CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

STOCK CODE: 7129COMPANY NAME: ASIA FILE CORPORATION BHD.FINANCIAL YEAR: March 31, 2023

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 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 is responsible towards the strategic planning, overseeing the resources and together with the management monitoring the overall operation of the Group. The principal roles and responsibilities of the Board are set out in the Board Charter which is available on the Company's website <u>www.asia-file.com</u> . Matters which are reserved for the Board to decide based on recommendations from the Board Committees and the management are also listed in the Board Charter. In discharging its responsibilities effectively, the Board has delegated specific responsibilities to the following committees:- a) Audit Committee; b) Nomination & Remuneration Committee Each Board Committee is governed by its terms of reference which
	sets out the duties and responsibilities of the Committee. The Board meets at least quarterly to review and discuss the Group's
	performance. If the need arises, additional meetings will be convened.
Explanation for : departure	
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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 1.2

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 roles and responsibilities of the Chairman are set out in the Board Charter. The Chairman is responsible to ensure that the principles of good corporate governance are upheld in all aspects of the Group's operations. The Chairman, Dato' Lim Soon Huat, leads the Board and chairs the Board meetings. Due to his extensive experience and his in depth knowledge of the industry, he is able to provide an excellent insight in relation to the performance and outlook for the Group. During the meetings, members of the Board are encouraged to voice their views on the issues discussed.
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 1.3

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

Application :	Departure
Explanation on : application of the practice	
Explanation for : departure	The Chief Executive Officer, Dato' Lim Soon Huat assumed the role of Chairman upon the demise of the late Dato' Lim Eng Siang on 27 June 2001. The Board is mindful of the dual role of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer held by Dato' Lim Soon Huat but is of the view that the present composition of the Board and its decision making process will provide sufficient check and balance.
	75% of the current Board composition consists of Independent Directors with distinguished credentials and majority of them have also acted as Directors in other public listed companies. The Board could rely on their extensive experience and knowledge to ensure that there is independence of judgement.
	In addition, during the decision making process, proposals are being thoroughly deliberated and considered and is a collective decision making of the majority view of the Board whereby no single Board member can dominate its decision making process. In view of the extensive experience of Dato' Lim Soon Huat in managing the Group's business, the Board is of the view that it could benefit from a knowledgeable Chairman in providing timely updates and guidance when deliberating on key issues or during discussions on latest developments.
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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 Chairman of the board should not be a member of the Audit Committee, Nomination Committee or Remuneration Committee

Note: If the board Chairman is not a member of any of these specified committees, but the board allows the Chairman to participate in any or all of these committees' meetings, by way of invitation, then the status of this practice should be a 'Departure'.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The Chairman, Dato' Lim Soon Huat, is not a member of the Audit Committee, Nomination Committee or Remuneration Committee. He also does not participate in any or all of these committees' 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	:	

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

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 two qualified Company Secretaries, Ms Tai Yit Chan and Ms Ong Tze-En who are both members of The Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators ("MAICSA"). The Company Secretaries or their representative(s) attend all board meetings and ensure that meetings are properly convened. They also advise and provide guidance on all matters in relation to corporate governance and regulatory compliances. At the meetings, they will brief the board on the latest development and also provide updates if there are any changes in regulatory requirement.
Explanation for departure	
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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 1.6

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.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice Explanation for adaptive departure	To facilitate the directors' attendance, the date for the next meeting is scheduled at the end of the meeting. Prior to Board meetings, agenda and materials relevant to the meetings are circulated to the members of the Board at least five (5) business days in advance. Subject to the complexity and urgency of the issues to be discussed and the estimated time required by the Board to study and evaluate the matters to be discussed, a shorter or longer period of notices may be provided to the Board members under special circumstances. The deliberations and decisions adopted at the meetings are properly documented. Minutes of the meetings will be circulated to the Board members for review and confirmation.
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Measure :	
Timeframe :	

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 directors.

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 directors and management; and
- issues and decisions reserved for the board.

Application	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	 The Board Charter sets out the roles and responsibilities of the Chairman, the Board and also the specific responsibilities delegated to the Board Committees and management. The Board Charter specifies the various matters for which the final decisions are reserved for the Board to make upon receipt of recommendation from the Board Committees and management. The Board Charter will be reviewed periodically whenever the need arises. It is available on the Company's website <u>www.asia-file.com</u>. The last review date was 29 June 2022.
Explanation for departure	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.	
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	 The Group is committed to adopting ethical approaches in its business operations and complying with all rules and regulations. The Code of Conduct and Ethics are published on the Company's website and provides guidelines as to how the Group conducts its business which uphold integrity, transparency and fairness. In addition, the Group's employee hand book also outlines the expectations on employees in discharging their duties in an ethical manner. Other policies such as Anti-Bribery & Anti-Corruption Policy and Whistleblowing Policy have also been put in place for all employees and stakeholders of the Group to act professionally, fairly and with integrity in all its business dealings and relationship. The Group conducted a refresher course on Code of Ethics and Conduct, Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption, and Whistleblowing policies to the employees have also attended the training on Code of Ethics and Conduct, Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption and Whistleblowing policies as part of their induction programme.
Explanation for : departure	
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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	 A Whistleblowing Policy is in place to provide a platform for employees and stakeholders to raise their concerns on improper conduct and malpractice. A dedicated email address <u>whistleblower@asia-file.com</u> has been established for the whistle blower to send their reports to. All reports received from whistle blowers will be taken seriously and addressed promptly. They will be kept in strict confidence. To raise employees' awareness on the above, the Group has pasted posters with relevant information in three main languages (English, Malay and Mandarin) on the notice boards. The Whistleblowing Policy is available on the Company's website at <u>www.asia-file.com</u>.
Explanation for : departure	
Largo companias aro r	equired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are
encouraged to complete t	
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

Practice 4.1

The board together with management takes responsibility for the governance of sustainability in the company including setting the company's sustainability strategies, priorities and targets.

The board takes into account sustainability considerations when exercising its duties including among others the development and implementation of company strategies, business plans, major plans of action and risk management.

Strategic management of material sustainability matters should be driven by senior management.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board recognises that sustainable development is critical for the Group's long term business success. The Board reviews and oversees that the Group's business plan supports long term value creation in a sustainable manner. Senior Management who manages the implementation of sustainability matters at their respective operations units assist the Board to ensure that intended goals and objectives are met. The Board focuses on creating a sustainable culture within the Group with emphasis on integrating the social, environmental and economic risks and opportunities into the business strategies and management processes. The Board is constantly looking for opportunities within and outside its industries in order to enhance the Group's competitiveness and business sustainability through growth and diversification.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are rec encouraged to complete th	quired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are e columns below.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

Practice 4.2

The board ensures that the company's sustainability strategies, priorities and targets as well as performance against these targets are communicated to its internal and external stakeholders.

Application	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	 Stakeholders represent the diverse group of parties that have a degree of interest and influence on the Group and the way it operates. The Group believes that transparency and communication are fundamental components of good corporate governance and serve to build the relationship of trust with its stakeholders. A range of stakeholders' engagement are adopted depending on the target stakeholders such as announcement and press release with shareholders and investors, engagements and email communications with customers and suppliers, and regular dialogues and performance evaluation session with employees. Through the materiality matrix, key sustainability matters are identified. Material sustainability related matters and on-going sustainability initiatives undertaken by the Group are disclosed in the Annual Report 2023.
Explanation for departure	
Large companies are r encouraged to complete t	equired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are the columns below.
Measure	
Timeframe	

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

Practice 4.3

The board takes appropriate action to ensure they stay abreast with and understand the sustainability issues relevant to the company and its business, including climate-related risks and opportunities.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Board is regularly updated by senior management, company secretary and external auditors on the latest material development on various relevant rules and regulations during the Committee and Board Meetings.
	The Board also stay abreast with sustainability issues which are relevant to the Company's operation by attending the various seminars and trainings.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.	
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

Practice 4.4

Performance evaluations of the board and senior management include a review of the performance of the board and senior management in addressing the company's material sustainability risks and opportunities.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	During the annual Board Evaluation, the Board, through the NRC, reviewed its performance in managing the sustainability risks and opportunities including the evaluation of the Group's strategic and business plans which promote sustainability. Sustainability issues and compliance on sustainability related matters are being considered when evaluating the performance of senior management.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are re encouraged to complete th	quired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are ne columns below.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

The company addresses sustainability risks and opportunities in an integrated and strategic manner to support its long-term strategy and success.

Practice 4.5- Step Up

The board identifies a designated person within management, to provide dedicated focus to manage sustainability strategically, including the integration of sustainability considerations in the operations of the company.

Note: The explanation on adoption of this practice should include a brief description of the responsibilities of the designated person and actions or measures undertaken pursuant to the role in the financial year.

Application	:	Not Adopted
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 5.1

The Nomination Committee should ensure that the composition of the board is refreshed periodically. The tenure of each director should be reviewed by the Nomination Committee and annual re-election of a director should be contingent on satisfactory evaluation of the director's performance and contribution to the board.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Nomination and Remuneration Committee ("NRC") recognises the importance of evaluating the Board, the Committee and the individual Director as one of its primary responsibilities to ensure that the Board is operating efficiently and effectively. The NRC reviews the tenure of Directors from time to time especially upon expiry of their respective tenures and prior to their re-election at the AGM. In reviewing the tenure of Directors, the NRC takes into consideration their performance based on the peer assessment conducted under the annual Board effectiveness evaluation exercise. Their contribution to the Board as well as their participation during the Board and Board Committee deliberations will also be considered. Based on the aforesaid evaluations conducted for the FYE 2023, the NRC and the Board were satisfied with the performance of each
	Director, the Board as a whole, and the Board Committees.
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 5.2

At least half of the board comprises independent directors. For Large Companies, the board comprises a majority independent directors.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The present composition of the Board comprises of one (1) Executive Director and three (3) Independent Non-Executive Directors. Based on the above, 75% of the Board members are Independent Non-Executive Directors.
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 5.3

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 provide justification and seek annual shareholders' approval through a two-tier voting process.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	As at the date of this report, the tenure of Madam Lam Voon Kean has exceeded nine (9) years serving as an Independent Director of the Group.
	The Board is of the view that the Independent Director had performed her duties diligently and provided independent views when participating in deliberations and decision making of the Board and Board Committees. The length of her service on the Board does not in any way interfere with her exercise of independent judgement and ability to act in the best interest of the Group. Furthermore, the Independent Director is not related to any directors
	or substantial shareholders of the Group and she does not own any shares in the Group.
	In view of the above, the Group seeks shareholders' approval during the Annual General Meeting to retain Madam Lam Voon Kean to remain as Independent Non-Executive Director.
Explanation for : departure	
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Measure :	
Timeframe :	

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

Practice 5.4 - Step Up

The board has a policy which limits the tenure of its independent directors to nine years without further extension.

Note: To qualify for adoption of this Step Up practice, a listed issuer must have a formal policy which limits the tenure of an independent director to nine years without further extension i.e. shareholders' approval to retain the director as an independent director beyond nine years.

Application :	Not Adopted
Explanation on : adoption of the practice	This is not applicable to the Company as it does not fall within the definition of "Large Companies".

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

Practice 5.5

Appointment of board and senior management are based on objective criteria, merit and with due regard for diversity in skills, experience, age, cultural background and gender.

Directors appointed should be able to devote the required time to serve the board effectively. The board should consider the existing board positions held by a director, including on boards of non-listed companies. Any appointment that may cast doubt on the integrity and governance of the company should be avoided.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	Although the current Board composition reflects a diverse background, the Group practises non-discrimination (whether on age, gender, race or religion) on its selection criteria for Board members and senior management. Their appointment will be based on effective blend of competencies, skills, experiences and knowledge.
Explanation for :	
departure	
Large companies are re encouraged to complete t	equired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are he columns below.
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Timeframe :	

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

Practice 5.6

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.

If the selection of candidates was based on recommendations made by existing directors, management or major shareholders, the Nominating Committee should explain why these source(s) suffice and other sources were not used.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The Nomination & Remuneration Committee ("NRC") is responsible for making recommendation for any appointments to the Board. The NRC leverages on the Directors' and management's wide network of professional and business contacts to identify suitable qualified candidates for recommendation to the Board for approval. Shortlisted candidates would be assessed by NRC which includes assessment on skills, competency, time commitment, independence, professional knowledge, experience, character and other qualities in meeting the needs of the Group. During the financial year, Mr. Lee Thean Yew was proposed by the senior management to the NRC as a potential candidate for directorship. The NRC met to deliberate on the new appointee and agreed to recommend to the Board the appointment of Mr. Lee Thean Yew based on his skills, competency, time commitment, professional knowledge, experience, and character. The Board believes that the participation of the newly appointed Director will provide different perspectives and insights for effective decision-making on the Board. The appointment of Mr. Lee Thean Yew as Independent Non-Executive Director of the Company took effect on 30 June 2023.
Explanation for : departure	
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Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 5.7

The board should ensure shareholders have the information they require to make an informed decision on the appointment and reappointment of a director. This includes details of any interest, position or relationship that might influence, or reasonably be perceived to influence, in a material respect their capacity to bring an independent judgement to bear on issues before the board and to act in the best interests of the listed company as a whole. The board should also provide a statement as to whether it supports the appointment or reappointment of the candidate and the reasons why.

Application	: Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	 The profiles of Directors are published in the Annual Report and on company's website. These include their age, gender, tenure of service, directorships in other companies, working experience and any conflict of interest as well as their shareholdings in Asia File, if any. Shareholders are kept informed on the Board's decision in respect of appointment or re-appointment of Directors via announcements to Bursa Securities. The details of Directors who are standing for re-election are set out in the Notice of AGM and Statement Accompanying the Notice of AGM of the Annual Report 2023.
Explanation for departure	
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Measure	
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Board decisions are made objectively in the best interests of the company taking into account diverse perspectives and insights.

Practice 5.8

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

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	During the financial year, Mr. Ng Chin Nam, the Independent Non- Executive Director is the Chairman of the Nomination & Remuneration Committee ("NRC"). Upon the retirement of Mr. Ng Chin Nam, Madam Lam Voon Kean took over the chairmanship of NRC on 30 June 2023.
Explanation for : departure	
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Measure :	
Timeframe :	

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

Practice 5.9

The board comprises at least 30% women directors.

Application	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	:	The current Board comprises two (2) women Directors out of four (4) Directors, which meets the criteria of at least 30% women directors.
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 5.10

The board discloses in its annual report the company's policy on gender diversity for the board and senior management.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	Although the Group does not have any formalised policy on gender diversity, the current Board composition and senior management team meet the criteria of at least 30% of women participation. Gender diversity for both Board composition and senior management team are disclosed under the Corporate Governance Overview Statement and Profile of Key Senior Management in the Annual Report 2023.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.	
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

Stakeholders are able to form an opinion on the overall effectiveness of the board and individual directors.

Practice 6.1

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 its outcome, actions taken and how it has or will influence board composition.

For Large Companies, the board engages an independent expert at least every three years, to facilitate objective and candid board evaluation.

Note: For a Large Company to qualify for adoption of this practice, it must undertake annual board evaluation and engage an independent expert at least every three years to facilitate the evaluation.				
Application :	Applied			
Explanation on : application of the practice	Annual performance evaluation of each director and the Chief Financial Officer are carried out on a self-assessment basis. The assessment and evaluation consists of four sections:- Section I - Board and Board Committees Evaluation for each Director; Section II - Assessment of Character, Experience, Integrity, Competence and Time Commitment for each Director and Chief Financial Officer; Section III - Skill Set Matrix Form for each Director; Section IV - Evaluation of Level of Independence of a Director for Independent Directors Results of the assessment were compiled and evaluated by the Nomination & Remuneration Committee who was satisfied with the outcome of the evaluation.			
Explanation for : departure				
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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 7.1

The board has remuneration 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 remuneration policies and practices should appropriately reflect the different roles and responsibilities of non-executive directors, executive directors and senior management. The policies and procedures are periodically reviewed and made available on the company's website.

Application	Applied						
Explanation on application of the practice	The remuneration structure for the Executive Directors and Senior Management links rewards to individual and company performances while the director fees paid to the Non-Executive Directors will take into consideration the level of responsibilities undertaken.						
Explanation for departure							
Large companies are in encouraged to complete	equired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are the columns below.						
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 7.2

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 Remuneration Committee was set up to review and recommend to the Board a transparent and equitable remuneration policy and framework for the directors and Senior Management. The Committee was integrated into the existing Nomination Committee and renamed as Nomination & Remuneration Committee. During the financial year, the Committee is chaired by Mr. Ng Chin Nam, an Independent Non-Executive Director. Upon the retirement of Mr. Ng Chin Nam, Madam Lam Voon Kean was appointed as the Chairman of NRC on 30 June 2023. The terms of reference for the Nomination & Remuneration Committee are available on the Company's website <u>www.asia-file.com</u>.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are re encouraged to complete to	equired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are the columns below.
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 8.1

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

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	The remuneration breakdown of individual director for the financial year ended 31 March 2023 is as follows:-

			Company ('000)						Group ('000)							
No	Name	Directorate	Fee	Allowance	Salary	Bonus	Benefits-in- kind	Other emoluments	Total	Fee	Allowance	Salary	Bonus	Benefits-in- kind	Other emoluments	Total
1	Dato' Lim Soon Huat	Executive Director	174	-	1,452	892	17	285	2,820	204	-	1,452	892	17	285	2,850
2	Ng Chin Nam	Independent Director	52	-	-	-	-	3	55	52	-	-	-	-	3	55
3	Lam Voon Kean	Independent Director	44	-	-	-	-	2	46	44	-	-	-	-	2	46
4	Nurjannah Binti Ali	Independent Director	11	-	-	-	-	1	12	11	-	-	-	-	1	12
5	Chua Hooi Luan	Independent Director	33	-	-	-	-	2	35	33	-	-	-	-	2	35

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 8.2

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	The Group is of the opinion that the disclosure of the remuneration package for the remaining senior management will jeopardize the confidentiality of the salary information and retention of employees. The Group believes that the above non-disclosure will not in any way affect the interest of the shareholders.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are re encouraged to complete t	quired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are he columns below.
Measure :	
Timeframe :	

			Company									
No	No Name Position	Salary	Allowance	Bonus	Benefits	Other emoluments	Total					
1	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.				
2	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.				
3	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.				
4	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.				
5	Input info here	Input info here	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.				

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 8.3 - 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	This is not applicable to the Company as it does not fall within the definition of "Large Companies".

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 9.1

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 Board does not head the Audit Committee. During the financial year, the Audit Committee is chaired by Mr. Ng Chin Nam, an Independent Non-Executive Director.					
Explanation for departure	:						
Large companies are encouraged to complete		quired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are e 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 9.2

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

Application	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	 The policy has been incorporated into the Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee. None of the members of the Board were former audit partners.
Explanation for departure	
Large companies are r encouraged to complete	equired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are 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 9.3

The Audit Committee has policies and procedures to assess the suitability, objectivity and independence of the external auditor to safeguard the quality and reliability of audited financial statements.

Application :	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	On 27 February 2023, the external auditor, Messrs. BDO PLT was invited to present a summary of their audit plan which outlines the engagement team, materiality, audit scope, methodology and focus areas to the Audit Committee. Upon completion of the audit, the audit findings were shared with the Audit Committee on 29 May 2023. On both occasions, the Audit Committee had a private session with the external auditor without the presence of the Executive Directors and Management. The meetings with the auditors provide a direct communication and enable the members of the Committee to assess the suitability, objectivity and independence of the external auditor. None of the engagement team of BDO is related to the Directors or Senior Management of the Group. In addition, BDO has an internal policy of partner rotation to enhance the independence of the engagement team. During the meeting with the Audit Committee, the external auditor has also confirmed their independence throughout the conduct of their audit engagement.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are n encouraged to complete t	equired to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are he 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 9.4 - Step Up

The Audit Committee should comprise solely of Independent Directors.

Application :	Adopted
Explanation on : adoption of the practice	The current composition of the Audit Committee consists solely of Independent Non-Executive Directors

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 9.5

Collectively, the Audit Committee should possess a wide range of necessary skills to discharge its duties. All members should be financially literate, competent 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 Chairman of the Audit Committee, Mr. Ng Chin Nam, is a member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants ("CIMA") with more than 25 years of experience in the accounting industry. The remaining two members of the Committee also come from strong accounting and financial background. This will enable them to understand matters discussed during the Audit Committee meetings in particular on accounts related and financial reporting issues. As part of their continuous professional development, the Audit Committee members have attended various seminars and trainings as outlined in the Corporate Governance Overview Statement in the Annual Report 2023. 	
Explanation for departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
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 10.1

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

Application :	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	The Board assumes the overall responsibility for the Group's risk management and internal control system. The Audit Committee will assist the Board in evaluating the adequacy of the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control framework adopted by the Group. Details of the Group's risk management and internal control are available under Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control	
	in the Annual Report 2023.	
Explanation for : departure		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
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 10.2

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 key elements of the risk management and internal control framework were disclosed in the Statement on Risk Management and Internal Control in the Annual Report 2023.	
Explanation for departure	:	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.		
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 10.3 - 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 :	:	Not Adopted
Explanation on : adoption of the practice	:	

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

Practice 11.1

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 Group has its own Internal Audit Department ("IAD") which employs three (3) full time employees. The detailed yearly audit plan for financial year ending 2024 was reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee on 27 February 2023.
	At least once (1) a year, the Audit Committee meets with Internal Auditors in the absence of the Executive Directors and management staff. A risk based approach is adopted in establishing the internal audit program where major risk areas will be identified. Risk Registers for the various processes are set up to identify major risks for such processes. The registers will document the potential impact of those risks, the existing control mechanism available to mitigate the risks and also the recommended control measures to be adopted. The audits are carried out based on the detailed audit procedures as stated on the audit program designed for each of the audit area based on the level of risks identified.
Explanation for : departure	
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.	
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 11.2

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 Department ("IAD") has three (3) full time employees and is headed by Ms Lim Hooi Cheng who has an in-depth knowledge of the Group's operation. She obtained her Master in Business Administration from University Utara Malaysia and is also a member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants. All employees in the IAD are free from any relationships or conflicts of interest, which could impair their objectivity and independence. The internal audit function is conducted on a risk based approach. 	
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 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 12.1

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

Application :	Applied
Explanation on : application of the practice	 The Group recognises the importance of keeping its shareholders informed of the development and performance of the Group. Material information is disseminated timely to the public via announcements made to Bursa Securities and other means. The Executive Chairman and the Chief Financial Officer are the primary contacts with the shareholders. Regular dialogue with institutional investors and presentations to analysts are delivered periodically to keep stakeholders updated with the latest insights on the business. At the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") held each year, all Board members, Senior Management, company secretary and external auditors are present to respond to questions raised by the shareholders. The Company's website www.asia-file.com also serves as an excellent platform of communication where shareholders could easily assess relevant corporate and financial information.
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 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 12.2

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	:	This is not applicable to the Company as it does not fall within the definition of "Large Companies".
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 13.1

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	:	Notice for the Annual General Meeting was issued to the shareholders on 31 July 2023 which is at least 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting which will be held on 29 September 2023.	
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 13.2

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	:	Applied
Explanation on application of the practice	•	All directors including the Chair of the various Board Committees and Chief Financial Officer were present at the Annual General Meetings physically and made themselves available to respond to questions raised by the shareholders attending the 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	:	

Shareholders are able to participate, engage the board and senior management effectively and make informed voting decisions at General Meetings.

Practice 13.3

Listed companies should leverage technology to facilitate-

- voting including voting in absentia; and
- remote shareholders' participation at general meetings.

Listed companies should also take the necessary steps to ensure good cyber hygiene practices are in place including data privacy and security to prevent cyber threats.

Application	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	 Poll voting was conducted in a paperless manner using a wireless handheld device for all resolutions set out in the Notice of Annual General Meeting ("AGM"). The Directors addressed questions raised by the shareholders on the proposed resolutions before putting the resolution to a vote. AGRITEUM Share Registration Services Sdn. Bhd. was appointed as the Poll Administrator to conduct the poll by way of electronic means while Symphony Merchant Sdn. Bhd. was appointed as Independent Scrutineer to verify the poll results at the AGM. All resolutions proposed were duly passed and the outcome of the AGM was announced to Bursa Securities on the same meeting day. 	
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 13.4

The Chairman of the board should ensure that general meetings support meaningful engagement between the board, senior management and shareholders. The engagement should be interactive and include robust discussion on among others the company's financial and non-financial performance as well as the company's long-term strategies. Shareholders should also be provided with sufficient opportunity to pose questions during the general meeting and all the questions should receive a meaningful response.

Note: The explanation of adoption of this practice should include a discussion on measures				
undertaken to ensure the general meeting is interactive, shareholders are provided with sufficient				
opportunity to pose question	ons and the questions are responded to.			
Application :	Applied			
Explanation on :	The Company's 28th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") was held on 29			
application of the	September 2022 at Olive Tree Hotel, Bayan Lepas, Penang with the			
practice	presence of the Executive Chairman, Chief Financial Officer, other			
practice	Directors, company secretary and the Group's external auditors to			
	address any issues brought up by the shareholders during the AGM.			
	The holding of physical AGM in Bayan Lepas, Penang at the location easily accessible by its shareholders allows physical attendance and support effective face-to-face engagement between the Board and senior management with the shareholders of the Company, with interactive participation by the shareholders present at the AGM. Questions posted by the shareholders were responded accordingly. The shareholders whom are unable to attend and vote at the AGM of the Company are encouraged to submit the proxy form to the Share Registrar to allow them to vote in absence.			
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 13.5

The board must ensure that the conduct of a virtual general meeting (fully virtual or hybrid) support meaningful engagement between the board, senior management and shareholders. This includes having in place the required infrastructure and tools to support among others, a smooth broadcast of the general meeting and interactive participation by shareholders. Questions posed by shareholders should be made visible to all meeting participants during the meeting itself.

Note: The explanation of adoption of this practice should include a discussion on measures undertaken to ensure the general meeting is interactive, shareholders are provided with sufficient opportunity to pose questions and the questions are responded to. Further, a listed issuer should also provide brief reasons on the choice of the meeting platform.

Application	:	Not applicable – only physical general meetings were conducted in the financial year
Explanation on application of the practice	:	
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 13.6

Minutes of the general meeting should be circulated to shareholders no later than 30 business days after the general meeting.

Note: The publication of Key Matters Discussed is not a substitute for the circulation of minutes of general meeting.

Application	:	Applied	
Explanation on application of the practice	:	Minutes of the 28 th AGM have been made available to shareholders on the Company's website at <u>www.asia-file.com</u> on 28 October 2022.	
Explanation for departure	:		
Large companies are required to complete the columns below. Non-large companies are encouraged to complete the columns below.			
Measure	:		
Timeframe	:		

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.

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