



**MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
MALAYSIA**

MEDIA STATEMENT

STATEMENT ON FLIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Recent events in the Middle East raised concerns by Malaysians on Malaysia Airlines (MAS) flights through the Middle East as well as the unfortunate incident of the Ukraine International Airlines crash in Tehran, Iran, involving a Boeing 737-800.

MAS has confirmed that the airline does not fly over the airspace of Iraq on its flights to and from London, Jeddah and Medina. Due to recent events involving Iran, MAS will be avoiding the conflict airspace of Iran.

Safety remains of utmost importance to MAS as the airline performs active flight monitoring and is guided by various assessments including global security reports and notes from respective airspace control authorities. All MAS aircrafts are fully-equipped for immediate communication for any critical information and action such as reroute.

I am deeply saddened by reports of the Ukraine International Airlines crash in Tehran. Although news reports have cited “technical fault”, we must not speculate on the cause of the crash until the facts are determined.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families and loved ones of those who have been affected.

DATO' SERI MOHAMED AZMIN ALI
Minister of Economic Affairs
Malaysia

8 January 2020