



MEDIA RELEASE

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YAYASAN MENDAKI AND THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS ESTABLISH PARTNERSHIP TO STRENGTHEN HUMAN RESOURCE CAPABILITIES AMONG MALAY/MUSLIM PROFESSIONALS

Wednesday, 11 February 2026 – Yayasan MENDAKI (MENDAKI) and the Institute for Human Resource Professionals (IHRP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the NTUC Centre to strengthen Human Resource (HR) capabilities, pathways, and certifications among Malay/Muslim professionals today.

2 This landmark collaboration marks the first-ever partnership between MENDAKI and IHRP, bringing together MENDAKI's expertise in advancing community upliftment, and talent development with IHRP's industry-leading knowledge and certification framework. Through this strategic partnership, both organisations aim to nurture a pipeline of HR professionals, build future-ready capabilities, and enhance professional recognition, thereby empowering Malay/Muslim practitioners to play a more strategic role in shaping Singapore's workforce of tomorrow.

3 The MOU covers key collaboration areas, including promotion of HR certification pathways and professional recognition among Malay/Muslim HR practitioners, co-organisation of networking sessions and capability-building programmes for working adults, adoption of workforce transformation tools and resources such as Human Capital Diagnostic Tool and Job Redesign Evaluation Tool, and structured mentoring programme that mobilises certified Malay/Muslim HR professionals to guide and support emerging talent.

4 The MOU was signed by Mr Feroz Akber, Chief Executive Officer of MENDAKI, and Mr Aslam Sardar, Chief Executive Officer of IHRP, and witnessed by Guest-of-Honour Mr Zaqy Mohamad, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence & Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment, and Chairman of MENDAKI, Dr Noraslinda Zuber, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of MENDAKI, and Ms Shirley Lim, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of IHRP.

5 Mr Feroz Akber shared: “This meaningful collaboration with IHRP marks a significant milestone in strengthening the professional credibility of our Malay/Muslim HR practitioners. This MOU between MENDAKI and IHRP is underpinned by the strong support of the MENDAKI Professional Networks in Human Resource, whose leadership has been instrumental in rallying and guiding practitioners within the community. This partnership is also firmly aligned with the MENDAKI 2030 Workplan, reinforcing our commitment to build a future ready workforce and ensure the community remains resilient amid Singapore’s evolving economic landscape.”

6 Mr Aslam Sardar added: “This collaboration reflects a shared commitment to uplift talent and strengthen professional pathways within the Malay/Muslim community. HR professionals play a critical role in shaping fair, progressive and future-ready workplaces. By opening up greater access to certification, development programmes and mentorship, we hope to see more Malay/Muslim practitioners recognised not only for their expertise, but also for the strategic impact they bring to their organisations and to Singapore’s workforce.”

7 Following the MOU signing, over 40 Malay/Muslim associates to senior professionals from Malay/Muslim organisations as well as government and corporate agencies attained IHRP certifications. As part of the national HR certification framework, these professionals were recognised across the three tiers of IHRP certification:

- a. **Certified Associate:** Equips aspiring and new HR practitioners with a strong foundation to boost credibility and prepare for bigger HR roles.

- b. **Certified Professional:** Recognises HR practitioners, with at least three years of experience and advanced capabilities, to excel and take on greater responsibilities.
- c. **Senior Professional:** Awards HR practitioners, with at least eight years of relevant working experience in HR, including at least two years of strategic HR experience, to enhance their credibility with business leaders and position themselves as integral strategic partners within their organisations.

8 Looking ahead, MENDAKI will continue to collaborate with national, community, and corporate partners to enhance the capabilities of the Malay/Muslim workforce and strengthen their readiness for the future of work.

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About Yayasan MENDAKI

Yayasan MENDAKI (MENDAKI), also known as the Council for the Development of the Singapore Malay/Muslim Community, is a Self-Help Group established in 1982 to uplift the Malay/Muslim community through education and lifelong learning.

Over the years, MENDAKI has played a pivotal role in supporting individuals at every stage of life. Today, it continues to champion the community's progress through the MENDAKI 2030 Workplan, which focuses on nurturing confident learners, building stronger families, supporting a future-ready workforce, and growing a thriving community. MENDAKI remains committed to journeying alongside the community under the tagline "With You, Every Step Forward" (Sentiasa Bersamamu), ensuring resilience and readiness for Singapore's evolving economy.

For more information, please visit www.mendaki.org.sg.

About the Institute for Human Resource Professionals

The Institute for Human Resource Professionals (IHRP) is set up by the tripartite partners: the Ministry of Manpower (MOM), the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) and Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF) to professionalise and strengthen the HR practice in Singapore.

IHRP sets the benchmark standards of excellence for HR and human capital development in organisations. Through a range of national human capital programmes such as the IHRP Certification, Human Capital Diagnostic Tool and IHRP Knowledge Partner Programme and appointed as the Job Design Centre of Excellence, IHRP aims to develop HR as a strategic enabler of business and workforce transformation and foster a vibrant HR services eco-system to drive innovation and change.

For more information, please visit ihrp.sg.