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# Press Release

## Findings From A New Annual Career Survey Of Children Living In Malaysia

### **Survey reveals that being a ‘Doctor’ is the most popular career choice, followed closely by becoming a ‘Pilot’ and joining the ‘Royal Malaysia Police’**

Kuala Lumpur, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2011: A new annual ‘Adecco Children’s Career Survey’ of children living in Malaysia has revealed that becoming a Doctor is the top career choice amongst the children surveyed – in contrast to becoming a Soccer Player which is the top choice in the same survey conducted in Singapore. The survey also reveals that 75% of the children surveyed believe that it is more important to spend time with family than to make lots of money – showing that our children are indeed a caring lot!

The survey, conducted by Adecco Malaysia – the Malaysian subsidiary of the world’s leading staffing and human resources firm - asked children aged between 7-14 years, five simple questions:

1. What do you want to be when you grow up? Why have you chosen this and how much do you expect to earn?
2. What is the best/coolest job that you can think of?
3. If you became Prime Minister of Malaysia, what are the first three things you would do?
4. What is more important: to make lots of money or to spend time with you family?
5. What are you looking forward to doing in 2011?

The survey, which is being conducted for the first time in Malaysia, has also been carried out in Singapore, Thailand and the USA. The findings, as expected, are different in each country.

19% of the children surveyed in Malaysia stated that they want to become a Doctor when they grow-up, showing that our children start thinking about good career choices at an early age. The children wanting to become Doctors have monthly salary expectations ranging from MYR5 right up to MYR1 million!

With becoming a Pilot and a Police Officer the next two most desirable career choices, the survey shows that other Malaysian children aspire to be Computer Game Designers, Astronauts, Athletes and Lawyers, amongst others, with one young girl wanting to become a 'Forensic Scientist' when she grows up because she 'likes watching CSI on TV!'

The Top Five "What Do You Want To Be When You Grow Up" Jobs, as identified in the survey, are:

1. Doctor
2. Pilot
3. Police Officer
4. Lawyer
5. Teacher

Although often humorous in some of its findings, the survey also shows a serious side with many of the children surveyed wanting to support fellow citizens most in need. 2010 was a year in which many parts of Asia were inflicted by natural disasters and this likely influenced the children surveyed and their thoughts about the support that they could offer and the difference that they could make to others.

The survey also asks the children what they think is the "best/coolest job" that they can imagine - with becoming a Doctor also coming out on top of this category. Other 'cool' jobs were shown to be 'Archeologists', 'Firemen', 'Singers' and 'Architects'.

Becoming The Prime Minister of Malaysia may be a daunting task for many adults – but clearly not for many of the children responding to this survey. When asked what the first "three things they would do" if they were fortunate enough to become the Prime Minister of Malaysia – the answers were both poignant...as well as amusing. Some of the responses being:

- Enforce tougher rules on environmental issues
- Give an allowance to every child in Malaysia!
- Donate money to the poor
- Build more playgrounds

- Continue to ensure a good education for all children
- Get to know my people
- Keep cleaning my country
- Invite people to visit Malaysia
- Build more theme parks
- Go fishing!

Responses to this section of the survey also included several comments around letting other countries know about what a great nation Malaysia is.

An important part of the survey is the question “What is more important – to make lots of money or to spend time with your family?” 75% responded by saying that they would rather spend time with their families than in making money. Some of the reasons including:

- I want to be close with my family
- Money is replaceable, but time with my family is not
- You cannot buy a good family
- With family...we can be happy!

The survey also asked the question “What are you looking forward to doing in 2011?” This ‘big’ question for the ‘young’ respondents generated some interesting answers:

- Being an ‘apple’ in my parent’s eyes!
- Becoming a basketball champion
- Going for drumming classes
- Being a student leader

Many responses to this question focused on school and education – with the majority of the children surveyed stating that that they were most looking forward to excelling at school and passing exams.

This is the first year that Adecco has conducted this survey in Malaysia which gives an insight into what the Malaysian workforce of tomorrow thinks about the world that they live in and what they aspire to do and become in the future.

Daniel Gönci, General Manager, Adecco Malaysia, commented *“Although there is clearly some humour in this survey, it is amazing to see how responsibly minded the children are at such an early age. It was personally touching to see so many of the children choosing family over money and deeply appreciating those that surround them. From the findings in this survey, it looks like we are in good shape with our leaders of tomorrow!”*

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#### **About Adecco**

Adecco S.A. is a Fortune Global 500 company and the global leader in HR services. Adecco Malaysia offers a comprehensive range of services that includes temporary & contract staffing, permanent recruitment, outsourcing, executive search, leadership development, career management and outplacement. Services are delivered a network of offices and specialist divisions across Malaysia.

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