

MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION

MEDIA STATEMENT

MALAYSIA REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The global higher education community is observing with concern the growing rollback of diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in the United States. These shifts challenge long-standing principles that have allowed universities to build trust across borders and create space for shared intellectual growth.

The decision to restrict international student access at Harvard University reflects a wider trend. While the case is timely and familiar, it points to a broader retreat from inclusion and openness in higher education. The deeper issue is the shifting values that such actions reveal.

Malaysia affirms the belief that higher education must enable people from different backgrounds to learn with and from one another. Our universities reflect this commitment through policies and partnerships that prioritise access collaboration and respect. These choices express our values and shape the future we seek to build.

Malaysia will continue to support inclusive education and stand with institutions and communities affected by measures that limit access and weaken diversity. We remain committed to the principles that give education its purpose and reach.

DR. ZAMBRY ABD KADIR 24TH MAY 2025