

MyKad relief for overseas-born children

PETALING JAYA: Malaysian mothers with overseas-born children are advised to go to the nearest National Registration Department (NRD) office to obtain MyKad/MyKid for their children.

Family Frontiers president Suriani Kempe said the NRD had quickly facilitated the process to get their citizenship confirmation certificate, which will be issued within three months.

Their children will finally be recognised as Malaysian citizens, and mothers can use the citizenship confirmation certificate to get the children's identification cards.

This followed the Court of Appeal's dismissal of the government's application to stay the High Court judgment that confirms Malaysian mothers' equal rights to automatically confer citizenship on their overseas-born children.

"On Dec 29, three of the plaintiffs in Suriani Kempe & Ors vs Government of Malaysia & Ors went to the National Registration Department, Putrajaya to obtain citizenship documents as authorised by the High Court," Suriani said in a statement yesterday.

"The plaintiffs are relieved that the NRD officers efficiently facilitated the process of accepting the citizenship forms under Article 14(1)(b) of the Federal Constitution, to be issued within three months to the overseas-born children."

Suriani said the move confirmed that Malaysian women have an equal right to automatically confer citizenship to their children.

The NRD has told Family Frontiers it will issue instructions to all its offices nationwide, as well as Malaysian embassies and high commissions, to start the process of citizenship-related documents for overseas-born children.

"I am relieved that the court order was followed and I am looking forward to the processing of relevant documents for my child's citizenship."

"It is long overdue," said Adlyn Adam Teoh.