



6 MARCH, 2024

TO ALL NEWS EDITORS

**PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The National Union of Journalists Peninsular Malaysia NUJM takes note of the clarification over the ongoing issue surrounding the validity period of the media tags by the Communications Minister today.

We continue to maintain our call to retain the two-year validity period for all media practitioners for the ease and sustainability for both sides of the fence.

As such, any media agencies recognised by the government through the issuance of the Information Department media tags, should mean it has been verified and vetted through to received such accreditation from the administration.

The question of the difference of validity period for media agencies remains. But we are hopeful the review of the SOP on the issuance of the media tags will provide better explanation.

The government issued media tags have been effectively recognised by government officials a form of pass to enter official events.

While NUJM members have been granted access to most official events - it must be noted it does not guarantee access for others who carry the same Information Department-issued media tags.

We hope the review would provide better access to all media, both traditional and new to carry out their duties as the fourth estate.

At NUJM, we stand by our code of journalism ethics has been in place and effective since its formation in 1962 based on International Federation of Journalist's (IFJ) declaration of principles on the conduct of journalists, to ensure our responsibility in producing news is credible and accurate as well as maintaining our journalistic integrity.

NUJM is also part of the process and discussions to form the national media council.

We stand firm in our call to the government to expedite the formation media council to be formed to ensure a more independent media industry.

As such adopting the recommendations of the pro-tem committee to form the media council, the government would not be burdened with the duty to choose which media to accredit or otherwise.

On behalf of the NUJ Executive Committee,

**TEH ATHIRA MOHD YUSOF**  
General Secretary, NUJ