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Brunei Darussalam

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Green transitions to ensure more sustainable growth



BRUSSELS, KINGDOM OF BELGIUM, December 14 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the ASEAN-European Union (EU)

Commemorative Summit, which was held at the Europa Building in Brussels.

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam to the Commemorative Summit was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

His Majesty attended the opening ceremony along with other ASEAN and EU

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen at the opening ceremony of the ASEAN-EU Commemorative Summit.

Further strengthen bilateral cooperation

WINDSOR, UNITED KINGDOM, December 13 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam held a meeting with His Majesty King Charles III, King of the United Kingdom (UK) of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which was held at the Oak Room of Windsor Castle.

During the meeting, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Majesty King Charles III, among other things, touched on matters to strengthen bilateral cooperation in various fields between Brunei Darussalam and the UK, including the



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Majesty King Charles III.

welfare and well-being of citizens, alongside the opportunity for Their Majesties to further strengthen the bond and friendship between the royal families of both countries.

This marks the first formal meeting between His Majesty and His Majesty King Charles III since His Majesty the King succeeded the throne on September 8.

Uphold Bruneian identity

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, December 18 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam likened the Get-Together Ceremony with citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam who are in the United Kingdom and Ireland as one that is highly meaningful as it reflects the close unity established amongst citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam, especially following the global struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic.

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3. HRH the Crown Prince receives audience



7. Towards a more organised policing future



9. Qatar National Day Reception



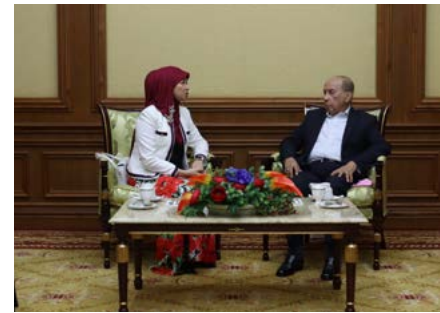
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Brunei Darussalam

His Majesty sends congratulatory messages

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzadin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send congratulatory messages to:

- His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of The United Arab Emirates and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister, Ruler of Dubai and Minister of Defence, The United Arab Emirates on the auspicious occasion of the 51st Anniversary of the National Day of The United Arab Emirates on December 2.
- His Excellency Dr. Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and His Excellency Dr. Phankham Viphavanh, Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, as well as the Government and people of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the occasion of its 47th National Day on December 2.
- His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua, The King of Thailand, all members of the Royal Family, His Excellency Retired General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of Thailand, the Government and the people of the Kingdom of Thailand on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Thailand on December 4.
- His Excellency Dr. Sonexay Siphandone on the occasion of his appointment as the new Prime Minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on December 31.

His Majesty sends message of condolences

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send a message of condolences to Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia following the tragic landslide that hit Batang Kali, Selangor on December 17.

HRH the Crown Prince receives audience

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office received in audience at Qashr Al-Meezan:

Her Excellency Yu Hong, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam on December 3.



News

Green transitions to ensure more sustainable growth

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Leaders, which began with remarks by His Excellency Charles Michel, President of the European Council; and His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia as Co-Chairs of the ASEAN-EU Commemorative Summit.

This was followed by opening remarks by Her Excellency Ursula

Gertrud von der Leyen, President of the European Commission; His Excellency Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr., President of the Republic of the Philippines as country coordinator for ASEAN-EU; His Excellency Petr Fiala, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic as EU Council Presidency; and His Excellency Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia as incoming Chair of ASEAN in 2023.

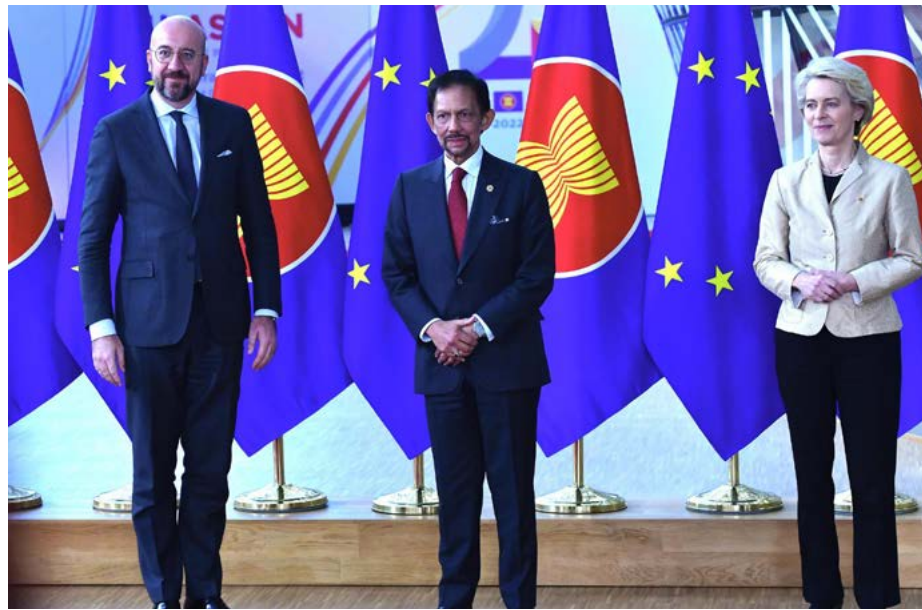
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His Majesty then attended the plenary session along with other ASEAN and EU leaders, with discussions focusing on the direction of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations as well as regional and international issues of common concern.

His Majesty delivered a *titah* (royal speech) during the session, in which His Majesty highlighted that this year, ASEAN and the EU are celebrating 45 years of dialogue relations and, as successful regional organisations, are natural partners to promote regional integration, peace and security. On moving the strategic partnership between ASEAN and the EU forward, His Majesty stated that the focus should also be on current pressing challenges – namely climate change, biodiversity loss and deforestation – which have contributed to the ongoing extreme weather patterns, loss of potable water, air pollution, and environmental degradation.

ASEAN and the EU need to make green transitions to ensure more sustainable growth and development. Therefore, His Majesty welcomed cooperation through the Green Initiative Programme in Southeast Asia, and looked forward to working with the EU through the ASEAN Centre for Climate Change, to be



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency President of the European Council; and Her Excellency President of the European Commission.

established in Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty also emphasised the importance of transforming the world's food systems to prevent food wastage and loss. To this end, His Majesty highlighted the benefits of cooperation in the area due to the EU's experience in digital transformation and its advancement in the Fourth Industrial Revolution, such as

the development and use of innovative approaches in agriculture production, efficient distribution and storage system. At the end of the Summit, the Joint Leaders' Statement of the ASEAN-EU Commemorative Summit was issued.

His Majesty left Brussels after attending the ASEAN-EU Commemorative Summit.

Uphold Bruneian identity



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech).

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To this end, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* (royal speech) delivered at the ceremony expressed gratitude to be able to interact and know first-hand on the developments, well-being and welfare of all, particularly students who are currently pursuing their studies in the United Kingdom and Eire.

His Majesty added that education is the key to advance the country's development, as it determines the human resources that become the driving force for progress. Therefore, the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam

will continue to provide opportunities for students to pursue their studies through various scholarship schemes.

Aside from actively gaining knowledge, students need to always be aware in upholding the Bruneian identity wherever they may be, while emphasising that we are Bruneians, moulded by Melayu Islam Beraja (MIB).

At the end of the *titah*, His Majesty also emphasised on the Al-Quran and religious guidance programmes that have been implemented by relevant agencies, so that students overseas are adorned with faith and piety, along with the obligation to equip themselves with the balance of duniawi and ukhrawi values.

Accompanying His Majesty at the ceremony was Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam. Also present at the ceremony were members of the royal family.



The President of the Brunei Students' Union in the United Kingdom and Eire (BSU) delivering his welcoming address (Left) and recitation of verses from Al-Qur'an (Right).



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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul 'Adawiyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen, and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah at the ceremony.

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Upon arrival, His Majesty and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri were greeted by His Excellency First Admiral (Rtd) Pengiran Dato Seri Pahlawan Norazmi bin Pengiran Haji Muhammad, High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam to the United Kingdom and Eire, and Pengiran Datin Noralam binti Pengiran Kahar; as well as Awangku Izz Khan Fayyadh bin Pengiran Haji Mohd. Hasreen and Dayang Nur Hazirah binti Mohammad Moshtari, President and Vice-President of the Brunei Students' Union in the United Kingdom and Eire.

Their Majesties then proceeded for a High Tea Reception with student representatives prior to the Get-Together Ceremony.

The ceremony began with the national anthem of Brunei Darussalam and was followed with the recitation of verses from Al-Qur'an by Awang Mohammad Aqiel Hidayat @ Mohamad Azhar bin Haji Zulfa Hidayat of Coventry University, while the translation of the verses was read by Awang Muhammad Al Danish bin Muhammad Al Qusyairi of the University of the Highlands and Islands, Scotland.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul 'Adawiyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen, and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah at the event.



Their Majesties during the High Tea Reception with student representatives prior to the Get-Together Ceremony.

The President of the Brunei Students' Union in the United Kingdom and Eire (BSU) in a welcoming address, briefed on the theme for the Get-Together Ceremony – "Raja Inspirasi Generasi Berakhlak", which reminds the current generation on the charisma of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, in which His Majesty's leadership in steering the country, character and traits are highly commended in motivating all citizens including the youth and students to work towards becoming excellent individuals and possess virtue in accordance with Melayu Islam Beraja (MIB).

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His Majesty receiving a *pesambah* at the Get-Together Ceremony (above, left) and during the Get-Together with citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam (above, right).



His Majesty during the Get-Together with citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam currently in the United Kingdom and Eire (above and below).



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His Majesty then proceeded to meet and greet some 1,300 citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam who are in the United Kingdom and Eire, comprising students, government officials as well as those on vacation.

The ceremony, which also featured a *nasyid* performance titled "Hayyul Hadi" as well as *gulingtangan* performance, among other things, provided the golden opportunity for citizens and residents in the United Kingdom and Eire to meet and greet His Majesty.



Her Majesty interacting with attendees.

Towards a more organised policing future



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office during the visit to the Officers' Mess of the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPf) Headquarters.

GADONG, December 7 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made an unscheduled visit to the Logistics

Department of the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPf) and several divisions under it. The visit was a continuation from a closed meeting with senior officers of the RBPf yesterday.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang

Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam scrutinised the Quartermaster Division and Electrical Maintenance and Airport Safety Equipment. The Monarch also took a closer look at the RBPf Vehicle Workshop Division.

The Logistics Department is responsible for ensuring adequate logistical and technical requirements for the RBPf. The department has eight divisions, among them the Quartermaster; Electrical Maintenance and Airport Safety Equipment; Administration; Transport and Workshop; as well as Information Technology.

During the visit to the RBPf Headquarters, His Majesty, in a *titah* (royal speech), stated that bad attitude is a breach of discipline, whereas discipline for a Security Force is the main pillar that must be fulfilled.

His Majesty also touched on the issue of RBPf projects that are not utilised, as well as weaknesses that require attention and action.

His Majesty stressed that as a step forward, aspects of human resource planning must be updated.

With the Police Force's age reaching over 100 years, His Majesty said that it is vital to have a Strategic Planning Corporate Map to steer them towards a more organised policing future that is hoped to cure the country's grief.

With regards to the Police Force still having numerous crimes carried out from within the force's community itself, the Monarch stressed that such a matter cannot be allowed to continue, as it can jeopardise the dignity and credibility of the Force.



His Majesty taking a closer look at the Logistics Department of RBPf and the Traffic Control and Investigation Department.

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His Majesty during the visit to the Logistics Department of the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF).



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His Majesty also reminded RBPF officers and personnel not to be abusive and violate work ethics, and emphasised that criminal matters and those against work ethics must be eradicated as there is no meaning to the name of being a security officer if their behaviour does not bring a sense of safety.

In the *titah*, His Majesty also looked back at the development and changes in RBPF with its 100 years of establishment.

His Majesty stressed that the Police Force cannot turn its back on the rules of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), as any crime or security violations that are not handled according to the SOPs may have disappointing outcomes.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

His Majesty also chaired a closed meeting with senior officers of the RBPF.

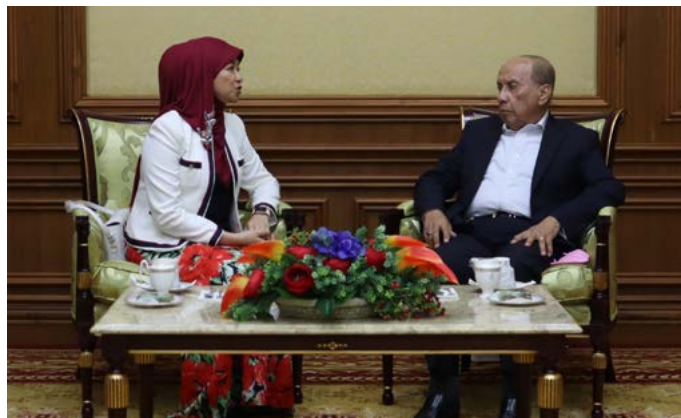
Support in addressing regional, international issues

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 7 - Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council received a courtesy call from Her Excellency Dayang Siti Rozaimeryanty binti Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman, Secretary General of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), at the Dewan Majlis Building.

Brunei Darussalam will take over the role as the 6th Secretary General of AIPA for three years, starting January 1, 2023 in Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia.

Among the matters discussed during the courtesy call were the main strategies of AIPA's structure on the role of Speaker of the ASEAN parliaments pertaining to issues that have been approved at the AIPA General Assembly.

This included resolving regional issues that are always raised by the public channelled through their respective parliaments. The Secretary General of AIPA will always be giving support and cooperation together with ASEAN in addressing regional and international issues.



Yang Berhormat Speaker of the Legislative Council with Her Excellency Secretary General of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly.

The Speaker of the Legislative Council and Secretary General of AIPA also exchanged their views on the methods to improve the AIPA organisation, specifically on the entry requirements of observer countries.

Qatar National Day Reception

JERUDONG, December 18 – The Embassy of the State of Qatar in Brunei Darussalam hosted a Reception on the occasion of its National Day at the Royal Berkshire Hall in Tarindak D'Polo.

Representing the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

Meanwhile, representing the State of Qatar was His Excellency Jassim Ali Abdullah Al Obaidli, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Qatar to Brunei Darussalam.

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and Qatar in 1991, the two countries have concluded numerous cooperative agreements and Memoranda of Understanding, which strengthened and developed closer cooperation in various fields.



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office with His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Qatar to Brunei Darussalam and other Qatari officials during the cake-cutting session of the reception.

Brunei wins 4 APICTA awards



The Brunei Darussalam delegation upon their return to the Sultanate after winning the 21st Asia Pacific ICT Alliance (APICTA) Awards 2022 in Islamabad, Republic of Pakistan.



BERAKAS, December 13 – Brunei Darussalam's representatives to the 21st Asia Pacific ICT Alliance (APICTA) Awards 2022 have done the country proud by achieving two winning awards and two merit awards in four categories in Islamabad, Republic of Pakistan.

Present at the Brunei International Airport to welcome the delegation were Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health; and Yang Berhormat Pengiran

Dato Seri Setia Shamhary bin Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Mustapha, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications. Also present were Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Matsatejo bin Sokiaw, Deputy Minister (Energy) at the Prime Minister's Office as Chairman of the Authority for Info-communications Technology Industry of Brunei Darussalam.

The Ministry of Health's BruHealth application won the Inclusions and Community Services for Health and

Wellbeing category; as well as a merit in the Public Sector, Government and Citizen Services.

Rumine Corporation's Techsim won the Inclusions and Community – Sustainability and Environment and Education category.

Meanwhile, Sekolah Ugama Arab Menengah Perempuan Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha's Sign Speak student app won merit under the Student: Senior Systems category.

Transformative Solutions for Inclusive Development

JERUDONG, December 5 – The Brunei Neuroscience Stroke and Rehabilitation Centre (BNSRC), Pantai Jerudong Specialist Centre (PJSC) commemorated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPWD) 2022 with an event and exhibition at the Lecture Theatre of the PJSC building.

Attending as the Guest of Honour was

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health who is also the Deputy Chairman of the PJSC Board of Directors.

The Minister of Health said that this year's celebration was themed 'Transformative Solutions for Inclusive Development: The Role of Innovation in Fuelling an

Accessible and Equitable World', which emphasises that persons with different abilities have the same needs as everyone in obtaining any healthcare and services. Therefore, all services need to be open for everyone, including persons with different abilities, so that they too can use facilities provided

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Yang Berhormat Minister of Health presenting a certificate of appreciation.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health in a group photo.

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fairly and equitably.

Earlier, Abang Muhammad Fahmy bin Abang Hepnie, Head of the Rehabilitation Department of BNSRC in his speech explained that IDPWD, which falls on December 3, increases awareness of disability issues affecting persons with different abilities.

A short film by Awang Hadi Hisyamuddin bin Hamzah, a BNSRC

patient was also featured in the event.

The Minister then presented certificates of appreciation to the patients with different abilities as well as participating exhibitors, and toured the exhibition.

It is hoped that such campaigns will raise knowledge of the importance of including the differently-abled in all aspects of political, social, economic and cultural life.

Strengthen relations among ASEAN Member States through *khat*

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 22 - This year, the Islamic Calligraphy and Art Study Centre, Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah (YSHHB) held the ASEAN Level Khat Competition for the very first time to commemorate Yayasan's 30th anniversary of its establishment. The ASEAN Level Khat Competition 2022 Prize Presentation Ceremony was held at Dewan An-Naura, YSHHB Complex.

The prizes were presented by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health as Deputy Chairman of the YSHHB Board of Director.

Huda Purnawadi from Indonesia was crowned as the champion, while Miftahul Huda and Muhammad Syamsudin, also from Indonesia, placed second and third respectively.

The competition aimed to strengthen relations among ASEAN Member States aside from raising awareness as well as improve

the youth's quality in mastering various aspects of Islamic arts specifically *khat* and to instil interest towards *khat* and polish the people's talents and skills in *khat*.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health presenting a prize to Huda Purnawadi from Indonesia.

COVID-19 status, amendments to Service Charge payment rate

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN - As of December 31, one case is in category 4, requiring oxygen assistance and close monitoring. The Ministry of Health in a press release stated that 244 cases have recovered.

A total of 87.3 per cent of children aged 5 to 11 have received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, and 62.5 per cent of adolescents aged 12 to 17 have received

3 doses. The percentage of the country's population who have received three doses remains at 79 per cent.

Meanwhile, on December 6, with the consent of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the COVID-19

Steering Committee announced that the Service Charge payment rate, which is currently charged at \$3.00 one way, for every person who will travel through land control posts in Brunei Darussalam will be charged on each vehicle starting December 12.

For passenger vehicles with a load of no

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more than 7 people including the driver, a fee of \$3.00 will be charged per vehicle for one-way travel.

Passenger vehicles with a load of more than 7 up to 25 people including the driver, such as vans or minibuses, will be charged 6 dollars per vehicle for one-way travel.

Passenger vehicles with a load of more than 25 people including the driver, such as buses, will be charged \$10.00 per vehicle for one-way travel.

Commercial vehicles that will not require inspection through an x-ray machine, a fee of 6 dollars per vehicle will be charged for one-way travel; and for commercial vehicles that need to undergo an inspection via an x-ray machine, a fee of \$10.00 per vehicle will be charged for one-way travel.

Service Charges will be charged on all vehicles that are passing through all Brunei Darussalam land control posts

regardless of where the vehicle is registered, which is whether it has Brunei Darussalam registration or foreign registration.

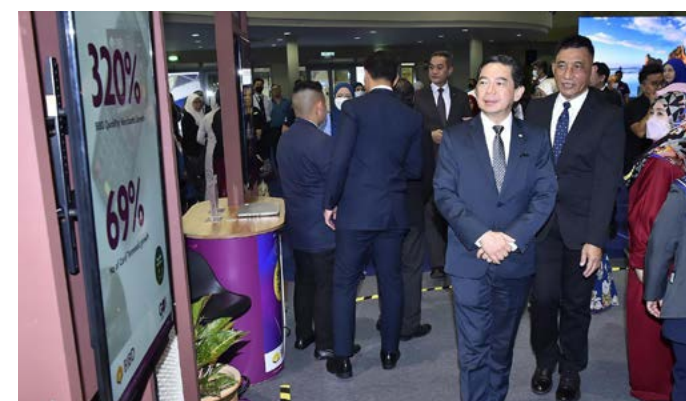


Yang Berhormat Minister of Health during the press conference on December 6.

BDF 2022 kicks off with Local Product Expo



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Second Minister of Finance and Economy; Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism launching the Local Product Expo 2022.



Yang Berhormat Minister at the PMO and Second Minister of Finance and Economy at the Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam booth.



Participating vendors at the expo.

JERUDONG, December 1 – The Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (MPRT), in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and Economy, Ministry of

Home Affairs and Darussalam Enterprise, is organising the Local Product Expo 2022 in conjunction with the 6th Brunei December Festival.

The four-day expo is a platform for local entrepreneurs to promote and expand the market for their products. The launching ceremony took place at Bridex International Conference Centre Hall 1 and 2 in Jerudong.

The launching was jointly officiated by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy; Yang Berhormat Dato

Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism; and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ahmaddin bin Haji Abdul Rahman, Minister of Home Affairs.

Earlier, Dayang Hajah Tutiaty binti Haji Abdul Wahab, Permanent Secretary at MPRT as Co-Chair of the expo in her speech, among others, explained that the Local Product Expo 2022 gives local entrepreneurs the opportunity to expand their business networks through entrepreneurship briefing and seminar, as well as networking and business matching activities.

Reinforce labour market resilience

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 9 – Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ahmaddin bin Haji Abdul Rahman, Minister of Home Affairs attended the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) at Raffles City Convention Centre in the Republic of

Singapore from December 6 to 9.

The meeting brings together ILO's tripartite constituents throughout Asia, the Pacific and Arab states once every four years to discuss programmes and implementation of ILO's activities in the region through knowledge sharing and

exchange of best practices.

This year's meeting discussed on how ILO can better support workers, enterprises and households in the regions to adapt

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to the new challenges and opportunities in the world of work; reinforce labour market resilience; promote decent work in the region; and bring positive environmental, economic and social impacts.

The discussion covered four key thematic areas – integrated policy agenda for a human-centred recovery that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient; institutional framework to support transitions towards formality and decent work; strong foundations for social and employment protection and resilience; and revitalising productivity growth and skills for more and better jobs.

The meeting began with a special opening address by Her Excellency Halimah Yacob, President of Singapore; followed by opening remarks by Dr. Tan See Leng, Minister for Manpower of Singapore as Chairperson of the 17th APRM; His Excellency



Yang Berhormat Minister of Home Affairs at the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting of the International Labour Organization at Raffles City Convention Centre in the Republic of Singapore.

Gilbert F. Houngbo, Director-General of ILO; Hiroyuki Matsui, employers' representative; and Felix Anthony, workers' representative.

Two students receive Singapore scholarship

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 28 – The Ministry of Education through the Department of Scholarship Management held the Brunei Darussalam - Republic of Singapore Youth Education Scholarship Scheme Awards and Signing Ceremony for the 2023/2024 academic session held at Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah.

Present was Yang Berhormat Datin Seri Setia Dr. Hajah Romaizah binti Haji Md. Salleh, Minister of Education.

Jaeden Chan Weijie and Adam Xavier bin Azlan/Markus received the scholarship will attend secondary level studies in the Republic of Singapore starting in January 2023.

Signing on behalf of the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was Awang Julaihi bin Mohamad/Mohamat, Special Duties Officer at the Ministry of Education, while His Excellency Mr. Heng Aik Yeow, Republic of



Minister of Education in a group photo with the students and attendees at the event.

Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development



Yang Berhormat Minister of Transport and Infocommunications.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 6 – The International Civil Aviation Day is celebrated every December 7 to commemorate the establishment of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The theme for 2020 to 2023 is “Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development”.

Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Setia

Shamhary bin Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Mustapha, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications delivered the message in conjunction with the International Civil Aviation Day 2022.

The Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications (MTIC), in collaboration with various parties, will ensure and prioritise the best safety level for the well-being of airport users, aside from enhancing the public's confidence through innovative and technology projects, in line with the vision towards achieving the Smart Nation vision.

The Brunei International Airport witnessed an increasing demand for cargo space for import and export following the addition of air cargo operation at the airport.

Brunei Darussalam as a member state of ICAO, through the Department of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Transport and

Infocommunications, supports ICAO's efforts in implementing the ICAO Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce guidelines for mitigation measures to reduce health risks for passengers and workers at the airport.

The said guidelines can improve the confidence of the public, airport workers, global supply network and the government.

In 2022, Brunei International Airport showed highly encouraging growth in air traffic arrivals and departures.

Towards the goal of providing the best services to passengers throughout their travels, the Department of Civil Aviation, together with stakeholders, will continue to work together in adhering to the civil aviation safety and security standards, aside from ensuring comfort and the smooth running of the overall airport processes.

Solidarity through volunteering



Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 5 - This year's International Volunteer Day celebration carries the theme 'Solidarity Through Volunteering', said Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Nazmi bin Haji Mohamad, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports in a message in conjunction with International Volunteer Day 2022.

Volunteers play an important role in strengthening community relations, and it is no longer seen as an activity to fill free time, but as a platform to spread the spirit of unity among the community.

The spread of COVID-19 has witnessed the spirit of unity from all walks of life in helping the government curb its spread. More than 10,000 volunteers from various agencies have provided their assistance in the form of energy, materials and ideas through the Whole of Nation approach.

As a continuous support to the International Volunteer Day, the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports has introduced an initiative to encourage the public in general as well as the youth to be active in volunteering through the Day of Action Campaign.

Since its introduction in 2015, almost 1,000 activities under nine clusters

covering various fields have seen the involvement of some 20,000 volunteers in the campaign.

For 2022, the Main Launching Ceremony of the Day of Action Campaign will be held on Sunday, December 11.

The Day of Action Campaign is expected to strengthen and further spread the spirit and culture of volunteerism among the general public and the youth in particular.

This was highlighted in the State of the World's Volunteerism Report 2018, which stated that volunteers play an important role in building a resilient society.

It also coincides with the Malay Islamic Monarchy values that emphasise the importance of teamwork among the community towards ensuring the harmony of community life.

A more accessible and beneficial world for PWDs

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 3 – This year's theme for International Day of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) is “Transformative Solutions for Inclusive Development: The Role of Innovation in Fuelling an Accessible and Equitable World”.

The theme is in line with the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 'No One Left Behind', whereby it is important to find innovative solutions in order to make the world more accessible and beneficial to PWDs in various fields. It also coincides with the Plan of Action for Persons with Different Abilities under the National Council on Social Issues, which was reviewed in 2021.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Nazmi bin Haji Mohamad, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports stated the matter in a message in conjunction with the International Day of PWDs 2022.

The Minister of Health (MoH) also shared three strategic cores of the Plan of Action on PWDs 2021-2025, which are to increase the quality of life through education, health and economic activities; provide equal rights through policies, legislation and infrastructure; and empower PWDs

and their families inclusively through advocacy. The implementation of initiatives under the Plan of Action is undertaken through a Whole of Nation approach to mobilise support and opportunities for PWDs in this country towards the achievement of inclusive and sustainable development.

The Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam strongly emphasises that the welfare and well-being of PWDs continue to be guaranteed by mainstreaming their interests into the national social security system in an inclusive and fair manner, including ensuring their equal rights, opportunities and access under the laws of the country.

With the enactment of the Persons with Disabilities Order 2021 on October 1, 2021, to date, the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS) has received nearly 3,800 applications for PWD registration, which will be incorporated into the PWD National Register upon verification by MoH.

Meanwhile, the Department of Community Development is in the final planning stages of issuing PWD Cards to those PWDs who have been verified and registered in the

National Register for the purpose of PWD identity verification, as well as access to certain services.

As a society that cares for PWDs, economic empowerment of PWDs – including through entrepreneurship and employment – needs to be improved.

The Minister also expressed appreciation to MPEC and companies for providing employment opportunities to PWDs, and for integrating them into their respective workforces.

To further enliven this year's celebration, MCYS, through the Department of Community Development, has arranged a number of events in collaboration with various strategic partners, such as the Council for the Welfare of Persons With Different Abilities; The Impian Project; La Vida; Special Olympics Brunei Darussalam; Pantai Jerudong Specialist Centre; MPEC; Dream Makers; Department of Special Education; SMARTER Brunei; Pusat Ehsan Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Mariam; Elfera Health and Nursing Care Sdn. Bhd., as well as foreign missions from the United States of America; United Kingdom; and Canada.

Visit to Ulu Temburong, barramundi farm

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 15 – Her Excellency Grace Fu, Minister for Sustainability and the Environment of the Republic of Singapore and her delegation conducted a working visit to the Ulu Temburong National Park and Barramundi Group (B) Sdn. Bhd. in Kampung Serasa.

The delegation was welcomed by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism.

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Yang Berhormat Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism; and Her Excellency Minister for Sustainability and the Environment of the Republic of Singapore during the working visit.

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The tour programme included a river cruise and climbing the tower to Silara Bridge.

The delegation was also briefed on the project to upgrade, operate and maintain the accommodation complex in the Ulu



Temburong National Park by a representative of the project operator.

The delegation then visited Barramundi Group (B) Sdn. Bhd., which operates a barramundi farm.

The company started exporting barramundi to Singapore in September this year.

Training as stepping stone in tourism industry



The Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism in a group photo with the facilitators and officials.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 17 – A total of 13 trainees from both academic and hospitality industry completed the Training of Trainers for ASEAN National Trainer in Hotel Division for Front Office at Mulia Hotel.

The certificates were presented by Dayang Hajah Tutiatty binti Haji Abdul Wahab, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of

Primary Resources and Tourism.

At the ceremony, four trainees received best trainee awards.

Such a training programme provides trainers and teachers the opportunity to update their knowledge and acquire industry-current skills.



The Permanent Secretary presenting a certificate to one of the participants.

Review policies, activities, recommendations of ICESCO

RABAT, KINGDOM OF MOROCCO, December 25 - Dr. Haji Azman bin Ahmad, Permanent Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education as the Secretary-General of the National Commission of Brunei Darussalam for the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) attended the 43rd Session of the Executive Council of ICESCO held at the ICESCO Headquarters in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco from December 23 to 24.

was attended by representatives from 46 out of 55 ICESCO Member States to deliberate and review policies, activities and recommendations of ICESCO in the relevant sectors of education, science and culture as well as communication and information.

The session commenced with addresses by His Excellency Dr. Salim M. AlMalik, Director-General of ICESCO; His

The Executive Council of ICESCO which convenes once a year

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Permanent Secretary (Higher Education) at the Ministry of Education in a group photo at the event.

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Excellency Dr. Mohamed Ayman Ashour, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Arab Republic of Egypt as the President of the General

Conference of ICESCO; and His Excellency Dr. Dawas Tayseer Dawas, Secretary-General of the National Commission of Palestine as the Chairman of the Executive Council of ICESCO.

At the end of the opening session, the Director-General of ICESCO announced the official accession of the Republic of Lebanon as the 55th member state to join the organisation.

During the 43rd Session, the Executive Council discussed a total of 14 agendas including periodic reports and legal matters as well as presentations of ICESCO's Young Professional Programme and its Governance System.

The Executive Council also saw the presentation of a new initiative on the Strategy of Cooperation between the National Commissions and ICESCO: Model Experiences where National Commissions were called upon to take a proactive role in achieving the ICESCO objectives.

Prior to attending the Executive Council, the Permanent Secretary (Higher Education) also attended the First Consultative Meeting on Strategic Indicators for Development in the Islamic World: The Global Knowledge Index as a Model held on December 21-22 at the ICESCO Headquarters.

The Consultative Meeting was organised by ICESCO in partnership with Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation (MBRF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to discuss innovative ideas and proposals to develop practical initiatives that will contribute to the improvement of the knowledge economy and explored the Global Knowledge Index to measure the knowledge performance of the Islamic world and to deliberate on its relevant transformations and challenges.

The meeting also included a visit to the International Exhibition and Museum of the Prophet's Seerah and Islamic Civilization at the ICESCO Headquarters.

UNISSA attends 12th AIUA meeting

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA, December 9 - A delegation led by Dr. Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, Rector of Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) recently attended the 12th Annual General Meeting of the Asian Islamic Universities Association (AIUA) at Universitas Islam Negeri Antasari Banjarmasin in the Republic of Indonesia.

Thirty-three university leaders from Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Kingdom of Thailand attended the meeting to discuss the agenda in planning, finance, research, publication and activities that have been carried out in 2022 as well as outline plans for the next year.

The meeting coinciding with the International Confederation of the Syafii School in South East Asia carried the theme "Adaptation, Transformation and Future Challenges". Dr. Hafini bin Mahmud, Head of UNISSA Alumni Affairs Office was a key presenter.

AIUA was set up in 2015 to serve as a platform for Islamic higher learning institutions in Asia to interact and collaborate in education, research, publication, seminars, workshops as well as exchange of academic staff and students.

UNISSA has been a member of AIUA since its establishment. Meanwhile, the Rector of UNISSA was selected to be the Vice President for the 2022-2024 session.



The Rector of Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali during the 12th Annual General Meeting of the Asian Islamic Universities Association in the Republic of Indonesia.

MoU: Empowering scholars, paving shared training

TUNGKU LINK, December 15 – The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) and Yunus Emre Institute (YEI) on cooperation in higher education was signed at the Main Conference Room of UTB.

UTB students and academics, together with students and scholars from 209 universities in the Republic of Turkiye, will have access to more opportunities for development and exposure. The MoU also aims to establish a partnership framework for long-term cooperation between the education institutions in both countries.



The Vice Chancellor of Universiti Teknologi Brunei and His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkiye to Brunei Darussalam with the Memorandum of Understanding.

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The MoU was signed by Datin Paduka Professor Dr. Dayang Hajah Zohrah binti Haji Sulaiman, Vice Chancellor of UTB, and His Excellency Professor Dr. Hamit

Ersoy, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Turkiye to the Brunei Darussalam on behalf of YEI.

The signing of the MoU was part of the recent collaboration to offer

a Turkish language course expected to commence in 2023. The classes held at the Embassy and the Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University will be the latest Turkish language course available for the public.

Roles of Engineers in Industry 4.0 Era



The Brunei delegation at the conference.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 20 - The 40th Conference of the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (CAFEO 40) was held at Sokha Hotel, Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia from December 4 to 8, titled "The Changing Roles of Engineers in Industry 4.0 Era".

engineering institutions from the 10 member countries.

The opening ceremony was officiated by Dr. Ith Samheng, Minister of Labour and Vocational Training and Chairman of the Council of the Board of Engineers Cambodia (BEC).

The conference was attended by Also in attendance were His Excellency

RBAF donates relief aid to Indonesia

INDONESIA, December 31 - The Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) donated relief aid to the victims of the November earthquake that struck Cianjur, Indonesia.

The donation, worth \$2,000 was presented to the then-Chief of the Indonesian Defence Force General Dato Paduka Seri Andika Perkasa, by Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Muhammad Haszaimi bin Bol Hassan, the RBAF Commander during his introductory visit to Indonesia in December.

The Indonesia Defence Force used the funds to purchase relief items and distributed them on behalf of the RBAF on December 27.

The aid comprised 144 pieces of clothing for girls, 120 pieces of clothing for boys and 25 boxes of clothing for adults.



The Indonesia Defence Force hands over earthquake relief aid to a representative of the victims on behalf of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF).

Zero-tolerance vision of tackling drug

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA, December 5 – The 43rd ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) meeting was held from October 31 to November 3.

The meeting was attended by Dato Paduka Mohd. Zalani bin Haji Ismail, Director of Narcotics Control Bureau as the head of delegation, along with several senior officers from the bureau.

During the opening ceremony, Yang Berbahagia Dato' Sri Wan Ahmad Dahlan bin Haji Abdul Aziz, Secretary General of the Ministry of Home Affairs of Malaysia as the Guest of Honour touched on the increasingly complex drug situation with the

increase in cross-border crime and the existence of organised crime syndicates.

He also stressed that ASOD leaders should continue to support the zero-tolerance vision of tackling drug issues in the region and remain committed to implementing 'The ASEAN Work Plan on Securing Communities Against Illicit Drug 2016-2025'.

The meeting also saw the launching of a report published by the

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The 43rd ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters meeting in progress.

ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Centre entitled "ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2021", which presents the overall ASEAN drug situation for 2021, as well as the initiatives implemented based on the drug supply and demand reduction strategy by ASEAN member countries.

Other related meetings such as the 7th ASOD+China Consultation; 7th ASOD+Japan Consultation; 15th ASOD+3 Consultation; and 4th ASOD+Russia Consultation were also held back-to-back with the 43rd ASOD meeting.

Seventh SOMRI Working Group Meeting

SIEM REAP, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, December 10 – Brunei Darussalam attended the Seventh Senior Officials Meeting Responsible Meeting for Information (SOMRI) Working Group Meeting on Information, Media and Training from December 6 to 9 in Siem Reap, Kingdom of Cambodia.

The meeting was officiated by His Excellency Khieu Kanharith, Minister of Information at the Ministry of Communications of Cambodia; and chaired by Has Sam Ath, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Information of Cambodia; while Dian Wulandari, Sub-Coordinator of Post and Informatics Operations and Public Information-Communications for Regional Affairs from the Republic of Indonesia was the Deputy Chair.

The meeting discussed projects and initiatives that are currently held and will be implemented by ASEAN Member States, especially in the fields of information and media.

Representing the Sultanate was Dayang Siti Bismi Nuruliman binti Haji Awang Emzah, Acting Director of Information as Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Information (SCI) of the ASEAN Committee for Culture and Information (ASEAN COCI) of Brunei Darussalam; and Dayang Mufidah binti Abdul Hakim, Head of the International Affairs Unit as Secretary of SCI of

ASEAN COCI.

The meeting was also attended by senior officials from ASEAN member countries and the ASEAN Secretariat.

The Eighth SOMRI Working Group Meeting will be chaired by Indonesia next year.



Delegates from ASEAN Member States during the Seventh Senior Officials Meeting Responsible for Information (SOMRI) Working Group Meeting on Information, Media and Training, held in Siem Reap Kingdom of Cambodia.

Stellar year with awards



BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 16 - Baiduri Bank won the acclaimed 'Bank of the Year 2022' award from The Banker, one of the world's leading publications by Financial Times, United Kingdom.

This marks the fifth international banking award this year for the bank.

It is also the 15th time the bank received this prestigious accolade, reinforcing the bank's position as an industry leader and

a dynamic institution at the forefront of financial innovation.

The Banker also lauded Baiduri Bank for its strong commitment to building a sustainable future for the nation.

On top of that, the bank's subsidiary, Baiduri Finance, was named 'Finance Company of the Year for Brunei' during the Asian Banking and Finance Retail Banking Awards 2022.

Total trade increase by 13.5 per cent in September 2022

The total trade recorded an increase of 13.5 per cent from \$2,267.5 million in September 2021 to \$2,572.8 million in September this year, contributed by a rise in both export and import value between those periods.

Compared to August, total trade fell 7.2 per cent due to a fall in exports and imports value, mainly mineral fuels.

Total exports increased by 22.6 per cent

from \$1,315.2 million in September 2021, to \$1,612.2 million in September. This was mainly due to the increase in mineral fuels exports from \$955.3 million to \$1,372.0 million in the same period.

Total exports increased by 22.6 per cent from \$1,315.2 million in September 2021, to \$1,612.2 million in September. This was mainly due to the increase in mineral fuels exports from \$955.3 million to \$1,372.0 million in the same period.

The increase in mineral fuels exports was mainly due to the higher export value of Crude Oil, Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and petroleum products. The increase in crude oil export was mainly due to the increase in average price by 33.8 per cent from USD76.67 per barrel in September 2021 to USD102.62 per barrel in September this year. Meanwhile, the increase in exports of LNG was due

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to a rise in both exports volume and price by 10.9 per cent and 42.5 per cent, respectively. Petroleum products exports, recorded an increase from \$392.8 million to \$544.8 million, in which the main commodity was automotive diesel fuels.

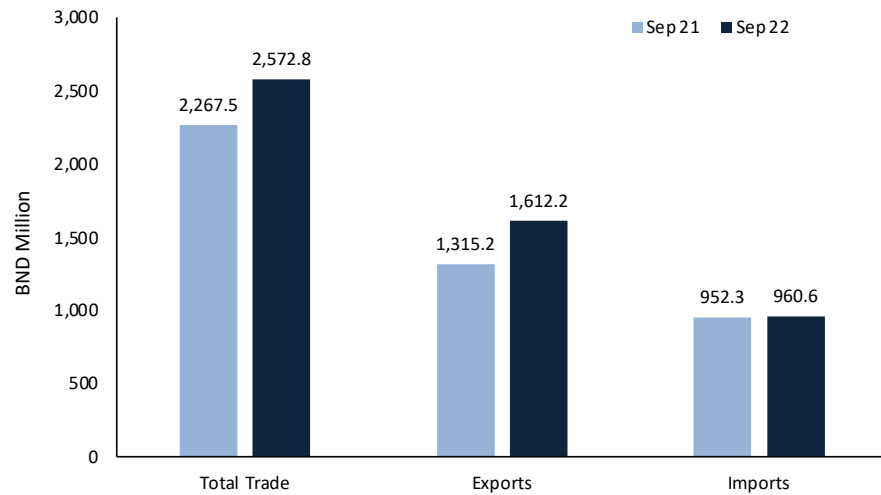
In terms of commodity, mineral fuels represents the major contributor to Brunei Darussalam's exports at 85.1 per cent, followed by chemicals (13.0 per cent), and machinery and transport equipment (0.7 per cent).

The main exports market in September 2022 was Australia at 22.2 per cent, followed by Japan (19.1 per cent), and Singapore (14.1 per cent). The largest export commodity to Australia, Japan and Singapore was mineral fuels.

Total value of imports increased from \$952.3 million in September 2021 to \$960.6 million in September 2022, mainly due to a significant increase in imports of mineral fuels particularly crude oil as production input for the downstream petrochemical industry.

The five main imports by commodity this month were mineral fuels with 69.0 per cent, followed by machinery and transport equipment at (10.5 per cent), food (7.0 per cent), manufactured goods (4.7 per cent) and chemicals (4.1 per cent).

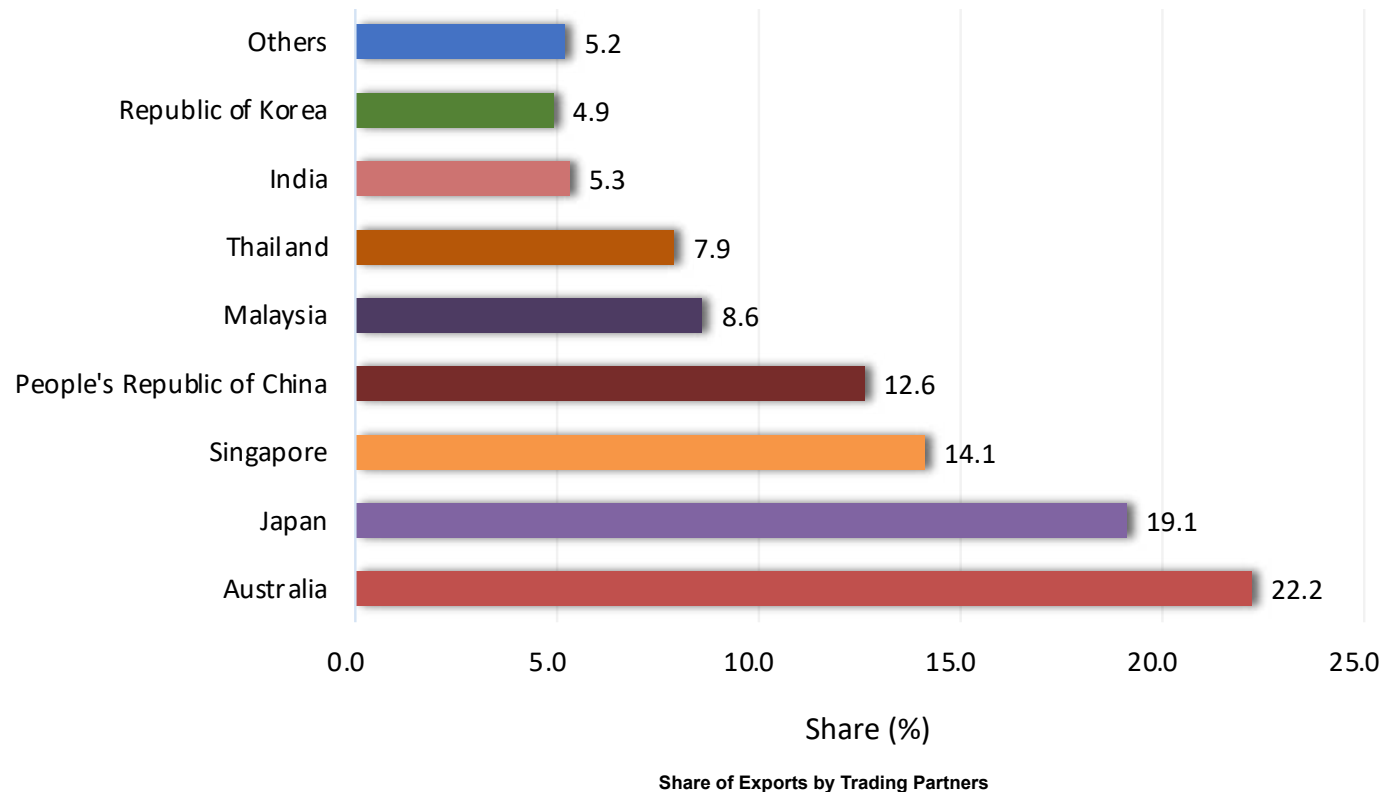
The biggest import partner by share was Malaysia at 26.2 per cent, followed by



Brunei Darussalam's Trade Performance

	Year-on-Year Change		
	Month & Year		Change
	Sept-21	Sept-22 ^P	Sept-22 ^P Sept-21 %
Price (USD)			
Crude Oil per barrel	76.67	102.62	33.8
Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) per MMBtu	11.42	16.27	42.5
Volume			
Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) MMBtu per day	642,317	712,524	10.9

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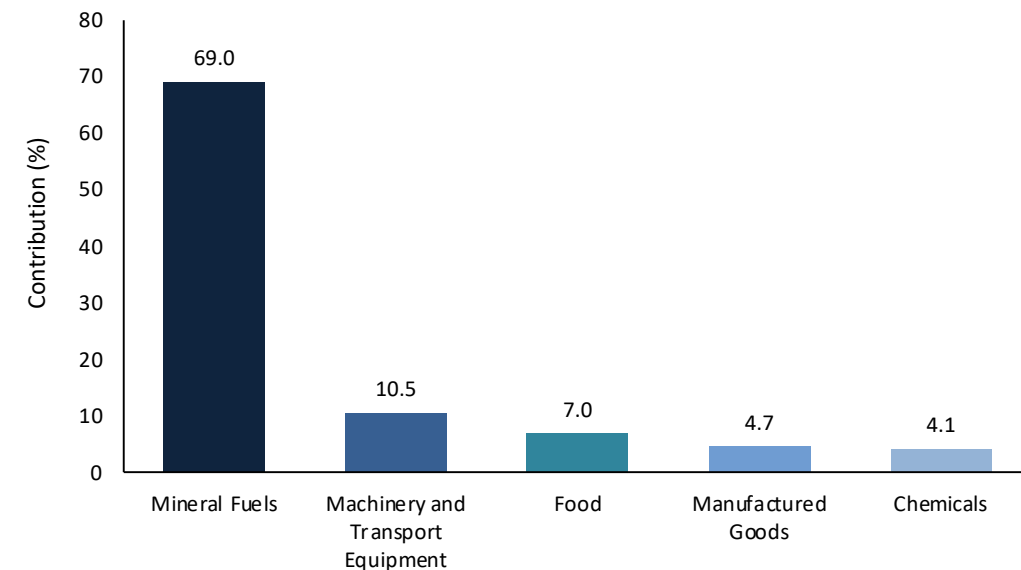


Share of Exports by Trading Partners

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Saudi Arabia (15.1 per cent) and United Arab Emirates (15.0 per cent), with mineral fuels as the largest import commodity.

Most of the country's imports at 61.4 per cent are used as intermediate Goods for processing, followed by capital goods



Five Main Imports by Commodity

CPI decreased by 0.6 per cent in October 2022

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, December 29 - In October, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) decreased by 0.6 per cent as compared to September. This was driven by the decrease in non-food Index by 0.8 per cent. However, food and non-alcoholic beverages Index showed an increase of 0.1 per cent.

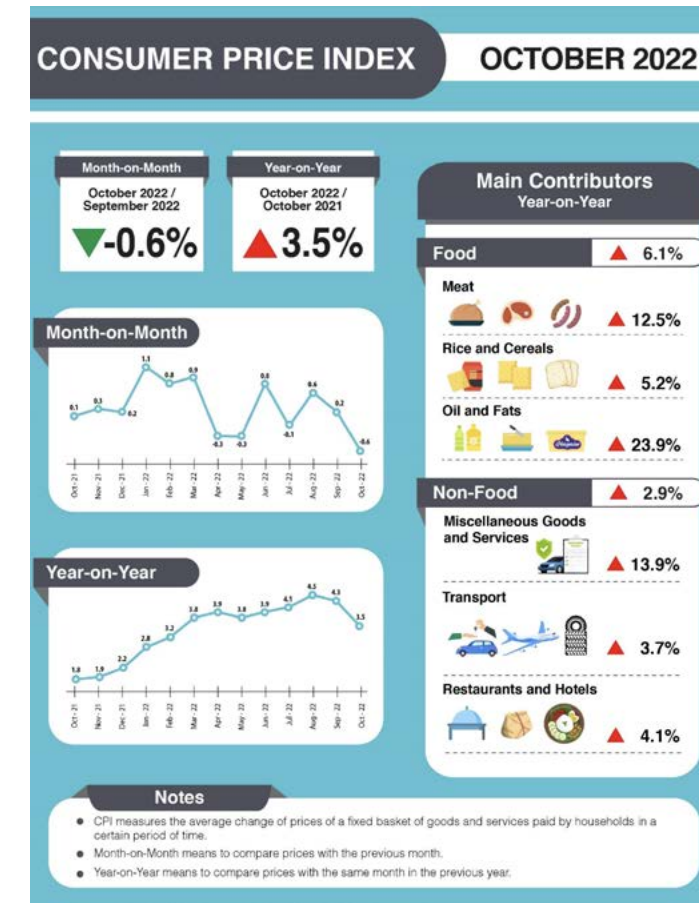
The decrease in non-food Index was driven by clothing and footwear 4.0 per cent; transport 2.2 per cent; and communication 1.0 per cent. The fall in the prices of clothing and footwear was mainly due to the price of clothing which was in line with the sales promotion hosted by several premises in the country. In addition, the decrease in transport was contributed by the decrease in air fares. Furthermore, the drop in communication prices was due to lower prices in telephone and telefax services.

On the other hand, the increase in food and non-alcoholic beverages was due to the rise in food prices such as rice and cereals 0.5 per cent; fruits 0.5 per cent; and fish and seafood 0.2 per cent. The increase in rice and cereals was mainly due to the price hike of input materials for cakes, pastries and biscuits. Meanwhile, imported non-tropical fruits were the main contributor to the increase in the prices of fruits, among others, due to increase in production input cost in producing countries as well as logistics and transportation costs. Furthermore, the rise in the prices of fish and seafood was mainly contributed by the increase in price of prawns caused by the supply of prawns being affected by the unpredictable weather.

As compared to October 2021, the CPI had increased by 3.5 per cent. The rise in the CPI was parallel with the increase in prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages, and non-food prices by 6.1 per cent and 2.9 per cent respectively. The CPI is a measure of price changes of goods and services paid by the consumer in a specified period and compiled on

(35.3 per cent) for business operations and consumption goods (3.3 per cent) for household use.

Transport by sea accounted for the highest share for both exports and imports, which amounted to \$2,475.7 million or 96.2 per cent. This was followed by air transport (\$58.8 million or 2.3 per cent) and via land (\$38.3 million or 1.5 per cent).



a monthly basis. The list of goods and services in the CPI is based on the average expenditure per household from the Household Expenditure Survey.