



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Content Forum Responds to Call for Parents to Regulate Social Media Use by Children Under 13 Years Old**

**CYBERJAYA, 22 APRIL 2024** — The Communications and Multimedia Content Forum (the Content Forum) expresses full support for the call made by the Minister of Communications, Fahmi Fadzil, who conveyed a warning from the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) for parents to ensure that children under the age of 13 do not have their own social media accounts. This requirement is also aligned with the position taken by most social media platforms.

The Content Forum also underscores the importance for parents and guardians to ensure that children are only given access to devices and online content under appropriate supervision and monitoring.

As stated by the Minister, it is crucial for parents to take responsibility in safeguarding their children from the risks and threats present on social media.

### **Here are some key reasons why this is essential:**

**1. Child Safety Protection:** Children under 13 may not fully comprehend the risks involved in using social media. Without proper supervision, they can fall victim to unsafe activities such as scams, cyberbullying, or harmful interactions.

**2. Spread of Trends and Challenges:** Social media trends and challenges can also pose risks to children who fear missing out and desire to become viral. Some of these trends are highly dangerous, and parents may not be aware of their existence.

**3. Emotional Well-being:** Exposure to inappropriate or distressing content, such as violence, explicit imagery, or hateful messages, can have negative effects on their emotional and psychological development.

**4. Privacy and Personal Safety:** Children are more likely to share personal information openly on social media platforms because they do not yet understand the dangers and risks that may arise. This can open the door to privacy breaches or sharing information to those with malicious intent.

The Content Forum encourages parents to be aware of the risks and dangers present on social media, especially for children. It is important for parents and guardians to communicate openly with their children about social media use, and ensure they understand the necessary safety measures.

For parents and individuals who want to learn more about understanding digital risks and appropriate steps to protect themselves and their families, the Content Forum provides the necessary information and support.

For more information, please contact:

Content Forum of Communications and Multimedia

Email: [secretariat@contentforum.my](mailto:secretariat@contentforum.my)

Website: [www.contentforum.my](http://www.contentforum.my)

Social Media: [@mycontentforum](#)

- END -

#### **ABOUT THE CONTENT FORUM**

The Communications and Multimedia Content Forum of Malaysia (Content Forum) is an independent self-regulatory industry body registered under the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and designated by the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 (CMA'98) to oversee and promote self-regulation of content over the electronic networked medium. The Content Forum consists of key players in the content industry, i.e., advertisers,

advertising agencies, broadcasters, content creators/distributors, audiotext hosting service providers, advertising agencies, internet service providers, and civic groups.

Aimed at facilitating self-regulation, which provides an additional layer of consumer protection that complements the legal framework, the Content Forum is committed to governing and promoting the creation, distribution, and consumption of electronic-networked content.

As an industry self-regulatory body, the Content Forum comprises key members of the communications and multimedia content industry, including broadcasters, advertisers, content creators, internet access service providers, and civic groups. This dynamic and robust representation of industry practitioners ensures that content standards continue to be developed with the objective of establishing a level playing field in the industry.

The Content Forum is responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Content Code (“the Content Code”). The Content Code was prepared by the Content Forum and first registered with MCMC on 1st September 2004. The Content Code is the principal source for industry self-regulation as it contains governing standards and best practices for content dissemination within the communications and multimedia industry in Malaysia. The main objective of the Content Code is to outline procedures of self-regulation that provides the platform for creativity, innovation and healthy growth of a fast-evolving industry.

The Content Forum houses a Complaints Bureau that is empowered to address all complaints relating to content disseminated over electronic networks. The Complaints Bureau is empowered to investigate possible breaches of the Content Code, mediate disputes, adjudicate cases, publish orders, and impose sanctions where necessary. The Complaints Bureau accepts complaints from industry players and the general public. Additionally, it plays an advisory role to any party that requires guidance on electronic content matters.

---

**Issued by GO Communications on behalf of the Content Forum**

For media enquiries, kindly contact:

**GO Communications**

**Lim Huei Yuih**, Brand Director

**Anis Jilid**, Associate Brand Manager

+6012 635 3278 [hueiyuih@gocomm.com.my](mailto:hueiyuih@gocomm.com.my)

+6011 1233 9022 [anis@gocomm.com.my](mailto:anis@gocomm.com.my)

---