

# GOVERNING under New Normal



# Plenary session 1: Governing under New Normal Dato' Abdul Rauf Rashid Malaysia Managing Partner Ernst & Young PLT

Building a better working world

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The new normal demands that corporates, investors, Government and regulators focus on sustainability.

Changing world – a warmer world	Evolving consumer behavior	Increasing and more stringent regulations	Rising demand for non- financial information
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Sources: <sup>1</sup>Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT); <sup>2</sup>Chandler, D. (2 August 2017); <sup>3</sup>Cone Communications, 2015 Cone Communications Millennial CSR Study <sup>4</sup>Fenz, K., Hamel, K., and Hofer, M. (30 April 2018), How to harness the spending power of millennials: Move beyond the US <sup>2</sup>Cone Communications, 2015 Cone Communications Millennial CSR Study; <sup>5</sup>Take5 Re-modelling strategies with ESG, EY

# Investors are making ESG an imperative for now and beyond.



The fifth EY global institutional investor survey asked 298 investors with funds of approximately US\$30 trillion about the role of ESG in their decision-making and long-term investment management. Investors were drawn from across the world and represented three key segments: banking and capital markets, insurance, and wealth and asset management.

### Key findings:

# Investors demand ESG disclosures

### 1. Investors raise the ESG stakes

83% of investors see the need for a formal framework to measure and communicate intangible value.

## 2. ESG performance disconnect: environmental risk in the spotlight

46% think there is a disconnect between ESG reporting and mainstream financial information.

### 3. Investors are holding companies accountable.

91% of investors surveyed agreed that nonfinancial performance has played a pivotal role in their investment decision-making.

## 4. The future of ESG performance: trusted and credible

82% say it would be useful to have independent assurance of the impact of green investments.



# Malaysian regulators are increasing focus on sustainability.

#### CSR Reporting Framework

Requires all public listed companies (PLCs) to include a description of corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities in relation to marketplace, workplace, community and environment

#### **Companies Act 2016**

CSR or sustainability reporting did not apply outside of PLCs until the introduction of a provision to promote CSR disclosure in the form of a business review report.

#### Bursa Sustainability Reporting Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

Encourages the mapping to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Taskforce on Climaterelated Financial Disclosures (TCFD), adoption of integrated reporting and sustainability assurance

#### Bank Negara Malaysia issues the Climate Change and Principle-based Taxonomy

Provides guidelines for financial institutions to identify and classify economic activities based on their climate risks and opportunities



Source: EY research, Malaysia

# Today, CEOs are prioritizing ESG and long-term value creation.

The case for linking ESG to long-term value creation:

Sustainable profit growth

- **2** Productivity optimization "People, Process, Technology"
- 3 Cost reductions

Investment and asset optimization

Regulatory compliance and legal implications

CEOs are focused on ESG and long-term value creation.

**80%** of CEOs believe putting humans (employees, customers and other stakeholders) at the center of decision-making will be a core value driver.

- EY CEO Imperative Study 2021, Part 2

**79%** of CEOs surveyed say companies that maintain their focus on long-term value will emerge stronger in a post-pandemic world.

- EY Long-Term Value and Corporate Governance Survey 2021

## Long-term value creation across stakeholders



COVID-19 crisis and climate change risks have driven ESG to become the core strategy.

#### Sources:

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- ► How can today's CEO bridge the gaps to realize tomorrow's opportunities?, EY, March 2021
- ▶ Will there be a 'next' if corporate governance is focused on the 'now'?, EY, February 2021
- ► How will ESG performance shape your future?, EY, July 2020

# Embed sustainability risk into risk management



Source: <sup>1</sup> EY, Being business-minded about climate change: Ten ways to address climate-related risks and opportunities in 2020 and beyond; <sup>2</sup> Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors, 2018, Governance of Three Lines of Defense: <sup>3</sup> Climate Financial Risk Forum Guide 2020, Risk Management Chapter

With the escalating pandemic and climate change issues, boards can step up their oversight of ESG and its integration into enterprise risk management (ERM).

Five ways boards can enhance oversight of ESG

1	2	3	4	5
Address heightened expectations of investors and stakeholders	Understand the ESG ecosystem and stakeholders' expectations	Guide ESG strategy development	Support the integration of ESG into enterprise risk management (ERM)	Communicate the ESG story



Source: Five ways boards can unlock ESG's strategic value, EY, December 2020

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