

Our Ref: IS/TAC/RO(JH)/LD03/21 [Additional EOT/8.03A&GN3 Relief Measures]

17 February 2021

The Company Secretary
(ACE Market Listed Corporations)

Via email

Dear Sir/Madam,

ADDITIONAL TEMPORARY RELIEF MEASURES TO LISTED CORPORATIONS AMID THE EVOLVING COVID-19 SITUATION:

- (A) EXTENSION OF TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL REPORTS; AND
 - (B) FURTHER RELIEF TO LISTED CORPORATIONS WITH UNSATISFACTORY FINANCIAL CONDITION AND INADEQUATE LEVEL OF OPERATIONS
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(A) **INTRODUCTION**

1. Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad (“the Exchange”) is committed to assist and support listed corporations in weathering these challenging times due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On this basis, further to our various relief measures for listed corporations last year¹, the Exchange is pleased to announce additional relief measures for listed corporations to ease compliance with requirements under the ACE Market Listing Requirements (“ACE LR”).

(B) **BACKGROUND**

2. With the surge of COVID-19 cases in Malaysia recently, the Prime Minister had, on 11 January 2021, announced the implementation of the Movement Control Order 2.0 (“MCO 2.0”). The MCO 2.0 which was initially scheduled to end on 4 February 2021 has been further extended to 18 February 2021 in all Malaysian states (except Sarawak).
3. The Exchange takes cognisance that some listed corporations may have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 and the various movement control orders implemented in response of the pandemic. Recognising this, the Exchange is pleased to introduce additional relief measures to aid the listed corporations as set out below.

¹ See our circulars dated 17 March, 26 March, 16 April, 6 May and 10 November 2020 which are available at https://www.bursamalaysia.com/regulation/listing_requirements/ace_market/directives_clarifications

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(C) **EXTENSION OF TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF QUARTERLY REPORTS AND ANNUAL REPORTS**

4. The Exchange will grant a 1-month extension for issuance of the quarterly reports (“QR”) and annual reports that include annual audited financial statements and the auditors’ and directors’ reports (“AR”) due by **28 February 2021, 31 March 2021 and 30 April 2021** respectively as follows:

No.	Existing Due Date for Issuance of QR and AR	Extended Due Date
(a)	28 February 2021	31 March 2021
(b)	31 March 2021	30 April 2021
(c)	30 April 2021	31 May 2021

5. Notwithstanding the extension of time in paragraph 4 above, the Exchange would like to remind listed corporations of the following:
- (a) listed corporations must continue to comply with the continuing disclosure obligations under the ACE LR, including the obligation to make immediate announcement of any material information under Rule 9.03; and
- (b) if the preparation of the QR and AR is not adversely affected by the MCO 2.0 and COVID-19 pandemic, and listed corporations are able to issue the said reports within the prescribed timelines under the ACE LR, they must continue to do so without any undue delay.

This is to ensure that shareholders and investors continue to receive material and financial information in a timely manner.

(D) **FURTHER RELIEF TO LISTED CORPORATIONS WITH UNSATISFACTORY FINANCIAL CONDITION AND INADEQUATE LEVEL OF OPERATIONS**

6. The Exchange appreciates the necessity of providing further relief to listed corporations on a temporary basis to facilitate the continuation of their business operations at times of financial stress and uncertainty. This is particularly crucial for listed corporations faced with challenging financial condition or major disruption to their business operations.

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Existing Relief Measures

7. In this regard, the Exchange had, on 26 March 2020 and 16 April 2020, granted relief measures specifically for listed corporations which had triggered the criteria under Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR (“GN3 listed corporations”) as well as those with inadequate level of operations under Rule 8.03A of the ACE LR as follows:

(a) Extension of time to submit regularisation plan

A listed corporation that triggered any of the criteria in Guidance Note 3 or Rule 8.03A of the ACE LR from 2 January 2019 to 31 December 2020 had been granted a timeframe of 24 months (instead of 12 months) from the date it first announced it triggered the criteria to comply with paragraph 5.1 of Guidance Note 3.

(b) GN3 Relief Measures

- (i) A listed corporation that triggers certain criteria in Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR from 17 April 2020 to 30 June 2021² (“GN3 Suspended Criteria”), will not be classified as a GN3 listed corporation and will be accorded relief from complying with the obligations under Rule 8.04 and Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR for a period of 12 months from the date of triggering the specified criteria.
- (ii) The listed corporation will only be required to make an immediate announcement that it has triggered the specified criteria and the relief provided (“GN3 Relief Announcement”).
- (iii) Upon the expiry of 12 months³ from the GN3 Relief Announcement, the listed corporation must re-assess its condition and announce whether it continues to trigger any of the criteria in Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR (“GN3 Subsequent Announcement”).

² The GN3 Suspended Criteria refer to the criteria on shareholders’ equity, losses, material uncertainty related to going concern and auditors’ qualification on going concern, as well as default in payment as set out in paragraphs 2.1(a), (b), (c), (g) and (h) respectively of Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR.

³ See the extension in paragraph 8(c) of this circular.

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- (iv) If the listed corporation continues to trigger any of the criteria in Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR, it will be classified thereafter as such and must comply with all the obligations under Rule 8.04 and Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR from the date of the GN3 Subsequent Announcement.

8. With the MCO 2.0 in place, the Exchange, with the concurrence from the Securities Commission Malaysia, has decided to introduce more relief measures to affected listed corporations to assist them to weather through these challenging times, so that they can stay focused on resuscitating their business. The additional relief measures are as set out below:

No.	Criteria and Triggering Period	Additional Relief Measures
8.03A(2)(b) Relief Measures [New]		
(a)	A listed corporation triggers the criterion on insignificant business or operations ⁴ in Rule 8.03A(2)(b) of the ACE LR between 1 January 2021 and 30 June 2021 (both dates inclusive) (“8.03A(2)(b) Suspended Criterion”)	<p>The listed corporation -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • must immediately announce that it has triggered the 8.03A(2)(b) Suspended Criterion and the relief provided (“8.03A(2)(b) Relief Announcement”); • will be granted relief from complying with the other obligations under Rule 8.03A of the ACE LR for a period of 12 months from the date of triggering the 8.03A(2)(b) Suspended Criterion; and • must, upon the expiry of 12 months from the 8.03A(2)(b) Relief Announcement, re-assess its condition and announce whether it continues to trigger the 8.03A(2)(b) Suspended Criterion (“8.03A(2)(b) Subsequent Announcement”).

⁴ Under Rule 8.03A(7)(b) of the ACE LR, “insignificant business or operations” means business or operations which generates revenue on a consolidated basis that represents 5% or less of the share capital (excluding any redeemable preference shares and treasury shares) of the listed corporation based on its latest annual audited or unaudited financial statements.

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No.	Criteria and Triggering Period	Additional Relief Measures
		If the listed corporation continues to trigger the 8.03A(2)(b) Suspended Criterion, it must comply with all the obligations under Rule 8.03A of the ACE LR from the date of the 8.03A(2)(b) Subsequent Announcement.
Extension of Time to Submit Regularisation Plan [New]		
(b)	<p>A listed corporation triggers the following from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • criterion on suspension or cessation of all or major business or operations under Rule 8.03A(2)(a) of the ACE LR; or • any of the criteria in Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR (other than the GN3 Suspended Criteria) 	The listed corporation which triggers Rule 8.03A(2)(a) of the ACE LR or which is classified as a GN3 listed corporation will be accorded with a total of 24 months (instead of 12 months) from the date it first announces that it triggers the criteria, to comply with paragraph 5.1 of Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR.
PN17 Relief Measures [Extended]		
(c)	A listed corporation triggers the GN3 Suspended Criteria	<p>The GN3 Relief Measures as set out in paragraph 7(b) above continues to apply with modifications in terms of the re-assessment period.</p> <p>Instead of 12 months, the listed corporation will have 18 months (i.e. an additional 6 months) from the GN3 Relief Announcement, to re-assess its condition and make the announcement whether it triggers any of the criteria in Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR.</p>

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9. If a listed corporation which triggers the GN3 Suspended Criteria or the 8.03A(2)(b) Suspended Criterion, subsequently triggers the **non-GN3 Suspended Criteria** or **Rule 8.03A(2)(a)** of the ACE LR before the expiry of the re-assessment period (i.e. 18 months or 12 months, as the case may be), such listed corporation must -
 - (a) make the announcement that it has triggered the other criteria and where applicable, it will then be classified as a GN3 listed corporation; and
 - (b) comply with all the obligations under Rule 8.04 and Guidance Note 3 of the ACE LR or Rule 8.03A of the ACE LR respectively, from the date of the announcement in paragraph 9(a) above.
10. In addition to the above, we have also provided illustrations in **Annexures A, B and C** to facilitate a listed corporation's better understanding of the additional relief measures set out in paragraph 8 above.
11. The Exchange will continue to monitor the situation and assess if further measures are required.
12. In the meantime, if you have any queries on the above, please do not hesitate to contact Listing Advisory, Listing Department at 03-2034 7766.

Thank you.

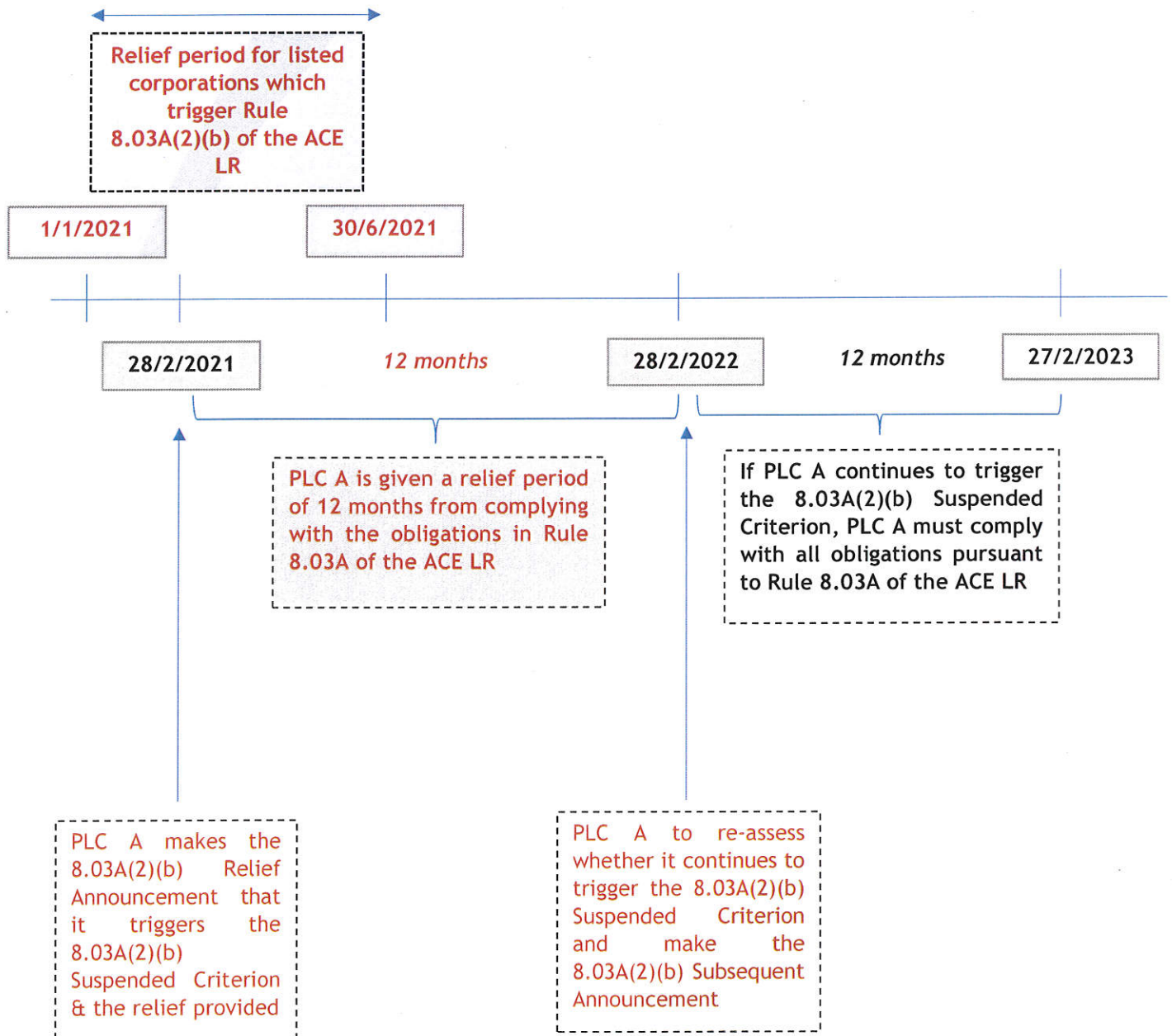
Yours faithfully,



REGULATION

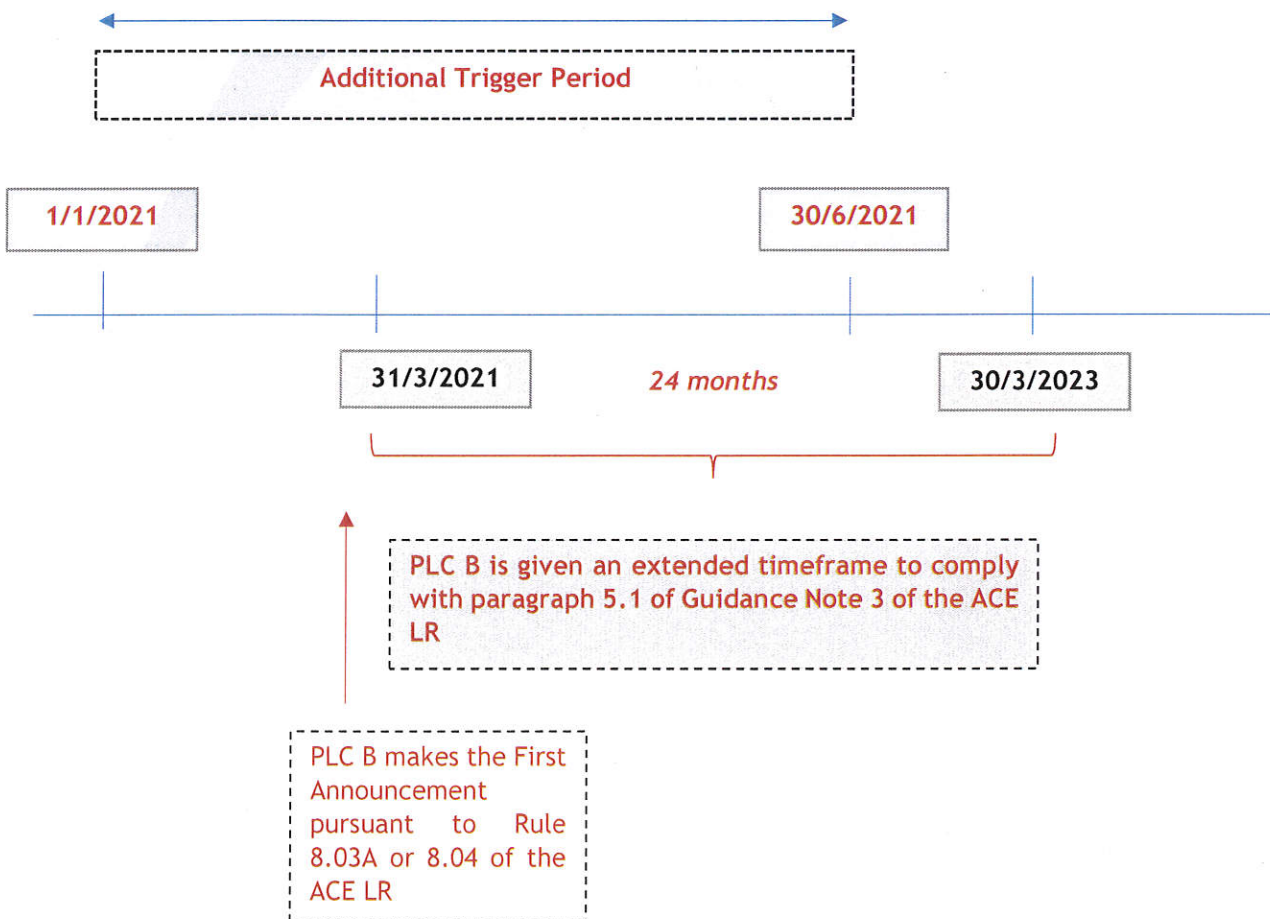
ANNEXURE A: ILLUSTRATION OF THE 8.03A(2)(b) RELIEF MEASURES (as detailed in paragraph 8(a) of this circular)

An illustration of a scenario where PLC A triggers the 8.03A(2)(b) Suspended Criterion on 28 February 2021



ANNEXURE B: ILLUSTRATION OF THE RELIEF MEASURE PERTAINING TO THE EXTENSION OF TIMEFRAME TO SUBMIT REGULARISATION PLANS (as detailed in paragraph 8(b) of this circular)

An illustration of a scenario where PLC B triggers the criteria in Rule 8.03A(2)(a) or GN3 of the ACE LR (excluding the GN3 Suspended Criteria) on 31 March 2021



ANNEXURE C: ILLUSTRATION OF THE GN3 RELIEF MEASURE - EXTENSION OF TIMEFRAME TO RE-ASSESS CONDITION (as detailed in paragraph 8(c) of this circular)

