place a Diversity Policy which outlines its approach to achieving and maintaining diversity (including gender diversity) on its Board of Directors and Senior Management positions.</li> <li>The Company recognises the importance of promoting diversity at all levels of its workforce. In line with the Company's Diversity Policy, the Company is committed to manage diversity and promote inclusiveness as a means of enhancing the Company's performance by recognising and utilising contribution of diverse skills and talents from its directors, officers and employees.</li> <li>As of the date of this report, woman Directors represent 25% of the total Board members of the Company.</li> </ul>
Explanation for departure	
Large companies are requ to complete the columns	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.
Measure	
Timeframe	

Stakeholders are able to form an opinion on the overall effectiveness of the board and individual directors.

#### Practice 6.1

The board should undertake a formal and objective annual evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the board, its committees and each individual director. The board should disclose how the assessment was carried out its outcome, actions taken and how it has or will influence board composition.

For Large Companies, the board engages an independent expert at least every three years, to facilitate objective and candid board evaluation.

-	Note: For a Large Company to qualify for adoption of this practice, it must undertake annual board evaluation and engage an independent expert at least every three years to facilitate the evaluation.	
Application	: Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	<ul> <li>The Board has adopted a formal and objective annual evaluation on the performance of the Board and Board Committees. The assessment too into account the contribution and performance of the Directors in relation to their competencies, time commitment and experience in meeting the needs of the Company. The NRC conducted Board assessment via questionnaires on yearly basis. The results and recommendations from the evaluation of the Board and Board Committees are reported to the Board for consideration and action.</li> <li>The results of individual Directors' evaluation is also used by NRC to review, where appropriate, the composition of the Board and Board</li> </ul>	
	Committees. The following key criteria were used in the assessment of the effectiveness of individual Directors of the Company during the year under review:- • Integrity – disclosure of conflict of interest with the Group (if any	
	<ul> <li>and ethical behaviour in managing businesses;</li> <li>Professionalism – ability to provide opinion and explanation objectively, technically sound and tactfully on issues discussed;</li> <li>Availability – responsiveness to enquiries and providing assistance and advice to the Board when outside the boardroom;</li> <li>Business knowledge – sharing of information or insights to Group' businesses and formulation of strategies;</li> <li>Meeting attendance – regularly and timely attendance of Board</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Meeting attendance a regularly and timely attendance of board meetings;</li> <li>Meeting preparation – well prepared prior to the meetings b reading agenda papers to have a proper and relevant depiction of the issues at hand and understands the technical requirements, ris and management of the Company's business by providing concret</li> </ul>	

	advice and oversight to the Management on various opportunities and risks;
	• Board participation – participates actively in Board activities and work constructively with peers;
	• Relationship with Board members – maintaining good relationship with each Board members and able to communicate persuasively
	in a clear and non-confrontational manner; and
	<ul> <li>Public Relations – exercise duty of care and professionalism when maintaining contact with all stakeholders.</li> </ul>
	Key criteria used in the assessment of the effectiveness of each Independent Directors during the year under review included:
	<ul> <li>Criteria of "independence" based on the Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities;</li> </ul>
	Attendance of Meetings; and     Tonuro (Longth of Service as Independent Director in the Company)
	• Tenure/ Length of Service as Independent Director in the Company.
	In line with the assessment of the Board effectiveness, an assessment on the Board Committees as a function of the Board is also carried out to evaluate the effectiveness of the Board Committees in meeting the objectives for which they are established. Board Committee members will assess their roles in assisting the Board to fulfil its responsibilities as delegated to the respective Board Committee in accordance with its Terms of Reference.
	Key criteria used in the assessment of the effectiveness of the Board Committees during the year under review were:
	Member's performance;
	The right composition of the committee; and
	• Member's knowledge, experience and expertise in fulfilling their role.
	The Board was satisfied with the outcome of the assessment and that the skills and experience of the current Directors met the requirements of the skills matrix and that the Chairman possesses the leadership to safeguard the stakeholders' interest and ensure the Group's performance. The Board also recognised that the ARMC and NRC have the right composition and sufficient knowledge of relevant areas, and thus have been effective in discharging their duties.
	Hence, the Board will continue to review the efficiency and effectiveness of the Board evaluation process to ensure it remains as a valuable feedback mechanism for improving Board effectiveness, maximising strengths and highlighting areas for further improvement.
Explanation for : departure	

to complete the columns	-	v. Non-large companies are encouraged
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

The level and composition of remuneration of directors and senior management take into account the company's desire to attract and retain the right talent in the board and senior management to drive the company's long-term objectives.

Remuneration policies and decisions are made through a transparent and independent process.

## Practice 7.1

The board has remuneration policies and procedures to determine the remuneration of directors and senior management, which takes into account the demands, complexities and performance of the company as well as skills and experience required. The remuneration policies and practices should appropriately reflect the different roles and responsibilities of non-executive directors, executive directors and senior management. The policies and procedures are periodically reviewed and made available on the company's website.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	The Company has in place a Remuneration Policy which sets out the remuneration structure, remuneration elements and approval process for recommending the remuneration package of the Directors (including the remuneration of Non-Executive Directors which requires shareholders' approval) and Senior Management of the Group. The Remuneration Policy serves as a guide to set remuneration at an optimum level which is sufficient to attract and retain Directors and Senior Management to motivate them to work towards their highest performance. When reviewing the structure and level of Directors' fees and benefits, the NRC takes into consideration of Directors' roles and responsibilities and compared against the peers' practices, demands, complexities and performance of the Company in determining the level of remuneration. The remuneration package of the EVC, GCEO and Senior Management are being reviewed annually by the NRC, taking into consideration the Company and Group's performance, the individual performance against the key performance indicators determined as well as the required qualification, skills and experience and comparable market statistics. Directors' fees and benefits payable to the Directors of the Company are subject to the shareholders' approval at the Company's 10 <sup>th</sup> AGM in
	accordance with Section 230 of the Companies Act 2016. The Remuneration Policy was last reviewed on 26 February 2025 and is
Explanation for : departure	made available for reference at <u>www.hssgroup.com.my</u> .

to complete the columns	-	v. Non-large companies are encouraged
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

The level and composition of remuneration of directors and senior management take into account the company's desire to attract and retain the right talent in the board and senior management to drive the company's long-term objectives.

Remuneration policies and decisions are made through a transparent and independent process.

## Practice 7.2

The board has a Remuneration Committee to implement its policies and procedures on remuneration including reviewing and recommending matters relating to the remuneration of board and senior management.

The Committee has written Terms of Reference which deals with its authority and duties and these Terms are disclosed on the company's website.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	one (1) Non-Independent Non-Executive Director. The Chairman of NRC is Dato' Sri Ir. Hj. Ismail bin Md.Salleh, the Senior INED of the Company. The Terms of Reference of the NRC is made available on the Company's website at <u>www.hssgroup.com</u> .
	The NRC is responsible for recommending the remuneration framework for Non-Executive Directors as well as the remuneration package of Executive Directors and key Senior Management. The remuneration package of Non-Executive Directors, including Non-Executive Chairman, should be determined by the Board of Directors as a whole and the individuals concerned should abstain from discussion and voting on decision in respect of their own remuneration, prior to the tabling of such for shareholders' approval at the Company's AGM. The Board is satisfied that the NRC had discharged its duties and responsibilities in accordance with its Terms of Reference.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requied to complete the columns b	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged pelow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of directors and senior management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the company's performance.

## Practice 8.1

There is detailed disclosure on named basis for the remuneration of individual directors. The remuneration breakdown of individual directors includes fees, salary, bonus, benefits in-kind and other emoluments.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	In line with the best corporate governance practice, the remuneration of each individual Director on named basis is made transparent and accessible to shareholders and stakeholders. The details of the remuneration of each Director, comprising remuneration received from the Company and subsidiary companies for the financial year ended 31 December 2024 are set out in the table below.

				Company ('000)						Group ('000)						
No	Name	Directorate	Fee	Allowance	Salary	Bonus	Benefits-in- kind	Other emoluments	Total	Fee	Allowance	Salary	Bonus	Benefits-in- kind	Other emoluments	Total
1	Dato' Mohd Zakhir Siddiqy Bin Sidek	Independent Director	108,000	11,000	0	0	0	0	119,000	108,000	11,000	0	0	0	0	119,000
2	Tan Sri Ir. Kunasingam A/L V.Sittampalam	Executive Director	0	366,000	1,110,000	0	0	167,280	1,643,280	0	366,000	1,110,000	0	0	167,280	1,643,280
3	Datuk Ir. Teo Chok Boo	Executive Director	0	231,000	960,000	0	0	144,780	1,335,780	0	231,000	960,000	0	0	144,780	1,335,780
4	Ir. Sharifah Azlina Bt Raja Kamal Pasmah	Executive Director	0	144,960	540,000	0	0	82,217	767,177	0	144,960	540,000	0	0	82,217	767,177
5	Ir. Prem Kumar A/L M Vasudevan	Executive Director	0	117,600	600,000	0	0	90,780	808,380	0	117,600	600,000	0	0	90,780	808,380
6	Dato' Sri Ir.Hj.Ismail Bin Md.Salleh	Independent Director	96,000	14,000	0	0	0	0	110,000	96,000	14,000	0	0	0	0	110,000
7	Tai Keat Chai	Independent Director	96,000	14,000	0	0	0	0	110,000	96,000	14,000	0	0	0	0	110,000
8	Vanessa A/P Santhakumar	Non- Independent Non-Executive Director	96,000	8,000	0	0	0	0	104,000	96,000	8,000	0	0	0	0	104,000
9	Ir. Syed Mohamed Adnan Bin Mansor Alhabshi	Alternate Director to Datuk Ir. Teo Chok Boo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	84,000	312,000	0	0	67,895	463,895

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of directors and senior management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the company's performance.

## Practice 8.2

The board discloses on a named basis the top five senior management's remuneration component including salary, bonus, benefits in-kind and other emoluments in bands of RM50,000.

Application	Departure
Explanation on application of the practice	
Explanation for departure	<ul> <li>The Board is of the opinion that the disclosure of Senior Management's remuneration would not be in the best interest of the Group as it would affect the Group's efforts in talent retention and management within the competitive industry as well as for confidentiality reason.</li> <li>In accordance with the Remuneration Policy, the Board recognises the importance of compensating Senior Management with a competitive remuneration package based on the following:</li> <li>Scope of responsibilities, jobs requirements and accountability;</li> <li>Experience and relevant competency;</li> <li>Salary level at relevant comparators and at companies of similar size and within the same industry; and</li> <li>Remuneration of different groups of employees within the Group.</li> <li>The Board ensures that the current remuneration packages for Senior Management are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders from a growth perspective, since it helps motivate and retain talented and committed Senior Management staff of the Group.</li> </ul>
Large companies are request to complete the columns	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.
Measure	
Timeframe	

		Position	Company							
No	Name		Salary	Allowance	Bonus	Benefits	Other emoluments	Total		
1	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.						
2	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.						
3	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.						
4	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.						
5	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.						

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of directors and senior management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the company's performance.

## Practice 8.3 - Step Up

Companies are encouraged to fully disclose the detailed remuneration of each member of senior management on a named basis.

Application	:	Not Adopted
Explanation on adoption of the practice	:	

			Company ('000)							
No	Name	Position	Salary	Allowance	Bonus	Benefits	Other emoluments	Total		
1	Input info here	Input info here								
2	Input info here	Input info here								
3	Input info here	Input info here								
4	Input info here	Input info here								
5	Input info here	Input info here								

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

## Practice 9.1

The Chairman of the Audit Committee is not the Chairman of the board.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	Mr Tai Keat Chai, an Independent Non-Executive Director, is the Chairman of the ARMC, whilst the Chairman of the Board is Dato' Mohd Zakhir Siddiqy Bin Sidek. Having the Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the ARMC assumed by different individuals allows the Board to review the ARMC's findings and recommendations objectively. Mr Tai Keat Chai is a member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and the Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA). His possession of sound financial understanding and experience equips him as the Chairman of the ARMC with the ability to lead discussions and deliberations and ultimately be satisfied that the end result fairly reflects the understanding of the ARMC.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

## Practice 9.2

The Audit Committee has a policy that requires a former partner of the external audit firm of the listed company to observe a cooling-off period of at least three years before being appointed as a member of the Audit Committee.

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board recognised the need to uphold the independence of the External Auditors from the Board and Management. The ARMC's Terms of Reference specifically sets out the requirement for a former key audit partner to observe a cooling off period of at least three (3) years before being appointed as a member of the ARMC. Presently, none of the members of the ARMC is a former key audit partners.	
Explanation for : departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

## Practice 9.3

The Audit Committee has policies and procedures to assess the suitability, objectivity and independence of the external auditor to safeguard the quality and reliability of audited financial statements.

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Terms of Reference of the ARMC includes the procedure to assess the suitability, objectivity and independence of the External Auditors of the Company. The ARMC also reviewed the nature and extent of non- audit services rendered by the External Auditors during the financial year and concluded that the provision of these services did not compromise their independence and objectivity as External Auditors of the Company.	
	During the year under review, Messrs KPMG PLT was re-appointed as the External Auditors of the Company. The ARMC had reviewed and assessed the suitability and independence of the External Auditors and was satisfied with their competence, audit quality and resource capacity in relation to the audit services provided.	
	Based on the outcome of the latest annual assessment of External Auditors, the ARMC recognised that Messrs KPMG PLT had performed satisfactorily throughout the financial year ended 31 December 2024 and recommended to the Board that the re-appointment of Messrs KPMG PLT as External Auditors of the Company be tabled for shareholders' approval at the forthcoming AGM.	
	The non-audit services engaged with Messrs KPMG PLT and its affiliate company during the financial year under review comprised of the review of the Company's quarterly announcement on financial information to Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad.	
	The ARMC also obtained written assurance from the External Auditors that they are and have been independent throughout the conduct of the audit engagement in accordance with the terms of all relevant professional and regulatory requirements.	
Explanation for : departure		

Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.			
Measure	:		
Timeframe	:		

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

# Practice 9.4 - Step Up

The Audit Committee should comprise solely of Independent Directors.

Application :	Adopted
Explanation on : adoption of the practice	The ARMC comprises three (3) experienced and qualified members, all of whom are Independent Non-Executive Directors.

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

## Practice 9.5

Collectively, the Audit Committee should possess a wide range of necessary skills to discharge its duties. All members should be financially literate, competent and are able to understand matters under the purview of the Audit Committee including the financial reporting process.

All members of the Audit Committee should undertake continuous professional development to keep themselves abreast of relevant developments in accounting and auditing standards, practices and rules.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	<ul> <li>All the members of the ARMC have the necessary financial experience, commercial expertise, capital markets skills and relevant industry experience required to effectively discharge their duties and responsibilities and provide an effective level of challenge to management. They also undertake ongoing trainings and development to keep abreast of latest changes and developments in the business environment, as detailed under Directors' Training section of the Corporate Governance Overview Statement of the Annual Report 2024.</li> <li>The Chairman of the ARMC, Mr Tai Keat Chai and ARMC member, Dato' Mohd Zakhir Siddiqy Bin Sidek are members of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants (MIA) with relevant accounting or related experience and financial literacy to effectively discharge their duties whilst Dato' Sri Ir. Hj. Ismail Bin Md.Salleh possesses the extensive working experience and knowledge in the construction industry.</li> <li>Based on the annual evaluation in regard to the term of office and performance of the ARMC for the financial year ended 31 December 2024, the Board is satisfied that the ARMC had carried out its duties and responsibilities effectively as per its Terms of Reference and each member of the ARMC has added value and contributed to the overall</li> </ul>
Explanation for	effectiveness of the ARMC.
departure	
	uired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns	

Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

#### Practice 10.1

The board should establish an effective risk management and internal control framework.

Application	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	: The Board is responsible for reviewing and approving the Group's overall risk philosophy and risk appetite, recognising and understanding the major risks to which the Group is exposed to and ensuring appropriate systems are in place to effectively control, manage and mitigate those risks.	
	The Company has in place an Enterprise Risk Management Framework and has adopted a Risk Management Policy for identifying, evaluating and managing significant risks which may affect the Group's business objectives. The Enterprise Risk Management Framework provides a reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatements, losses or frauds that may affect the Group's financial position or its operations.	
	The Company engages the services of established consulting companies specialising in internal audit services to undertake the duties and responsibilities of the internal auditors, as well as to assume the Internal Audit function of the Group and of the Company. Its function is independent of the activities or operations of other operating units and have unrestricted access to the ARMC.	
	Centegy Governance Advisory Sdn Bhd is currently the Internal Auditors of the Group, who undertakes the responsibility to review the effectiveness and efficiency of the Group's internal control framework.	
	The Board, assisted by the ARMC, reviews and monitors the key risks identified by the internal auditors over areas such as strategic, business, operation, reporting and compliance of the Group. The internal auditors would present their findings along with the recommendations and considerations for improvements and mitigation of risks and report to the ARMC. Any significant changes to existing risks or emerging risks of such areas in the Group together with the appropriate actions and/or strategies to be taken will be brought to the attention of the Board by the Chairman of the ARMC.	
	The Board would continue to monitor and review the effectiveness and adequacy of the Group's risk management and internal control framework to ensure they continue to be resilient and reliable.	

	The Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control of the Group on pages 84 to 86 of the Annual Report 2024 provides an overview of the risk management practices and internal controls implemented by the Group.		
Explanation for :			
departure			
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged			
to complete the columns below.			
Measure :			
Timeframe :			

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

#### Practice 10.2

The board should disclose the features of its risk management and internal control framework, and the adequacy and effectiveness of this framework.

Applied	
The Board, assisted by the ARMC, has established the Enterprise Risk Management Framework to formulate and review the Group's risk management and internal control policies and risk strategies. All key risks (including detailed assessment of risks as well as the corresponding mitigating controls implemented or to be implemented) were captured and reviewed by the respective support units. Subsequently, all key risks were consolidated and presented to the Management of the Company and thereafter, the half-yearly internal audit reports will be tabled to the ARMC for review. The Board had received assurances from the Acting GCEO that to the best of his knowledge, the Group's risk management and internal control system is operating effectively in all material aspects based on the Enterprise Risk Management Framework of the Group. Further information on the Group's risk management and internal control framework are set out in the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control of the Annual Report 2024.	
ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged	
elow.	

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

### Practice 10.3 - Step Up

The board establishes a Risk Management Committee, which comprises a majority of independent directors, to oversee the company's risk management framework and policies.

Application	:	Not Adopted
Explanation on adoption of the practice	:	

Companies have an effective governance, risk management and internal control framework and stakeholders are able to assess the effectiveness of such a framework.

## Practice 11.1

The Audit Committee should ensure that the internal audit function is effective and able to function independently.

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice	The ARMC of the Company is responsible for monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of the Group's Internal Audit function. The Internal Audit function is independent and is led by the internal auditors, which is outsourced to Centegy Governance Advisory Sdn Bhd, an independent consulting company specialised in internal audit services, who has a direct reporting line to the ARMC and is not involved in the operations of the group, for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.	
	The Internal Audit function's principal role is to assist the ARMC and the Board in conducting independent assessment and systematic reviews on the Group's internal control system and governance practices, so as to provide reasonable assurance on the adequacy, integrity and effectiveness of the Group's overall system of internal controls, risk management and governance. The ARMC reviews the adequacy of the scope, functions, competency and resources of the Internal Audit function to ensure that it is adequately resourced with competent and proficient internal auditors.	
	The internal auditors provides recommendations to mitigate the risks or weaknesses and enhance the governance, risk management and control processes within the Group. The results of the audits were tabled and reviewed by the ARMC. The respective head of departments were made responsible to ensure that corrective actions on the reported risks or weaknesses were taken within the required timeframes.	
	The ARMC will continuously evaluate the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Group's Internal Audit function to ensure its activities are performed independently and with impartiality and due professional care.	
	For further details on the key activities of the Internal Audit function, please refer to the ARMC Report of the Annual Report 2024.	
Explanation for : departure		

Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.				
Measure	:			
Timeframe	:			

Companies have an effective governance, risk management and internal control framework and stakeholders are able to assess the effectiveness of such a framework.

# Practice 11.2

The board should disclose-

- whether internal audit personnel are free from any relationships or conflicts of interest, which could impair their objectivity and independence;
- the number of resources in the internal audit department;
- name and qualification of the person responsible for internal audit; and
- whether the internal audit function is carried out in accordance with a recognised framework.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	: The internal auditors of the Group report directly to the ARMC. Such reporting relationship promotes independence and objectivity, which assures adequate consideration of audit recommendations and planned corrective actions and gives the internal auditors the authority needed for full, free and unrestricted access to all operations, records, property and personnel within the Group.
	The Internal Audit function of the Group is outsourced to Centegy Governance Advisory Sdn Bhd (" <b>Centegy</b> ") and the current engagement team of Centegy is led by Steven Yee, Governance, Risk and Compliance (" <b>GRC</b> ") Lead Consulting Director. He is a professional member of the Institute of Internal Auditors Malaysia and MICPA (Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants) and obtained his professional training in the Assurance and Business Advisory unit of Price Waterhouse, now known as PricewaterhouseCoopers. At present, he is the founder and Managing Director of Centegy Governance Consulting Group.
	All internal audit work carried out by the Internal Audit function is in accordance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing set by the Institute of Internal Auditors.
	All the engagement team personnel of Centegy have affirmed to the ARMC that they are free from any relationship or conflicts of interest which could impair their objectivity and independence during the course of their audit work.
Explanation for departure	:
Large companies are re to complete the columi	equired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged ns below.

Measure	
Timeframe	

There is continuous communication between the company and stakeholders to facilitate mutual understanding of each other's objectives and expectations.

Stakeholders are able to make informed decisions with respect to the business of the company, its policies on governance, the environment and social responsibility.

#### Practice 12.1

The board ensures there is effective, transparent and regular communication with its stakeholders.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board maintains continuous dialogue with shareholders, directed towards ensuring a mutual understanding of objectives. The Company enjoys a relatively high level of coverage and exposure to the investment community.
	When the Company makes announcements on major corporate exercise, it is typically accompanied by a press release. Press conferences are typically held following general meetings approving such major corporate exercise which provides an opportunity for the Management team to meet existing and/or potential investors in a concentrated set of meetings.
	The Company has in place the Corporate Disclosure Policies and Procedures which was reviewed on 26 February 2025.
	The Company has established a corporate website including the creation of an Investor Relations (" <b>IR</b> ") web portal to serve as a channel of communication with the existing and/or potential investors by including all the announcements made by the Company, share price information, newsroom and financial information. The IR function is managed by Corporate Communications department of the Company.
	The spokespersons of the Company (which comprise EVC, GCEO, Executive Directors, Group Chief Financial Officer or the senior financial officer appointed to oversee the financial matters of the Group, and any other officers as may be authorised by the EVC or GCEO) communicates with constituents and responds to questions in relation to the corporate vision, strategies, developments, future prospects, financial results and plans, operational matters and etc.
Explanation for : departure	

Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.			
Measure	:		
Timeframe	:		

There is continuous communication between the company and stakeholders to facilitate mutual understanding of each other's objectives and expectations.

Stakeholders are able to make informed decisions with respect to the business of the company, its policies on governance, the environment and social responsibility.

#### Practice 12.2

Large companies are encouraged to adopt integrated reporting based on a globally recognised framework.

Application	:	Not applicable – Not a Large Company
Explanation on application of the practice	:	
Explanation for departure	:	
Large companies are i to complete the colun		ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

## Practice 13.1

Notice for an Annual General Meeting should be given to the shareholders at least 28 days prior to the meeting.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	In 2024, the Company issued the Notice of the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM to its shareholders on 30 April 2024, i.e. at least 28 clear days prior to the AGM which was held on 6 June 2024. The Notice of the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM was also published in a nationally circulated newspaper as required under the Listing Requirements of Bursa Securities. This is to ensure that shareholders are given ample time to read through and consider the resolutions to be resolved.
	The Notice of the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM with the detailed Agenda and Administrative Details with regards to the information on the conduct of the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM were also announced to Bursa Securities. In addition to the explanatory notes to the ordinary and/or special business as set out in the Notice of the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM, the Company also included explanatory notes to the shareholders regarding their entitlement to attend the AGM and their rights to appoint a proxy or corporate representative, whichever applicable.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requite to complete the columns b	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged pelow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

## Practice 13.2

All directors attend General Meetings. The Chair of the Audit, Nominating, Risk Management and other committees provide meaningful response to questions addressed to them.

Application :	Departure
Explanation on : application of the practice	
Explanation for : departure	Ms Vanessa A/P Santhakumar did not attend the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company which was held physically on 6 June 2024 at 2024 at Banyan Room, Ground Floor, Sime Darby Convention Centre (SDCC), 1A, Jalan Bukit Kiara 1, Bukit Kiara, 60000 Kuala Lumpur, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur. Save for the above, all other Directors attended the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM to engage directly with the shareholders. Shareholders were invited to ask questions both on the resolutions being proposed before putting them to vote as well as on matters relating to the Company's operations in general and meaningful responses were given to the questions raised.
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

## Practice 13.3

Listed companies should leverage technology to facilitate-

- voting including voting in absentia; and
- remote shareholders' participation at general meetings.

Listed companies should also take the necessary steps to ensure good cyber hygiene practices are in place including data privacy and security to prevent cyber threats.

Application :	Departure	
Explanation on : application of the practice		
Explanation for : departure	The 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM of the Company was held in Kuala Lumpur, a location which was easily accessible by the Shareholders. Shareholders who were unable to attend and vote at the AGM were encouraged to submit the proxy forms to appoint their representatives to attend the AGM, which allowed them to vote in absence. Taking into account the intended outcome of this practice, the Board will continue to monitor and assess the practically to facilitate remote shareholders' participation and voting in absentia, and may consider implementing the same in future.	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

## Practice 13.4

The Chairman of the board should ensure that general meetings support meaningful engagement between the board, senior management and shareholders. The engagement should be interactive and include robust discussion on among others the company's financial and non-financial performance as well as the company's long-term strategies. Shareholders should also be provided with sufficient opportunity to pose questions during the general meeting and all the questions should receive a meaningful response.

undertaken to ensure the	f adoption of this practice should include a discussion on measures general meeting is interactive, shareholders are provided with sufficient ons and the questions are responded to.
Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Chairman recognises the importance of general meetings as the primary platform for two-way communication between the Board members, senior management and shareholders of the Company for a meaningful interactions, effective communication and constructive feedback from the shareholders.
	During the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM, the EVC gave a brief overview on the Group's financial and operational highlights, tender book, future prospects, overall growth and future strategy.
	The Chairman ensured that sufficient opportunities were given to the shareholders and proxies to raise questions during the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM. All questions raised were addressed and answered accordingly.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

## Practice 13.5

The board must ensure that the conduct of a virtual general meeting (fully virtual or hybrid) support meaningful engagement between the board, senior management and shareholders. This includes having in place the required infrastructure and tools to support among others, a smooth broadcast of the general meeting and interactive participation by shareholders. Questions posed by shareholders should be made visible to all meeting participants during the meeting itself.

Note: The explanation of adoption of this practice should include a discussion on measures undertaken to ensure the general meeting is interactive, shareholders are provided with sufficient opportunity to pose questions and the questions are responded to. Further, a listed issuer should also provide brief reasons on the choice of the meeting platform.

Application	: Not applicable – only physical general meetings were conducted in the financial year
Explanation on application of the practice	:
Explanation for departure	:
Large companies are re to complete the column	uired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.
Measure	:
Timeframe	:

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

## Practice 13.6

Minutes of the general meeting should be circulated to shareholders no later than 30 business days after the general meeting.

Note: The publication of Key Matters Discussed is not a substitute for the circulation of minutes of general meeting.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The Minutes of the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM was prepared and published on the Company's corporate website within 30 business days after the 9 <sup>th</sup> AGM held on 6 June 2024.
Explanation for departure	:	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

# SECTION B – DISCLOSURES ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES PERSUANT CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Appendix 4 (Corporate Governance Disclosures) of the Corporate Governance Guidelines issued by Bank Negara Malaysia. This section is only applicable for financial institutions or any other institutions that are listed on the Exchange that are required to comply with the above Guidelines.

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