

**PRESS STATEMENT****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****17 June 2022****Joint venture company wins contract for System Package 1 of KUTS Project**

KUCHING: Sarawak Metro Sdn Bhd (Sarawak Metro) announced that a joint venture company, comprising EPR (Kuching) Sdn Bhd, Global Rail Sdn Bhd and Mobilus Sdn Bhd, has won the tender for System Package 1 of the Kuching Urban Transportation System (KUTS) Project.

The joint-venture was one of two companies that submitted their bids to Sarawak Metro at the close of the tender period on 31 March, this year.

System Package 1 of the KUTS Project involves the supply of the rolling stock, which is the hydrogen-powered Autonomous Rapid Transit (ART) vehicles, depot equipment and maintenance vehicles (DEMVs), signalling and control system (S&CS) and the automatic platform gate (APG).

Congratulating the joint venture company on the successful tender bid, Sarawak Metro's Chairman, Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr.) Haji Abdul Aziz Bin Dato Haji Husain said this marked another significant milestone in the development of this noble project, which aimed to modernise Sarawak's public transportation system through environmentally-sustainable solutions.

He also reminded the winning bidder to be a responsible and accountable partner for Sarawak Metro in implementing the KUTS Project and provide its full commitment towards improving mobility in Greater Kuching.

"The development of the KUTS Project will be a game-changer, not only in modernising public transport, but also in improving both the socio-economic and social mobility of the people, particularly in Kuching and the nearby towns and Sarawak Metro is committed in seeing the success of this project."

Tan Sri Datuk Amar (Dr.) Haji Abdul Aziz also pointed out that the development of the KUTS Project is in line with the Sarawak Government's initiative to advance the hydrogen economy agenda in addressing the global issue of climate change, adding that the project is also an important part of efforts towards decarbonising public transportation in Sarawak.

Sarawak Metro is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) and has been entrusted to implement the KUTS Project.

Passenger service for the ART is scheduled to be introduced in stages, starting from the fourth quarter of 2025, with full completion of Phase 1 of the project scheduled to complete by 2027.

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