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-PRESS RELEASE-

Kuala Lumpur, 11 September 2009 – The current status shows that 30,576 house buyers in need of help as they suffered from the situation where there are 136 abandoned housing projects throughout the country. Even though these 136 projects account is about 2% of the total housing development in the country, the stress impact is deeply felt by the *rakyat* as well as the national economy.

With regards to the situation, Ministry of Housing and Local Government launched a new Government initiative called the Housing Revival Initiative (HRI). The ceremony which officiated by the Housing and Local Government Minister, Dato' Seri Kong Cho Ha held at the Hilton Hotel, Petaling Jaya.

Y.B Dato' Seri Kong Cho Ha said that under this initiative, corporate organisations are encouraged to undertake the revival of the abandoned housing projects while Ministry will function as the primary mediator. Ministry proposes that the revived project be named after the corporate group responsible for its completion.

Also a green lane will be set up for the corporate organisation involved, so as to assist the organisation in all its future dealings with the Ministry.

Housing Revival Initiative which emphasizes the citizen-centric approach is introduced in conjunction with the establishment of the Special Task Force (STF) to Revive Abandoned Housing Projects. The STF aims to draw together various sectors of the housing industry to generate ideas, approaches and strategies that will hopefully accomplish quantum leap improvements of the local housing delivery system.

In conjunction with this initiative, Ministry has renewed the efforts to educate the public which is to be achieved largely through a series of informative articles published in all mainstream newspapers. These articles aim to enlighten the public as to their rights as house buyers and to inform them about the housing regulation process in the country.

Besides, Ministry is also exploring various new concepts related to the housing industry to the extent it is applicable within the local context. The many variants of the Build – Then – Sell concept are being studied to assess its suitability and practicality. Furthermore, Ministry is deliberating upon an insurance scheme aimed at protecting house buyers against failure of projects to complete. Also in the pipeline is the National Housing Policy.

Kong added, he believes that the construction industry has to make a shift towards an approach that is more citizen-centric in accordance with the concept of One Malaysia. In order to make this effort worthwhile, it requires the participation of both Government and Private Corporations. Ideally in a connected government, both private and public sector work together to create changes for a better standard of living for all Malaysians.

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Kementerian Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan (KPKT) diterajui oleh Yang Berhormat Dato' Seri Kong Cho Ha. Di bawah Kementerian ini terdapat 9 Jabatan iaitu Jabatan Perumahan, Jabatan Kerajaan Tempatan, Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat, Jabatan Perancangan Bandar dan Desa, Jabatan Lanskap Negara, Jabatan Pengurusan Sisa Pepejal Negara, Perbadanan Sisa Pepejal dan Pembersihan Awam, Tribunal Tuntutan Pembeli Rumah dan Institut Latihan KPKT.

Di keluaran oleh:

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