



MEDIA RELEASE

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OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM AAM CHAIRMAN Y.M. TUNKU DATUK MUDZAFFAR BIN TUNKU MUSTAPHA

Malaysia's motorsports governing body the Automobile Federation of Malaysia (AAM) welcomes the Ministry of Youth and Sports initiative and commitment in spearheading greater development in the sport.

AAM Chairman Yang Mulia Tunku Mudzafar Tunku Mustapha said Government funding that is being channeled to deserving parties via the newly established Motorsports Association of Malaysia (MAM), a body under the auspices of the Motorsports Commission of Malaysia (MCM), would inject a much needed financial boost to the sport particularly at the grassroots level.

"Funding, or the lack of it, has always been a central issue in developing motorsports, initiatives that could not be viably sustained by a non-profit organization like AAM with the absence of Government financial assistance. Now that a proper channel for the disbursement of a substantial amount of funds has been established by the Government, we are optimistic of the sport developing further especially at the grassroots level," said Tunku Mudzafar.

Under the new structure, MCM will distribute Government funding for development projects and manage other aspects of commercial development in the motor sport industry but all applications and the evaluation process will be done by MAM.

"It is AAM's hope that the funds will be equally distributed to benefit all levels and disciplines in motorsports."

Tunku Mudzaffar also said that the question of overlapping responsibilities did not arise.

AAM hereby wishes to clarify our role and address several issues that have been raised:

1. Status of the Automobile Association of Malaysia

The Automobile Association of Malaysia (AAM) is the National Automobile Club A.S.N. or F.M.N. (for motorcycles) recognized by the International Automobile Federation (FIA) and the Federation Internationale de Motocyclisme (F.I.M.) as the sole holder of sporting power in the country.

As stated in the FIA Statutes, Article 3 – Composition of the FIA: “The national automobile clubs of national automobile associations (ASN).

There can only be one per country. Its activity must embrace the whole of the national territory and cover road traffic, touring, the defence of the rightful interests of users and their safety on the one hand, and motorsport on the other hand. Moreover, the FIA must have granted it authority to exercise sporting power.”

It is also stated in the FIA Statutes, Article 4 – Sporting power that: “The General Assembly of the FIA shall be the sole international body governing motorsport, that is to say each shall hold the exclusive right to take all decisions concerning the organization, direction and management of international motorsport. The FIA shall recognize in each country and for all branches of motoring only one sporting power which under all circumstances shall remain responsible to the FIA; the holder of this power is the direct motorsport representative of its country within the FIA and is entrusted with having the international regulations laid down by the International Sporting Code of the FIA enforced in its country.”

Article 3 (National Control of Motor Sport) of the FIA International Sporting Code meanwhile, reaffirms that: “Each national club or federation belonging to the FIA, shall be presumed to acquiesce in and be bound by this code. Subject to such acquiesce and restraint, one single club or one single federation per country hereafter called ASN, shall be recognized by the FIA as sole international sporting power for the enforcement of the present code and control of motor sport throughout the territories placed under the authority of its own country.”

2. Competition Licence

AAM is the sole authority in Malaysia recognized and empowered by the world's motorsports governing bodies to issue competition licences to competitors in compliance with requirements of the FIA, FIM and CIK (International Karting Commission)

As Malaysian motorsports' governing body, responsible for sanctioning of events recognized by the FIA, FIM and CIK, AAM is also entrusted with judicial matters in respect of motorsports competitions, rules and regulations and organizational concerns.

Under article 47 (Licence) of the FIA International Sporting Code, it states that:

a) A licence is a certificate of registration issued to any person or body (drivers, entrants, manufacturers, teams, race officials, organizers, circuits, etc) wishing to participate or taking part, in any capacity whatsoever, in competitions or record attempts governed by the present code. The licence holder is deemed to be acquainted with the texts of the present code, and must comply with its provisions. The principle that will apply in all cases is that any applicant who qualifies for a licence within the terms of the present code and the applicable sporting and technical rules shall be entitled to such a licence. No one may take part in a sporting event, set or break a record, if it does not possess an FIA licence issued by its parent ASN or an FIA licence issued by an ASN other than its parent ASN with the consent of its parent ASN.”

Article 108 (Registration of Competitors and Drivers)

“Any person wishing to qualify as a competitor or as a driver, shall make a formal application for a licence to the ASN of the country of which they are a citizen.”

Article 118 (Withdrawal of Licence)

“Any person who shall enter for, drive in, officiate at, or in any manner whatsoever take part in a prohibited competition, will be suspended by the ASN which has issued them with their licence.”

3. Organising of Events

Under article 55 (Promotion of Competitions), of the FIA International Sporting Code, it is stated that: “In every country a sporting competition may be organized;

- a) by the national automobile club holder of the sporting power and
- b) by an automobile club, or exceptionally by another qualified sporting group provided this club or association holds the necessary permit.

Article 59 (Unauthorised Competitions)

“Any proposed competition not organized with conformity with this code or with the rules of the appropriate ASN shall be prohibited by that ASN. If such a competition is included in a meeting for which a permit has been granted, the permit shall be null and void.”

Article 61 (Necessary Organising Permits)

“No competition shall be held in any country affiliated to the FIA without an organizing permit issued by the competent sporting authority i.e by the ASN holding the sporting power.”

4. National Events

Article 18 (National Event) of the FIA International Sporting Code states: “An event is national when it is open only to competitors and to drivers holding an FIA licence issued by the ASN of the country where the said event takes place.”

5. National Competition Rules/Regulations

Article 7 (National Competition Rules) of the FIA International Sporting Code states that: "Each ASN may draw up its own national competition rules which will be compulsorily sent to the FIA."

In closing, Tunku Mudzaffar said the AAM would like to extend its services and decades of expertise as well as resources to assisting affiliates, members and event organizers in helping to develop motorsports at the grassroots level.

For more information, kindly contact S. N. Nanthan, AAM's Motorsports Manager at Tel: 03-7710 9121

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