

# **APHR Consultancy Notice**

Multimedia Consultant (Hybrid Services) for the launch of FoRB Toolkit and FFM report in Malaysia

## A. Project Title

Multimedia Consultant (Hybrid Services) for the launch of FoRB Toolkit and FFM report in Malaysia.

### B. Background

Malaysia is a diverse and vibrant country in Southeast Asia that is home to a number of races, religions, and ethnic groups. Known for its tourism tagline "Malaysia Truly Asia," it is a country rich with different traditions, customs, and practices. However, recent years have witnessed a rise in polarization among communities. This is exacerbated with the use of race and religion in politics with social media contributing to the divisions leading to tensions and conflicts.

The 15th General Elections (GE) saw a concerning surge in hate speech online, prompting social media platforms like Tiktok to raise a "high alert" status. In that democratic celebration, social media companies found discriminatory and divisive campaigns exceptionally high in number. The information and media landscape has been highly politicized and often used by political factions to advance their respective propaganda. Unfortunately, it has divided society along religious and ethnic lines, impacting peace, social cohesion, and disproportionately affecting minorities and women. Consequently, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) included Malaysia on its 2023 Special Watch List of countries where religious freedom needs to be monitored.

In response to growing concerns of polarization over religion and race in Malaysia, the ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights (APHR) in partnership with the International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief (IPPFoRB) undertook a fact-finding mission assess the state of religious harmony and social cohesion in the country, focusing on the 2022 general and 2023 state elections. The mission's delegation, composed of parliamentarians from the Philippines, Timor Leste, and Singapore, met with civil society organizations (CSOs), faith leaders, parliamentarians, and government representatives over three days.

Beyond deepening understanding of Malaysia's Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) landscape, the mission also served as an opportunity for regional exchange to enhance understanding and address challenges related to this fundamental freedom. A <u>preliminary statement</u> published immediately after the Mission and comprehensive findings and recommendations will be presented in its final report.

In addition, as Malaysia recently underwent Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in January 2024, APHR and IPPFoRB developed a "Toolkit for Parliamentarians to Promote an Inclusive Malaysian Society Through the UPR Process." This toolkit aims to empower parliamentarians with knowledge and tools to utilize the mechanism effectively, and mobilize them in using their unique role, inside and outside of parliament, to address key findings highlighted in the fact finding mission report to promote peace and harmony in Malaysia.

APHR and IPPFoRB are therefore co-organizing the launch of the Final Fact-Finding Mission Report and Toolkit for Parliamentarians to Promote an Inclusive Malaysian Society through the UPR Process. **The event aims to**:

- To raise awareness among parliamentarians, civil society organizations, and stakeholders in Malaysia about the urgent issues in the country, especially by the minorities, in relation to Freedom of Religion and Belief (FoRB);
- **To empower** parliamentarians to take a more proactive role in the promotion and protection of FoRB within the context of UPR and beyond; and
- To promote dialogue among key stakeholders to advance FoRB in Malaysia.

# C. Scope of Work

APHR is recruiting a consultant to help organize the launch of FoRB Toolkit and FFM report in Malaysia. In particular:

- Set-up technical equipment and requirements needed for the audio-visual presentations and Online participation of speakers and participants;
- To set-up equipment and technical requirements to Livestream the event via APHR's social media page;
- Provide technical support for Online speakers and participants during the event; and
- Other tasks deemed necessary and relevant to the Online launch.

#### D. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

Expected deliverables	Timeline
Briefing and Coordination	17th or 18th March 2024
Toolkit and Report Launch:  - Setting up an Management of Hybrid Setup - Live Streaming of Event	20th March 2024
Sending of recording	21st March 2024



# E. Institutional Arrangement

The Multimedia Consultant will report directly under the supervision of APHR's Programs Director.

#### F. Duration of Work

The Multimedia Consultant is expected to commence work on 18th March 2024 and conclude after the submission of the recording on 21st March 2024.

#### G. Duty Station

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

# H. Qualification of the Successful Contractor

- Previous experience in assisting multimedia equipment for hybrid meeting and conference activities;
- Working with parliamentarians, civil society organizations, and relevant stakeholders in Malaysia;
- Relevant experience in organizing programs and activities; and
- Familiarity with English, verbal, and written communication.

#### I. Recommended Presentation of Offer

Applicants may submit their CV and/or company profile and portfolio indicating all relevant past experience to **procurement@aseanmp.org** with a copy to **kristina@aseanmp.org** as soon as possible.

Including to mention a fixed proposed fees amount for the above-mentioned consultancy services.

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

APHR is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages qualified candidates of all genders from all nationalities, religious, and ethnic backgrounds, including persons living with disabilities, to apply.

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