



PPM lodges police report and complaint to Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) for defamatory statements and fake news made by Karyawan

Kuala Lumpur, 10 November 2020 – PPM today, issued a statement expressing its disappointment at the gross and deliberate wrongful statements and inaccurate facts perpetuated by Karyawan despite PPM’s prior clarification on the matter.

In a news article titled “*Probe MYIPO for giving PPM right to distribute artistes’ royalties, Karyawan tells MACC*”, published by Norazam Mohammad Nordin on the ‘Asia News Today’ online news portal on 24 October 2020, Karyawan repeated its allegations that PPM is responsible for the outstanding unpaid royalties due to recording performers.

This allegation was first carried in an article published in the ‘Free Malaysia Today’ online news portal titled, “*Artistes seek MACC probe of ‘hidden hands’ in royalties fiasco*” on 6 October 2020.

“On 13 October 2020, PPM had issued a press statement to correct the wrongful and unsubstantiated allegations contained in the 6 October FMT article and clarified the true nature of the relationship between PPM and each of the performer licensing bodies”, said PPM Chairman, Rosmin Hashim.

“It is, therefore, very disappointing that Karyawan has continued to intentionally restate such inaccurate facts”, Rosmin continued.

“Once again, PPM finds itself having no option but to correct Karyawan’s erroneous facts and restate that at no time in the past or present has PPM ever been given the mandate, power or authority to distribute royalties due to recording performers. During the time PPM was appointed as a licensing agent by the relevant performer licensing bodies, it only issued licences on behalf of the performer licensing bodies, and all royalties collected (less administrative fees) were remitted to the relevant performer licensing bodies for them to distribute to their respective members based on their set distribution policies”, explained Rosmin.

“PPM is only mandated to distribute royalties collected to its recording company members based on its stated distribution policies”, Rosmin added.

Rosmin further clarified, “As an authorized licensing body which distributes royalties to its recording company members based on actual usage of the music recordings by commercial music users, the Insolvency Department (as the liquidator for PRISM) and the Malaysian Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO) sought PPM’s assistance to provide the relevant usage reports that could be used to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of royalties due to the recording performers. We were more than happy to assist in the provision of the indicated usage reports but we were never given the responsibility by MYIPO to distribute the outstanding royalties due to the performers”.

PPM’s role in the performer royalty issue has been clarified by MyIPO in their recent statement issued on 26 October 2020, “Dakwaan Karyawan Terhadap MyIPO Berkaitan Pengagihan Royalti”
<https://www.facebook.com/ipmalaysia/posts/10158495953283673>

“We view the intentionally inaccurate and wrongful statements made against PPM in Karyawan’s media statements as being defamatory and a misuse of network services. We have, therefore, lodged a police report as well as a complaint with the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC). This will be followed by a complaint to the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) for abuse of position by the President of Karyawan who is also an advisor on the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission’s (MACC) Consultation and Corruption Prevention Panel (CCPP)”, said Rosmin.

“At a time when the industry is struggling due to the damaging effects of the pandemic on the national economy, instead of providing assistance to the Insolvency Department and MyIPO to help resolve the outstanding royalties due to performers, Karyawan has chosen to publish a series of articles containing inaccurate facts and defamatory statements which are detrimental to the industry as a whole”, Rosmin concluded.