CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

STOCK CODE	:	5168
COMPANY NAME	:	Hartalega Holdings Berhad
FINANCIAL YEAR	:	March 31, 2019

OUTLINE:

SECTION A - DISCLOSURE ON MALAYSIAN CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Paragraph 15.25 of Bursa Malaysia Listing Requirements.

SECTION B – DISCLOSURES ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES PERSUANT CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY BANK NEGARA MALAYSIA

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Appendix 4 (Corporate Governance Disclosures) of the Corporate Governance Guidelines issued by Bank Negara Malaysia. This section is only applicable for financial institutions or any other institutions that are listed on the Exchange that are required to comply with the above Guidelines.

SECTION A - DISCLOSURE ON MALAYSIAN CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Disclosures in this section are pursuant to Paragraph 15.25 of Bursa Malaysia Listing Requirements.

Intended Outcome

Every Company is headed by a Board, which assumes responsibility for the Company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the Company.

Practice 1.1

The Board should set the Company's strategic aims, ensure that the necessary resources are in place for the Company to meet its objectives and review Management's performance. The Board should set the Company's values and standards, and ensure that its obligations to its shareholders and other stakeholders are understood and met.

Application	:	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The Board understood its obligation to shareholders and other stakeholders and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the Company. In discharging these responsibilities, the Board puts in place the following frameworks and processes to meet its objectives and review Management's performance:	
		• Board Charter and Schedule of Matter setting out roles, duties and responsibilities of the Board, the principles and practices of corporate governance to be followed as well as the key matters reserved for the Board's approval;	
		• Board Committees, namely Audit, Risk Management, Nomination and Remuneration Committees to assist the Board in discharging its duties and responsibilities effectively. The Terms of Reference of each Board Committee are set out in Board Charter. These Committees have the authority to examine particular issues and report to the Board with their recommendations;	
		• Periodic review of the financial results as a mean to oversee the conduct of the business and the overall performance management of the Group. When reviewing the financial result, the Board will assess and challenge Management's performance and proposals and monitor Management execution in order to ensure the Group's business is being managed effectively;	
		• Deliberate the interim and annual financial reporting with Management and External Auditors to ensure the integrity and reliability of the financial information published in order to assist the public, investors and shareholders to make informed decision;	
		• Review the appointment of C-suite personnel and ensure that they have the necessary skills and experience to assist the Board in managing the Group;	

	•	Review related party transaction, if any to ensure the compliance with Listing Requirements and the interest of minority shareholders is not detrimental by related party transactions;
	•	Review and deliberate the internal audit findings and assess the effectiveness and adequacy of the systems of internal control in the Group;
	•	Annual and half yearly reviews of the achievement of financial performance targets and aims in the annual budget by Chief Executives and Senior Management of the respective subsidiaries; and
	•	Observe the regulatory frameworks and requirements when disseminating information and disclosures in consultation with the Company Secretaries, External and Internal Auditors and Corporate Finance Advisors for corporate exercises, when necessary.
Explanation for : departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged		
to complete the columns be	elow	
Measure :		
Timeframe :		
	1	

Every Company is headed by a Board, which assumes responsibility for the Company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the Company.

Practice 1.2

A Chairman of the Board who is responsible for instilling good corporate governance practices, leadership and effectiveness of the Board is appointed.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	÷	 The Chairman is responsible for instilling good governance practices, leadership and effectiveness of the Board. To do so, the Chairman has: Ensured Board members receive accurate, timely and clear information and are well-informed about Company and industry developments; Set the Board agenda in consultation with the Company Secretaries and ensured that Board members receive complete and accurate information in a timely manner; Facilitated Board discussion to ensure proper exchange of information and deliberation of issues to enable proper decision making; Chaired Board meetings, reviewed and approved together with the Board on the strategic issues of the Group; and Chaired Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings and represented Board in communicating with shareholders during the general meetings.
Explanation for departure	:	
Large companies are to complete the colu		ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged low.
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

Every Company is headed by a Board, which assumes responsibility for the Company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the Company.

Practice 1.3

The positions of Chairman and CEO are held by different individuals.

Application	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	The roles of Chairman and Managing Director are exercised by different individuals. A clear segregation of their responsibilities and powers are stated and defined in the Company's Board Charter. Besides ensuring an appropriate balance of power and authority, the segregation of roles facilitates an open exchange of views and opinions between the Board and the Management in their deliberation of the business, strategies and key operations of the Group.	
Explanation for departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure		
Timeframe		

Every Company is headed by a Board, which assumes responsibility for the Company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the Company.

Practice 1.4

The Board is supported by a suitably qualified and competent Company Secretary to provide sound governance advice, ensure adherence to rules and procedures, and advocate adoption of corporate governance best practices.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board is supported by qualified and competent Company Secretaries who provide advice and regularly update the Board, particularly with regards to compliance with regulatory requirements, guidelines,
	legislations and the principles of best corporate governance practices. All Directors have unrestricted access to the advice and services of the Company Secretaries. The appointment and removal of Company Secretaries or Secretaries of the Board Committees can only be made by the Board.
	The Company Secretaries also ensure that the Board is kept well informed on any regulatory requirements and developments in the area of corporate governance that affect the duties and responsibilities of the Directors as well as the Company being a public listed company. The Company Secretaries have attended trainings and seminars conducted by relevant regulators to keep abreast with the relevant updates on statutory and regulatory requirements and updates on the MMLR of Bursa Securities.
	The Company Secretaries serve notice to the Directors and Principal Officers to inform them of closed periods for trading in the Company's shares, in accordance with Chapter 14 of the MMLR of Bursa Securities. The Company Secretaries also ensure that all Board and Board Committees' meetings are properly convened, accurate and proper records of the proceedings and resolutions passed are recorded and the minutes are circulated to the Board Members as soon as possible before the next meeting.
Explanation for : departure	
Larae companies are requi	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns be	
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Every Company is headed by a Board, which assumes responsibility for the Company's leadership and is collectively responsible for meeting the objectives and goals of the Company.

Practice 1.5

Directors receive meeting materials, which are complete and accurate within a reasonable period prior to the meeting. Upon conclusion of the meeting, the minutes are circulated in a timely manner.

Applied
The supply, timeliness and quality of the information affect the effectiveness of the Board to oversee the conduct of business and to evaluate the Management's performance of the Group. Accordingly, the Board ensures that each Director is provided with timely notices and Board papers issued prior to the Board meetings to enable Directors to review and consider the agenda items to be discussed and where necessary, to obtain further explanations before the Board meeting. The Company Secretaries ensure that all Board and Board Committees' meetings are properly convened. The Company Secretaries will ensure that accurate and proper records of the proceedings and resolutions passed are recorded and the minutes are circulated to the Board members as soon as possible before the next meetings. Separately, all Board members have unrestricted access to timely and accurate information in furtherance their duties and subject to Board's approval may seek independent professional advice when necessary in discharging its various duties, at the Company's expense.
red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.

There is demarcation of responsibilities between the Board, Board Committees and Management.

There is clarity in the authority of the Board, its committees and individual Director.

Practice 2.1

The Board has a Board Charter which is periodically reviewed and published on the Company's website. The Board Charter clearly identifies–

- the respective roles and responsibilities of the Board, Board committees, individual Director and Management; and
- issues and decisions reserved for the Board.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board has defined its Board Charter and Schedule of Matter setting out the roles, duties and responsibilities of the Board, the principles and practices of corporate governance to be followed as well as the key matters reserved for the Board's approval. The Board has also established the Audit, Risk Management, Nomination and Remuneration Committees to assist the Board in discharging its duties and responsibilities effectively. The Terms of Reference of each Board Committee are set out in Board Charter. These Committees have the authority to examine particular issues and report to the Board with their recommendations. However, the ultimate responsibility for the final decision on all matters lies with the Board. These Board Charter and Schedule of Matter were reviewed, published and be accessed under the Corporate Governance segment of the Company's website at <u>https://harta.irplc.com/investor-relations.html</u>
Explanation for : departure	
	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns b	elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

The Board is committed to promoting good business conduct and maintaining a healthy corporate culture that engenders integrity, transparency and fairness.

The Board, Management, employees and other stakeholders are clear on what is considered acceptable behaviour and practice in the Company.

Practice 3.1

The Board establishes a Code of Conduct and Ethics for the Company, and together with Management implements its policies and procedures, which include managing conflicts of interest, preventing the abuse of power, corruption, insider trading and money laundering.

The Code of Conduct and Ethics is published on the Company's website.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice Explanation for departure	 The Board has established and published its Code of Conducts and Ethics and Whistleblowing policy and can be accessed under the Corporate Governance segment of the Company's website at https://harta.irplc.com/investor-relations.html Internally, the Board will communicate the Code of Conducts and Ethics and Whistleblowing Policy to staff members through the Human Resource Department so that all staff members are clear on what is considered acceptable behaviour and practice in the Company and the policies and procedures on whistleblowing.
Large companies are req to complete the columns	uired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
Measure	·
Timeframe	:

The Board is committed to promoting good business conduct and maintaining a healthy corporate culture that engenders integrity, transparency and fairness.

The Board, Management, employees and other stakeholders are clear on what is considered acceptable behaviour and practice in the Company.

Practice 3.2

The Board establishes, reviews and together with Management implements policies and procedures on whistleblowing.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	As mentioned in Practice 3.1, the Board has established its Code of Conducts and Ethics and Whistleblowing Policy and will communicate the Code of Conducts and Ethics and Whistleblowing Policy to staff members through the Human Resource Department. The Human Resource Department provides yearly reminder through internal circulations on Code of Conduct and Ethics and Whistleblowing Policy.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requied to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the Company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 4.1

At least half of the Board comprises of Independent Directors. For Large Companies, the Board comprises a majority of Independent Directors.

Application	Departure
Explanation on application of the practice	
Explanation for departure	The Board comprises of eight (8) members, where half of the Board is Independent Non-Executive Directors. The Board is satisfied with the current composition of the Board in providing a check and balance in the Board as well as diversity of perspectives and views in Board's decision- making process. Presently, the Board consists of Executive and Non- Executive Directors with a mixture of suitably qualified and experienced professionals.
Large companies are req to complete the columns	ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged low.
Measure	The Board is cognisant of the requirement and will continue to actively search for a suitable and well qualified Director to join the Board.
Timeframe	March 2020

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the Company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 4.2

The tenure of an Independent Director does not exceed a cumulative term limit of nine years. Upon completion of the nine years, an Independent Director may continue to serve on the Board as a Non-Independent Director.

If the Board intends to retain an Independent Director beyond nine years, it should justify and seek annual shareholders' approval. If the Board continues to retain the Independent Director after the twelfth year, the Board should seek annual shareholders' approval through a two-tier voting process.

Application :	Not applicable - No independent director(s) serving beyond 9 years	
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board Charter specifies that the maximum tenure of an Independent Non-Executive Director shall not exceed the cumulative term of nine years from the date of first appointment as Director or upon the expiry of the on-going term of appointment as Director whichever is the later. Any extension beyond nine years will require Board justification and approved through a two-tier voting system unless the said Director wishes to be re-designated as Non-Independent Non-Executive Director which shall be a consideration for the Board to decide. At present, there's no independent director(s) serving beyond nine (9) years.	
Explanation for : departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the Company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 4.3 - Step Up

The Board has a policy which limits the tenure of its Independent Directors to nine years.

Application :	Not Adopted
Ender Maria	
Explanation on : adoption of the	
practice	

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the Company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 4.4

Appointment of Board and Senior Management is based on objective criteria, merit and with due regard for diversity in skills, experience, age, cultural background and gender.

Application :	Applied			
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board is committed to ensure diversity and inclusiveness in its composition. The Board is currently made up of members with mixed age group, race, cultural, knowledge, experience and skills sets, as outlined under Principle A: Board Leadership and Effectiveness in Corporate Governance Overview Statement.			
	The Senior Management is composed of best-qualified individuals who possess knowledge, experience, good judgement and leadership skills, with due regard for diversity in skills, experience, age, cultural background and gender. The right blend of skills, experience and a diverse background is crucial in ensuring the attainment of long-term value for the Company.			
	The Board annually reviews the required skills, experience and other qualities of the Directors to ensure that the Board is functioning effectively and efficiently.			
Explanation for :				
departure				
Large companies are requ complete the columns below	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to w.			
Measure :				
Timeframe :				
l				

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the Company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 4.5

The Board discloses in its annual report the Company's policies on gender diversity, its targets and measures to meet those targets. For Large Companies, the Board must have at least 30% women Directors.

Application :	Departure
Explanation on : application of the practice	
Explanation for : departure	The Board is of the view that, while it is important to promote gender diversity, the normal selection criteria based on an effective blend of competencies, skills, extensive experience and knowledge to strengthen the Board should remain a priority. Thus the Company does not set any specific target for female Directors in the Gender Diversity Policy and will actively work towards having more female Directors on the Board. The Nomination Committee is responsible in ensuring that gender diversity objectives are adopted in Board recruitment, Board performance evaluation and succession planning processes. The Company provides a suitable working environment that is free from harassment and discrimination in order to attract and retain women participation on the Board.
	At present, the Board consists of 2 women Directors, namely Tan Sri Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria and Datuk Seri Nurmala binti Abd Rahim which represents 25% of women Directors (2 out of 8 Directors).
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	The Board is cognisant of the requirement and will continue to actively search for a suitable and well qualified women Director to join the Board.
Timeframe :	March 2020

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the Company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 4.6

In identifying candidates for appointment of Directors, the Board does not solely rely on recommendations from existing Board members, Management or major shareholders. The Board utilises independent sources to identify suitably qualified candidates.

Application :	Applied		
Explanation on : application of the practice	In its selection of Board members, the Board provides equal opportunity to all candidates. The Nomination Committee will consider recommendations from existing Board members, Management, major shareholders and third-party sources to identify suitably qualified candidates, when necessary before recommending to the Board for further deliberation. Candidates for directorship are nominated based on their skills, knowledge, professionalism, character and experience in line with the needs of the Group. The detail profiles of nominated Directors will be presented to the Board by the Nominating Committee to assist the Board in making their selection decision.		
Explanation for : departure			
Large companies are requi to complete the columns be	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.		
Measure :			
Timeframe :			

Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the Company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 4.7

The Nominating Committee is chaired by an Independent Director or the Senior Independent Director.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	: The Nomination Committee is chaired by Mr. Razman Hafidz bin Abu Zarim who is an Independent Non-Executive Director.
Explanation for departure	:
Large companies are req to complete the columns	uired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged below.
Measure	:
Timeframe	:

Stakeholders are able to form an opinion on the overall effectiveness of the Board and individual Director.

Practice 5.1

The Board should undertake a formal and objective annual evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the Board, its committees and each individual Director. The Board should disclose how the assessment was carried out and its outcome.

For Large Companies, the Board engages independent experts periodically to facilitate objective and candid Board evaluations.

Application :	Applied		
Explanation on : application of the practice	An independent expert, Deloitte Enterprise Risk Services Sdn. Bhd. was engaged in financial year 2019 to perform assessment to evaluate on performance of each individual Director, effectiveness of the Board and Board Committees by way of self-assessment. Directors are required to attend a one-to-one interview and complete the online self-assessment forms to provide feedback, views and suggestions for improvement. The results of these self-assessment forms and reports are compiled and tabled to the Nominating Committee for review and deliberation. Based on the assessment, the independent expert and the Board is satisfied with the overall performance of individual Director, effectiveness of the Board and Board Committees and as well independence of Independent Directors.		
Explanation for : departure			
Large companies are requir to complete the columns be	ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.		
Measure :			
Timeframe :			

The level and composition of remuneration of Directors and Senior Management take into account the Company's desire to attract and retain the right talent in the Board and Senior Management to drive the Company's long-term objectives.

Remuneration policies and decisions are made through a transparent and independent process.

Practice 6.1

The Board has in place policies and procedures to determine the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management, which takes into account the demands, complexities and performance of the Company as well as skills and experience required. The policies and procedures are periodically reviewed and made available on the Company's website.

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on : application of the practice		
Explanation for : departure	and its subsidiaries shall be approved at a general meeting.	
Large companies are requi to complete the columns be	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.	
Measure :		
Timeframe :		

The level and composition of remuneration of Directors and Senior Management take into account the Company's desire to attract and retain the right talent in the Board and Senior Management to drive the Company's long-term objectives.

Remuneration policies and decisions are made through a transparent and independent process.

Practice 6.2

The Board has a Remuneration Committee to implement its policies and procedures on remuneration including reviewing and recommending matters relating to the remuneration of Board and Senior Management.

The Committee has written Terms of Reference which deals with its authority and duties and these Terms are disclosed on the Company's website.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board has established its Remuneration Committee and has defined the Terms of Reference of this Committee. These Terms of Reference are disclosed in the Company's website. The members of the Remuneration Committee are as follows and comprise wholly of Non-Executive Independent Directors: <u>Chairman:</u> Mr. Razman Hafidz bin Abu Zarim, Independent Non-Executive Director <u>Members:</u> Dato' Tan Guan Cheong, Independent Non-Executive Director Tan Sri Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria, Senior Independent Non- Executive Director Datuk Seri Nurmala binti Abd Rahim, Independent Non-Executive Director
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requir	ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns be	low.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the Company's performance.

Practice 7.1

There is detailed disclosure on named basis for the remuneration of individual Director. The remuneration breakdown of individual Director includes fees, salary, bonus, benefits in-kind and other emoluments.

Application :	Applied							
Explanation : on application of the practice	The remuneration emoluments, bor Employees' Share follow:	nus, emplo	oyer's Emplo	yees Pro	vident Fur	nd ("EPF"),	benefits-i	n-kind and
	Group Level:							
				Group				
		Fees	Salaries & Other Emoluments	Bonus	EPF	Benefits- in-Kind	ESOS	Total
	Executive Directors							
	Kuan Kam Hon @ Kwan Kam Onn	144,000	1,200,000	500,000	96,000	28,000	-	1,968,000
	Kuan Mun Leong	144,000	1,200,000	500,000	204,000	19,557	-	2,067,557
	Kuan Mun Keng	144,000	640,860	267,025	113,570	13,325	-	1,178,780
	Danaraj A/L Nadarajah	120,000	661,644	271,355	99,128	17,400	887,280	2,056,807
	Non-Executive Direc	tors						
	Dato' Tan Guan Cheong	120,000	6,250	-	-	-	-	126,250
	Razman Hafidz Bin Abu Zarim	120,000	5,750	-	-	-	-	125,750
	Tan Sri Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria	120,000	5,750	-	-	-	-	125,750
	Datuk Seri Nurmala Binti Abd Rahim	120,000	7,000	-	-	-	-	127,000
	Company Level:							
					Company	-		
	Executive Directors			Fee /	Allowances	Total		
				0.0.05-				
	Kuan Kam Hon @ Kv	wan Kam On		20,000	-		,000	
	Kuan Mun Leong Kuan Mun Keng			20,000	-		,000	
	Kuan iviun Keng		1	20,000	-	120,	,000	

	Danaraj A/L Nadarajah	120,000	-	120,000	
	Non-Executive Directors				
	Dato' Tan Guan Cheong	120,000	6,250	126,250	
	Razman Hafidz Bin Abu Zarim	120,000	5,750	125,750	
	Tan Sri Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria	120,000	5,750	125,750	
	Datuk Seri Nurmala Binti Abd Rahim	120,000	7,000	127,000	
Explanation : for departure					
Large companie complete the co	es are required to complete the colo olumns below.	umns below. I	Non-large cc	ompanies are e	ncouraged to
Measure :					
Timeframe :					

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the Company's performance.

Practice 7.2

The Board discloses on a named basis the top five Senior Management's remuneration component including salary, bonus, benefits in-kind and other emoluments in bands of RM50,000.

Application :	Departure
Explanation on : application of the practice	
Explanation for : departure	The details of Senior Management's remuneration are not disclosed as the Board considers the information of the said remuneration to be sensitive and proprietary in view of the competitive nature of human resources.
	The Company has a competitive remuneration policy in place and has taken steps to ensure that Senior Management's remuneration packages reflect the experience, skills, roles and responsibilities undertaken by the Senior Management. To ensure competitive remuneration, the Senior Management's remuneration packages are reviewed annually based on their individual performance as well as the Company's performance.
• · · ·	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns b	elow.
Measure :	The Board will continue to monitor the market practice and development in respect of such disclosure.
Timeframe :	Others

Stakeholders are able to assess whether the remuneration of Directors and Senior Management is commensurate with their individual performance, taking into consideration the Company's performance.

Practice 7.3 - Step Up

Companies are encouraged to fully disclose the detailed remuneration of each member of Senior Management on a named basis.

Application	:	Not Adopted
Explanation on adoption of the practice	:	

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The Board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The Company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

Practice 8.1

The Chairman of the Audit Committee is not the Chairman of the Board.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The Chairman of the AC is not the Chairman of the Board.
Explanation for departure	:	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure	:	
Timeframe	:	

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The Board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The Company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

Practice 8.2

The Audit Committee has a policy that requires a former key audit partner to observe a cooling-off period of at least two years before being appointed as a member of the Audit Committee.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	When considering the appointment of former key audit partner from its current External Auditor's firm, the AC is mindful of the minimum two (2) years cooling off period best practice under the MCCG before appointing this partner as a member of the AC. The External Auditor Policy was established and published in the Company's website under Corporate Governance segment at https://harta.irplc.com/investor-relations.html Presently, none of the present members of the AC were former audit partners of the Company's auditors.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.	
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The Board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The Company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

Practice 8.3

The Audit Committee has policies and procedures to assess the suitability, objectivity and independence of the external auditor.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	AC shall carry out annual assessment on the performance, suitability and independence of the External Auditor based on four (4) key areas, namely quality of service, sufficiency of resources, communication and interaction, independence, objectivity and professional scepticism. The External Auditor Policy was established and published in Company's website under the Corporate Governance segment at <u>https://harta.irplc.com/investor-relations.html</u>
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requi	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns be	elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The Board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The Company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

Practice 8.4 - Step Up

The Audit Committee should comprise solely of Independent Directors.

Application :	Adopted
Explanation on : adoption of the practice	The AC comprised of fully Independent Non-Executive Directors and the Chairman of the AC is not the Chairman of the Board.

There is an effective and independent Audit Committee.

The Board is able to objectively review the Audit Committee's findings and recommendations. The Company's financial statement is a reliable source of information.

Practice 8.5

Collectively, the Audit Committee should possess a wide range of necessary skills to discharge its duties. All members should be financially literate and are able to understand matters under the purview of the Audit Committee including the financial reporting process.

All members of the Audit Committee should undertake continuous professional development to keep themselves abreast of relevant developments in accounting and auditing standards, practices and rules.

Application	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	 The Audit Committee (AC) consists of the following members: a) Dato' Tan Guan Cheong (Chairman) b) Mr. Razman Hafidz bin Abu Zarim (Member) c) Tan Sri Datuk Dr Rebecca Fatima Sta. Maria (Member) d) Datuk Seri Nurmala binti Abd Rahim (Member) The Chairman of the Audit Committee is not the Chairman of the Board. In addition, the Audit Committee comprises wholly of Independent Non-Executive Directors. The Audit Committee Report is set out separately in this Annual Report. The AC is chaired by Dato' Tan Guan Cheong who is a qualified accountant and has wide working experiences in the financial services industry. The academic and professional background of the rest of the AC members varies and they are equipped with knowledge and working experiences from various industries. They are able to provide sound advice to the Board.
Explanation for departure	
•	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns i	pelow.
Measure	
Timeframe	

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The Board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the Company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

Practice 9.1

The Board should establish an effective risk management and internal control framework.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board of Directors ("the Board") is committed to maintain a sound system of risk management and internal control within the Group. The Board also acknowledges that it is their responsibility to review, in an ongoing manner, the risk management and internal control system for its adequacy, effectiveness and integrity. Thus, the Board, through the Risk Management Committee ("RMC"), maintains overall responsibility for risk oversight within the Group.
	The system of risk management and internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the Group's business objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or financial losses or fraud. In achieving the Group's business objectives, the Board assumes its responsibilities in designing the system of risk management and internal control based on the ongoing process of identifying and prioritising risk, evaluating the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and then, managing them effectively, efficiently and economically.
	Management is responsible for assisting the Board in implementing and monitoring the procedures and processes which identify, assess and monitor business risks and internal controls, and to take responsive corrective action as and when needed.
	The Board has received assurance from the Managing Director and the Corporate Finance Director that the Group's risk management and internal control system is operating adequately and effectively, in all material aspects, based on the risk management and internal control system of the Group.
	The Board is of the view that the risk management and internal control system in place for the year under review and up to the date of issuance of the financial statements is adequate and effective to safeguard the shareholders' investment, the interests of customers, regulators and employees, and the Group's assets.

Explanation for departure	:		
Large companies are rec to complete the columns	-	-	Non-large companies are encouraged
Measure	:		
Timeframe	:		

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The Board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the Company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

Practice 9.2

The Board should disclose the features of its risk management and internal control framework, and the adequacy and effectiveness of this framework.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The details of the risk management and internal control features as well as the Board review of the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management and internal control frameworks are presented in the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control of the Annual Report.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requi to complete the columns b	red to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Companies make informed decisions about the level of risk they want to take and implement necessary controls to pursue their objectives.

The Board is provided with reasonable assurance that adverse impact arising from a foreseeable future event or situation on the Company's objectives is mitigated and managed.

Practice 9.3 - Step Up

The Board establishes a Risk Management Committee, which comprises a majority of Independent Directors, to oversee the Company's risk management framework and policies.

Application :	Adopted
Explanation on : adoption of the practice	The RMC comprised of four (4) Independent Non-Executive Directors and one (1) Executive Director.

Companies have an effective governance, risk management and internal control framework and stakeholders are able to assess the effectiveness of such a framework.

Practice 10.1

The Audit Committee should ensure that the internal audit function is effective and able to function independently.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The AC reviewed and approved the Internal Audit Plan to ensure that the appropriateness of the audit plan. The AC had also discussed with the Internal Auditor on the progress of the audit plan and ensured that the audit direction remains relevant taking into consideration any changes in the Group's operating environment. When reviewing the Internal Audit reports, the AC will consider the impact of the audit issues and assess whether Management has provided their comments appropriately reflecting their commitment to the audit recommendations. A private session with the Internal Auditors will be held without the presence of Management by the AC, if needed to allow the Internal Auditors to exchange their views freely to the AC.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requir	ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged
to complete the columns be	elow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Companies have an effective governance, risk management and internal control framework and stakeholders are able to assess the effectiveness of such a framework.

Practice 10.2

The Board should disclose-

- whether internal audit personnel are free from any relationships or conflicts of interest, which could impair their objectivity and independence;
- the number of resources in the internal audit department;
- name and qualification of the person responsible for internal audit; and
- whether the internal audit function is carried out in accordance with a recognised framework.

Application	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	The Internal Audit Function is carried out by BDO Governance Sdn. Bhd. ("BDO"), an internal audit consulting firm. The internal audit function is headed by a Director who is assisted by a manager and supported by an audit executive. The Director in charge is a qualified accountant while the rest of the team members are accounting graduates from local universities. The Internal Auditors have performed its work with reference to the principles of the International Professional Practice Framework of Institute of Internal Auditors covering the conduct of the audit planning, execution, documentations, communication of findings and consultation with key stakeholders. The AC will review the engagement between the Group and BDO to ensure that the Internal Auditors' objectivity and independence are not impaired or affected.	
Explanation for departure		
Large companies are re to complete the colum	ired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged pelow.	
Measure		
Timeframe		

There is continuous communication between the Company and stakeholders to facilitate mutual understanding of each other's objectives and expectations.

Stakeholders are able to make informed decisions with respect to the business of the Company, its policies on governance, the environment and social responsibility.

Practice 11.1

The Board ensures there is effective, transparent and regular communication with its stakeholders.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board communicates information on the operations, activities and performance of the Group to the shareholders, stakeholders and the public through the following:
	 the Annual Report, which contains the financial and operational review of the Group's business, corporate information, financial statements, and information on AC, RMC and Board of Directors;
	ii. various announcements made to the Bursa Securities, which include announcements on quarterly results;
	iii. the Company website at <u>www.hartalega.com.my</u> ;
	iv. meetings with research analysts and fund managers if required to give them a better understanding of the business conducted by the Group in particular, and of the industry in which the Group's business operates, in general; and
	v. participation in surveys and research conducted by professional organizations as and when such requests arise.
	Shareholders and investors are also encouraged to interact and feedback to the Chairman for opinions or concerns.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are requir to complete the columns be	ed to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged clow.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

There is continuous communication between the Company and stakeholders to facilitate mutual understanding of each other's objectives and expectations.

Stakeholders are able to make informed decisions with respect to the business of the Company, its policies on governance, the environment and social responsibility.

Practice 11.2

Large companies are encouraged to adopt integrated reporting based on a globally recognised framework.

Application :	Departure	
Explanation on : application of the practice		
Explanation for : departure	The Company has yet to adopt integrated reporting based on a globally recognized framework. The Company reviews and enhances the disclosures in future annual report towards adopting integrated reporting framework.	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :	The Company would consider adopting integrated reporting on an incremental approach in the near future.	
Timeframe :	Others	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the Board and Senior Management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

Practice 12.1

Notice for an Annual General Meeting should be given to the shareholders at least 28 days prior to the meeting.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Annual General Meeting serves as an important means for shareholders' communication. In order to encourage shareholders' participation and engagement with the Board and Senior Management effectively in the AGM, notice of the Annual General Meeting and Annual Reports are sent to shareholders 28 days prior to the meeting in accordance to the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance. In addition, the Board would ensure that this Notice contains details of resolutions proposed along with background information and explanatory notes that are relevant.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.	
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the Board and Senior Management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

Practice 12.2

All Directors attend General Meetings. The Chair of the Audit, Nominating, Risk Management and other committees provide meaningful response to questions addressed to them.

Application :	Departure	
Explanation on : application of the practice		
Explanation for : departure	At each Annual General Meeting ("AGM"), the Board presents the progress and performance of the Group's business and encourages participation of shareholders during questions and answers sessions. The Chairman and the Board will respond to all questions raised by the shareholders during the AGM.	
	Seven out of eight Directors attended the last AGM of the Company held on 24 August 2018. The Chair of Audit and Risk Management Committee, Dato' Tan Guan Cheong, was unable to attend the AGM due to unforeseen circumstances. Although not all Directors were present at the AGM, the following key personnel were present in person to engage directly with the shareholders: -	
	 (a) All the Executive Directors (b) Majority of the Independent Non-Executive Directors (c) The engagement partners of the External Auditors (d) The Company Secretary 	
	All issues of concern raised by the shareholders were fully answered and responded to.	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure :	Moving forward, the Board will ensure its full attendance in the AGM and the respective Chairmen of the Board Committees will attend to questions raised pertaining to their duties.	
Timeframe :	Financial year 2020	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the Board and Senior Management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

Practice 12.3

Listed companies with a large number of shareholders or which have meetings in remote locations should leverage technology to facilitate–

- including voting in absentia; and
- remote shareholders' participation at General Meetings.

Application	: Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	 The AGM of the Company is being held at Sime Darby Convention Center Kuala Lumpur which is in the city area and is accessible via public transport. Moving forward, the Company will consider leveraging on technology to facilitate greater shareholders' participation in general meetings. 	
Explanation for departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
Measure	:	
Timeframe		