

PRESS RELEASE

COMMENCEMENT OF SURVEY INTERVIEWS FOR THE BUSINESS SENTIMENT INDEX

- 1. Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD) will be commencing survey interviews on selected businesses to develop the Business Sentiment Index (BSI) starting Saturday, 1 August 2020.
- 2. Selected businesses will be contacted by AMBD personnel to set appointments for the interview. To ensure the health and safety of those involved in the interviews, AMBD will take additional precautionary measures against COVID19, in accordance to the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health (MOH).
- 3. The interviews will be carried out by AMBD personnel who will identify themselves at the beginning of the interviews. This survey is an ongoing survey, and will be carried out every month.
- 4. The survey aims to develop the BSI, a monthly published index, to measure the level of business sentiment or confidence in Brunei Darussalam. More than 600 businesses have been selected to represent the various sectors within Brunei Darussalam's economy.
- 5. Respondents should expect general questions regarding the current and future business conditions, investments, employment of workers, as well as costs of running their businesses. Responses will be kept confidential and no personal information will be collected aside from respondents' name and contact information.
- 6. Monitoring the level of business sentiment is important as it acts as key barometer and leading indicator of business conditions, as well as measures the overall health of the economy. Business confidence drives business growth and investment, and supports employment opportunities. The BSI aims to provide additional valuable insights into how Brunei Darussalam's economy is faring from the perspective of businesses in general. Over time, the information gathered may also be used by policymakers to establish necessary policies towards further developing the economy.
- 7. For further information and enquiries regarding the BSI as well as the survey, members of the public may refer to the technical notes on the methodology and the list of survey questions on the AMBD website at www.ambd.gov.bn. Respondents may also contact AMBD if they wish to verify the authenticity of an interviewer by calling AMBD at 2382262.

Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam

Reference : AMBD/COMMS/3

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