# Take 5 for business

Volume 10 Issue 7 12 December 2022

**Bursa Malaysia: Enhanced** sustainability disclosure requirements

Phased-approach implementation

Building a better working world

# Supporting the transition of public listed companies towards a low carbon economy

Commencing in financial year end (FYE) 2023, Malaysian public-listed companies (PLCs) will need to comply with Bursa Malaysia (Bursa)'s enhanced sustainability reporting requirements.

Bursa's enhanced disclosure requirements will steer Malaysian PLCs to adopt and report on their sustainability practices.
Additionally, embracing these enhancements will strengthen a PLC's competitiveness in attracting capital as it transits towards a low carbon economy.

# Common sustainability matters prescribed\*

- 1. Anti-corruption
- 2. Community / society
- 3. Diversity
- 4. Energy management
- 5. Health and safety
- 6. Labor practices and standards
- 7. Supply chain management
- 8. Data privacy and security
- 9. Water

Remaining common sustainability matters:

- 10. Waste management
- 11. Emissions management

### \*Bursa Malaysia enhanced disclosure requirements

# Sustainability reporting: Key enhanced areas

- **Disclose c**ommon sustainability matters<sup>1</sup> by 2023
- ► Align with climate change-related disclosures as recommended by the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) in a dedicated section within the Sustainability Statement

Disclose the transition plan towards a lowcarbon economy applicable to ACE market PLCs<sup>2</sup>

- ▶ Provide the data from the last three financial years for each reported sustainability indicator and its performance targets (where available) including a summary in a prescribed format<sup>3</sup>
- Consider sector-specific indicators pertaining to sustainability matters deemed material to the organization
- ➤ Provide a "Statement of Assurance" on whether the Sustainability Statement (that includes the subject matter and scope covered) has been subjected to an internal review by an internal auditor or if an independent assurance has been performed in accordance with recognized assurance standards

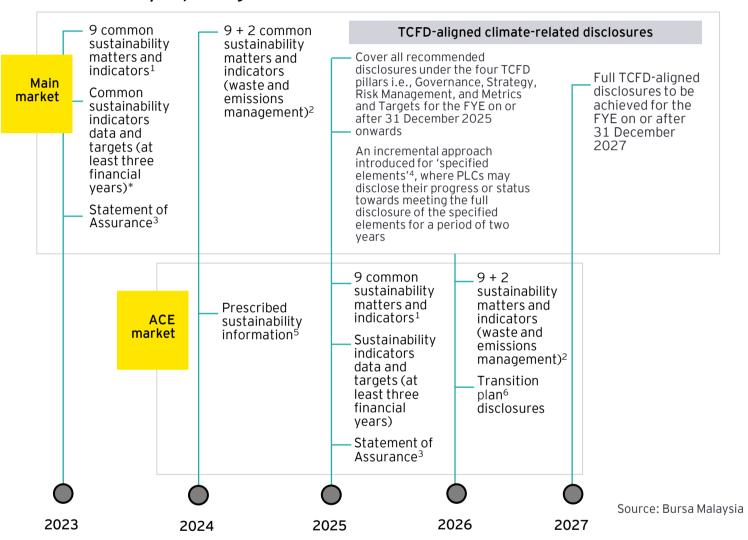
### Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> Common sustainability matters refer to a common set of prescribed sustainability matters and indicators that are deemed material for all listed issuers
- <sup>2</sup> ACE (Access, Certainty, Efficiency) market PLCs are not required to disclose their transition plans towards a low-carbon economy, if their Sustainability Statements have already included TCFD-aligned disclosures, covering all the four pillars: governance, strategy, risk management, and metrics and targets, in a dedicated section within the Sustainability Statement.
- <sup>3</sup> The summary of the data and targets in a prescribed format will be announced by Bursa Malaysia in due course Source: Bursa Malaysia

# Enhanced sustainability reporting: Phased-approach implementation

By the end of 2023, PLCs in the Bursa Main Market will need to disclose their common sustainability matters and indicators, sustainability data and targets, and Statements of Assurance on the disclosed information. The proposed timeline for the phased-approach implementation is summarized below:

# Sustainability reporting: disclosure areas



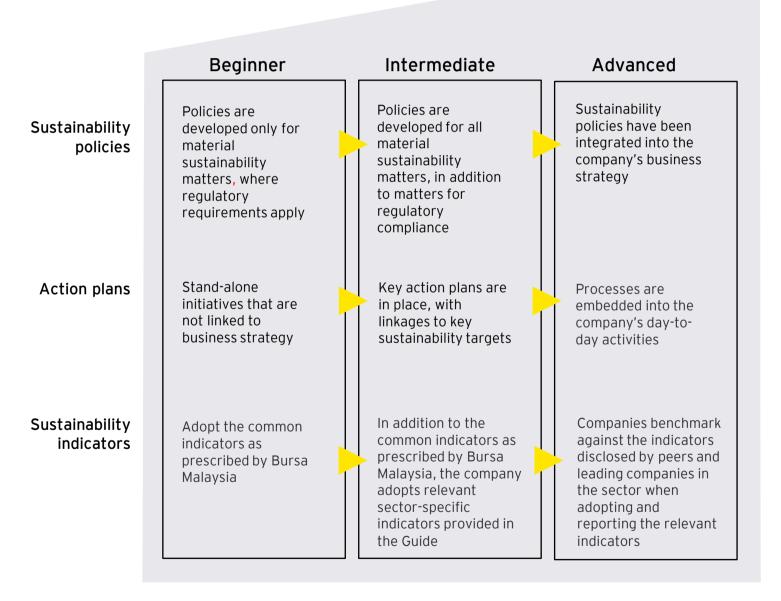
Timeline for implementation: FYE on or after 31 December of respective years

### Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> The nine common sustainability matters and indicators include anti-corruption, community or society, diversity, energy management, health and safety, labor practices and standards, supply chain management, data privacy and security, and water
- <sup>2</sup> The nine common sustainability matters and indicators are extended to include waste management and emissions matters
- 3 A statement on whether the sustainability statement has been reviewed internally by internal auditors or independently assured
- <sup>4</sup> The specified elements include descriptions about the
- ▶ impact of climate-related risks and opportunities on the organization's business, strategy and financial planning,
- ▶ description on the resilience of the organization's strategy taking into consideration different climate-related scenarios, including a 2°C or lower scenario and
- description on how processes for identifying, assessing and managing climate-related risks are integrated into the organization's overall risk management
- <sup>5</sup> Prescribed sustainability information refers to the narrative statement of the listed issuer's management of material economic, environmental and social risks, and opportunities, which must include sustainability governance, the scope of the Sustainability Statement and the basis for the scope, materiality assessment and management of material sustainability matters
- <sup>6</sup> The transition plan is an aspect of a company's overall business strategy that lays out a set of targets and actions supporting its transition towards a low-carbon economy, including actions such as reducing its green house gases (GHG) emissions. A transition plan, in a dedicated section within the Sustainability Statement, should include information on
- ▶ the role of the board and senior management in overseeing and executing the transition plan and
- $\,\blacktriangleright\,\,$  the strategies and initiatives to manage climate-related risks and opportunities.

# Sustainability reporting indicators

According to the Bursa Malaysia Sustainability Reporting Guide (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, September 2022), PLCs are encouraged to gain gradual proficiency in their sustainability journey from beginner to intermediate and advanced levels of proficiency. For each proficiency level, PLCs can consider the proposed approach to their sustainability policies, action plans and sustainability indicators:



Source: Sustainability Reporting Guide (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition), September 2022, Bursa Malaysia

# **Next steps**

# Conduct a materiality assessment and engage with stakeholders to decide on material matters

Revisit the materiality assessment to consider both the common material matters and sector-specific material matters as guided by the Bursa Sustainability Reporting Guide (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)

### Determine the types of indicators

Report all common indicators (at a minimum) and consider other potentially relevant indicators, including sector-specific indicators determined in the Bursa Sustainability Reporting Guide - prescribed by:

- international sustainability reporting frameworks/standards, and/or
- adopted by peers in the same sector

Enhance the credibility of disclosed sustainability information

Strengthen internal sustainability reporting and the management system in preparation for review by the internal audit function or an external independent assurance provider

Enhanced sustainability disclosures

disclosures

## Compile data on sustainability matters and indicators

Provide comparable and meaningful sustainability data by using accepted international metrics, standard conversion factors and protocols with contextual information for the last three financial years

# Provide training on sustainability matters

Strengthen the ESG<sup>1</sup> capabilities of board members, finance functions, the internal audit function and relevant staff to develop internal capabilities

# Set meaningful and measurable targets

- Set and disclose clear performance targets linked to sustainability indicators, with visibility of performance and progress against those targets.
- Link sustainability-related key performance indicators and targets to executive compensation, to enhance accountability and spur the company's sustainability performance and improvements

### Notes:

Source: EY

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Environmental, social and governance

# EY thought leadership



IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards September 2022



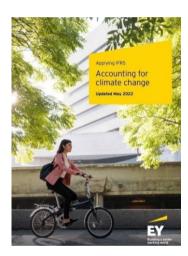
The Evolving Non-Financial Reporting Landscape August 2021



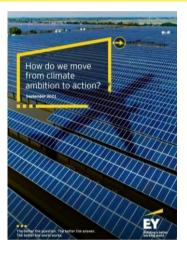
The future of sustainability reporting standards
June 2021



Global Climate Risk Barometer September 2022



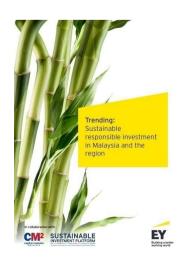
Accounting for climate change May 2022



How do we move from climate ambition to action? September 2021



How can boards strengthen governance to accelerate their ESG journeys? February 2022



Trending: Sustainable responsible investment in Malaysia and the Region February 2022



Setting the ESG agenda to achieve sustainable longterm value June 2021

# EY contacts



Dato' Abdul Rauf Rashid Malaysia Managing Partner, Ernst & Young PLT

abdul-rauf.rashid@my.ey.com



Ong Chee Wai Malaysia Assurance Managing Partner, Ernst & Young PLT

chee-wai.ong@my.ey.com



Arina Kok Malaysia Climate Change and Sustainability Services Leader and Partner, Ernst & Young Consulting Sdn Bhd

arina.kok@my.ey.com



Woo Jan Ning Senior Executive Director, Assurance Ernst & Young PLT

jan-ning.woo@my.ey.com



Chetna Haresh Director, Climate Change and Sustainability Services Ernst & Young Consulting Sdn Bhd

chetna.haresh@my.ey.com



Ibrahim Ariffin Senior Manager, Climate Change and Sustainability Services Ernst & Young Consulting Sdn Bhd

ibrahim.ariffin@my.ey.com

### **EY** | Building a better working world

EY exists to build a better working world, helping to create long-term value for clients, people and society and build trust in the capital markets.

Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation is available via ey.com/privacy. EY member firms do not practice law where prohibited by local laws. For more information about our organization, please visit ey.com.

© 2022 Ernst & Young Consulting Sdn Bhd All Rights Reserved.

APAC no. 07009501

**ED None** 

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, legal or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

ey.com/en\_my