



# **PRESS RELEASE**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MALAYSIA**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **RE-APPOINTMENT OF MALAYSIA AS CHAIR OF THE COMMONWEALTH FOUNDATION**

YBhg. Dato' Sudha Devi KR Vasudevan has been re-appointed as Chair of the Commonwealth Foundation for another term of two (2) years beginning 1 January 2023. Her reappointment received the consensus support from all 56 member countries of the Commonwealth.

Dato' Sudha Devi was first elected to the position in 2020 through an election held in London and she became the first Asian to be elected as Chair of the Commonwealth Foundation since its establishment in 1966.

The re-appointment of Dato' Sudha Devi as the Chair of the Commonwealth Foundation is a reflection of Malaysia's significant role and strong commitment in supporting the work of the Foundation, as well as the Commonwealth organisation, as a whole.

As Chair of the Commonwealth Foundation, Dato' Sudha Devi presides over meetings of its Board of Governors; represents the Foundation at intergovernmental meetings and events; and serves as its ambassador in promoting the Foundation's vision and values.

The Commonwealth Foundation was established with the aim to support and strengthen people's participation, especially through Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to build democratic societies.

Throughout the years, the Foundation has undertaken various programmes to support civic voices to influence public discourse on issues such as, among others, gender equality and community service.

It also offers grants to CSOs of Commonwealth member countries that intend to organize programmes to encourage people's participation in upholding governance, democracy and human rights.

**PUTRAJAYA**  
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