



**MEDIA STATEMENT  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER**

**RESPONSE TO THE ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY THE WASHINGTON POST  
ON “COUNTRIES CLIMATE PLEDGES BUILT ON FLAWED DATA, POST  
INVESTIGATION FINDS” DATED 7 NOVEMBER 2021**

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1. In reference to the article by the Washington Post on “Countries Climate Pledges Built on Flawed Data, Post Investigation Finds” dated 7 November 2021, KASA would like to clarify that Malaysia undertakes a very rigorous process when producing the Biennial Update Report (BUR) as required by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
2. We would like to stress that:
  - a. All information and values reported in the BUR undergo multiple stakeholder consultations, involving data providers, experts, academicians, NGOs and the private sector;
  - b. A clear institutional arrangement is in place where a bottom-up approach is implemented, and these details are reflected in the BUR; and
  - c. The information used in developing the BUR is based on national data and published scientific literature and is reported transparently.
3. We would like to emphasise that Malaysia is in line with the requirements by the UNFCCC, which requires the use of the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National GHG Inventories in estimating and reporting its National GHG inventory. The Guidelines require reporting only anthropogenic sources and removals of greenhouse gases.
4. Meanwhile, for the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector, five land use categories are estimated. Emissions and removals from peatlands are covered under the Forest Land and Cropland. The

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emissions from deforestation, croplands conversion, peatland drainage, forest fires and commercial harvest are reported as well as removals from forest and cropland. The values reported are net values after subtracting the emissions.

5. Malaysia would also like to highlight that the BUR is produced as per the requirement by the UNFCCC as follows:
  - a. Information on national circumstances and institutional arrangements relevant to the preparation of the national communications on a continuous basis;
  - b. The national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removal by sinks of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) is not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, including a national inventory report. The National Greenhouse Gas inventory which shall cover a calendar year that does not precede the submission date by more than four years;
  - c. Information on mitigation actions and their effects, including associated methodologies and assumptions;
  - d. Constraints and gaps, and related financial, technical and capacity needs, including a description of support needed and received;
  - e. Information on the level of support received to enable the preparation and submission of biennial update reports;
  - f. Information on domestic measurement reporting and verification; and
  - g. Any other information that the non-Annex I Party considers relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention and suitable for inclusion in its biennial update report.
6. Subsequent to the submission of the BUR, the UNFCCC will **assemble a team of technical experts from its Roster of Experts to examine and analyse Malaysia's report within six months of submission of the report. This process is called International Consultative and Analysis (ICA) and takes about 43 weeks.**

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7. The team consists of six experts comprising members from both developed and developing countries. The team of experts shall consider the information included in the national greenhouse gas inventory report, information on mitigation actions, including a description of such actions, an analysis of their impacts and the associated methodologies and assumptions, the progress made in their implementation and information on domestic measurement, reporting and verification, and on support received.
8. **This process includes a week of a dedicated session between the country party and the team of experts where the team of experts interacts with experts of the country for additional information and clarification.**
9. Upon completing this process, the BUR is subjected to another set of assessments where any country parties can pose questions through the UNFCCC portal, and the country party shall answer these questions within a month.
10. During the final process, the Facilitative Sharing of Views (FSV), a country presents its summary report and is open for another round of questions during the UNFCCC's meeting.
11. Under the UNFCCC BUR process, Malaysia has undergone three sessions of ICA and two sessions of FSV thus far. The whole process is based on transparency, accuracy, consistency, comparability and completeness principles.
12. As such, Malaysia regrets the action of the Washington Post in questioning the integrity of the UNFCCC process and outcome.

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