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NEGARA BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

PRESS RELEASE

RESPONSE TO BORNEO BULLETIN OPINION PAGE: "PROPOSED QS ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENT FOR BORANG C" BY CONCERNED CITIZEN

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN
TUESDAY, 20 RAMADAN 1447 / 10 MARCH 2026**

The Authority on Building Control and Construction Industry ("ABCI") would like to thank the "Concerned Citizen" for their opinion article titled "Proposed QS endorsement requirement for Borang C" published in the Borneo Bulletin on 14 February 2026. ABCi welcomes constructive public discourse on regulatory improvements within the construction industry.

The proposed requirement for the endorsement of project cost by a registered Quantity Surveyor (QS) under the Board of Architects, Professional Engineers and Quantity Surveyors (BAPEQS) in Borang C is intended to ensure the accuracy and reliability of declared project costs. This is a critical component in the effective implementation of supervision requirements under the Building Control Act (Cap. 256), particularly in relation to safety, accountability, and regulatory integrity.

With the forthcoming enforcement of supervision of building works pursuant to Section 10 of the Building Control Act (Cap. 256), ABCi is required to ascertain, at the submission stage, whether a project meets the statutory thresholds for mandatory site supervision. Regulation 26 of the Building Control Regulations requires confirmation of both the gross floor area and project cost, as these factors directly determine the applicable supervision requirements. The inclusion of QS endorsement in Borang C serves this regulatory purpose.

ABCI emphasizes that any QS endorsing Borang C must be a duly registered professional under BAPEQS. The role of the QS is confined to the professional verification of project cost and does not diminish or transfer the statutory responsibilities borne by architects and engineers.

ABCI fully acknowledges that architects and engineers retain primary professional responsibility and liability for design integrity, project safety, construction quality and regulatory compliance throughout the project lifecycle. However, the involvement of a QS remains essential in providing independent and professional verification of project cost estimates, which directly inform decisions on supervision requirements under the Act.

While ABCi recognizes that the introduction of additional professional endorsements may raise concerns regarding cost, this measure is intended to strengthen long-term governance within the construction sector. Accurate cost declaration ensures appropriate supervision, mitigates under-resourcing of site oversight, and ultimately safeguards public safety and project integrity.

ABCi remains committed to good governance and enhanced regulatory oversight. The combined roles of qualified site supervisors and registered QS reinforce compliance with approved plans, cost transparency, and statutory requirements under the Building Control Act and its Regulations. This integrated approach supports a safer, more transparent and professionally accountable construction environment in Brunei Darussalam.

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