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PRESS RELEASE

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**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT ENDORSES ALTERNATIVES TO THE PRACTICE OF
CONTAINER DEPOSIT COLLECTION IN MALAYSIA**

Port Klang Authority (PKA) is pleased to announce that the long standing issue of deposit collection for import containers in Port Klang and other Malaysian ports is now resolved.

Shipping Lines imposed deposits on merchants or their forwarding agents as a payment assurance for delays in not returning the empty containers promptly or for damages caused while the containers were in their custody. The move was seen as a financial burden on the importers and their agents and indirectly led to an increase in business cost.

Last year, the Ministry of Transport and Port Klang Authority coordinated several meetings to pursue an amicable solution among stakeholders. In December 2019, the National Logistics Task Force chaired by the Minister of Transport, whose members among others include associations representing shipping companies, importers, exporters and forwarding agents agreed to adopt 3 proposed schemes in lieu of container deposits.

The adoption of the non-deposit schemes was announced by the Minister of Transport at PKA's Chinese New Year open house in Port Klang on 13/02/2020. In urging all parties to take advantage by subscribing to these schemes, the Minister reminded merchants and forwarding agents that they will otherwise be subjected to container deposits unless they have negotiated other arrangements with shipping lines.

PKA will issue a circular on the details of the schemes adopted outlining the standard operating procedures which will come into effect on 1st March 2020.

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