



Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail chairing the National Cost of Living Action Council meeting in Putrajaya yesterday. PIC BY AHMAD IRHAM MOHD NOOR

## EXPERTISE

### A-G among 5 new members of cost of living council

**PUTRAJAYA:** Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail yesterday announced the appointment of five new members of the National Cost of Living Action Council (Naccol), which comes into effect immediately.

They are Attorney-General Tommy Thomas, Jeli member of parliament Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Darell Leiking, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Surina Shukri and Malaysia Youth Council president Jufitri Joha.

"With these additional Naccol committee members, the government is banking on their expertise to assist us in addressing the issues of cost of living," said Dr Wan Azizah after chairing the Naccol meeting yesterday.

Present at the two-hour meet-

ing were Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail, Home Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

Dr Wan Azizah also announced several decisions made by Naccol, including the green light on a proposal by the Transport Ministry via the Land Public Transport Agency (Apad) to enforce the licensing of terminals and regulating the charges by terminal operators based on the quality of services and facilities.

"The council has made it clear that the cost should not be transferred to consumers," she said, adding that it was high time terminal operators were regulated.

Saifuddin said the matter was being fine-tuned by APAD and once gazetted, the charges imposed on terminal services and

facilities, including toilets, would be better managed.

Dr Wan Azizah said Naccol had agreed to the Transport Ministry's proposal to review the electric train services (ETS) fares by doing away with fare control and instead implementing a dynamic fare structure.

On the QFish programme, she said the committee had decided that the programme be improved and expanded nationwide.

"The QFish programme is aimed at stabilising fish prices and reduce the impact of the cost of living on consumers. The programme uses the Individual Quick Freezing technology to ensure the freshness and quality of fish.

"The price tag of RM10 per kg is set for *kembung*, *selar*, *pelaling* and *selayang*. The QFish programme aims to raise fishing capacity from 561 tonnes to 3,500 tonnes per year."