



برونى دارالسلام

Brunei Darussalam

Brunei Darussalam newsletter

Published by the Information Department  
Prime Minister's Office

NOVEMBER 2024  
VOLUME 39 ISSUE 11

## State Visit to Republic of Peru



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 during the Floral Offering Ceremony at Paraque del los Proceres de la Independencia (Park of the Heroes of Independence).

**LIMA, REPUBLIC OF PERU, 12<sup>th</sup> November** - 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, is currently on a state visit to the Republic of Peru. His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam began the state visit by attending the Floral Offering Ceremony at Paraque del los Proceres de la Independencia (Park of the Heroes of Independence), where His Majesty was welcomed by His Excellency Gustavo Lino Adrianzén, President of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Peru. The park was inaugurated in 1971 to honour Peru's independence heroes.

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## Crown Prince witnesses Jungle Warfare Demonstration



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 at the Jungle Warfare Demonstration as part of the Regional Jungle Warfare Symposium (RJWS) 2024.

**BELAIT, 26<sup>th</sup> November** - 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 (PMO), attended the Jungle Warfare Demonstration as part of the Regional Jungle Warfare Symposium (RJWS) 2024 at Kargu Dam, Andulau Forest Reserve.

The event featured welcoming remarks, an introductory briefing, and the Jungle Warfare Demonstration.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince was then introduced to the participants of RJWS, viewed static displays and survival exhibitions, and presented awards for the Jungle Warfare Skills Competition.

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## New members of the Council of Succession

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 20<sup>th</sup> November** - By the command of 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, it is hereby announced that His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented to the appointment of new members of the Council of Succession as follows:

President:

Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Indera Setia Diraja Sahibul Karib Pengiran Anak Haji Idris bin Pengiran Maharaja Lela Pengiran Muda Abdul Kahar, Ex-Officio, Yang Di-Pertua Adat Istiadat Negara.

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**4. His Majesty attends Sarawak Regatta**



**5. His Majesty names granddaughter**



**9. Bilateral meeting strengthens cooperation in various fields**



**10. Encourage inclusive growth through trade, investment**



**13. Celebrating 50 years of peace, prosperity**



**16. Her Royal Highness visits the Republic of the Philippines**



**17. BADAI TADUH Operation contingent safely returns**



**19. Leverage technological advancements in healthcare**



**23. Share best practices, strengthen family institutions**



**25. Flag handover for the national contingent**



NOVEMBER 2024 - VOLUME 39 ISSUE 11

**BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER** is published monthly by the Information Department. It reports on government, social and business events in the country. All money values are expressed in Brunei dollars \$, unless otherwise stated. Any information in this newsletter may be reproduced; a clipping of the publication would be appreciated.

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## His Majesty receives outgoing High Commissioner

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 received in audience His Excellency Luke Lazarus Arnold, outgoing High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam at Istana Nurul Iman on 26<sup>th</sup> November.



## Her Majesty receives audience

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam received in audience spouse of the outgoing High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam, Madam Leliana Setiona at Istana Nurul Iman on 28<sup>th</sup> November.



## 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 His Excellency Luke Lazarus Arnold, outgoing High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam at Qashr Al-Meezan on 27<sup>th</sup> November.



## His Majesty sends congratulatory messages

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 congratulatory messages to:

- His Excellency Donald J. Trump, President-Elect of the United States of America, on the occasion of his recent victory in the Presidential Elections on 7<sup>th</sup> November;
- His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of the Kingdom of Cambodia and His Excellency Samdech Moha Borvor Thipadei Hun Manet, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the government and people of the Kingdom of Cambodia on the occasion of its 71<sup>st</sup> Independence Day on 9<sup>th</sup> November;
- His Excellency Shigeru Ishiba, Prime Minister of Japan on the occasion of his re-appointment as the Prime Minister of Japan recently on 12<sup>th</sup> November; and
- His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, Sultan of the Sultanate of Oman, government and people of the Sultanate of Oman on the occasion of its National Day on 18<sup>th</sup> November.

## His Majesty sends messages 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 His Majesty King Felipe the Sixth, King of Spain and His Excellency Pedro Sanchez, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Spain, the government and the people of the Kingdom of Spain following the recent flash floods in Valencia in the Kingdom of Spain that resulted in the loss of lives and widespread destruction on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

## News

### His Majesty attends Sarawak Regatta

**KUCHING, SARAWAK, 3<sup>rd</sup> November** – 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 Adjournment of the Sarawak Regatta – Kuching Waterfront Festival 2024.

Upon arrival at Kuching International Airport, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was welcomed by His Excellency Tun Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Wan Junaidi bin Tuanku Jaafar, Yang di-Pertua Negeri of Sarawak; Yang Amat Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr.) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak; and Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Seri Laila Jasa Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, Deputy Premier of Sarawak as Minister-in-Attendance.

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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 being greeted on arrival at Kuching International Airport.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam upon arrival at Kuching International Airport (left); and during the Sarawak Regatta (right).





His Majesty during the Adjournment of the Sarawak Regatta – Kuching Waterfront Festival 2024.

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During the festival, His Majesty observed two boat racing categories: The Men's Kenyalang 20 Paddlers VIP Open; and the Main Highlight of the Sarawak Regatta, the final race of the Men's Bidar 30 Rowers Local, competing for the title of *Raja Sungai* 2024.

After the races, His Majesty awarded the His Excellency the Yang di-Pertua Negeri of Sarawak Trophy and prizes to the winning teams of the Men's Bidar 30 Rowers Local.

His Majesty then attended an Afternoon Tea Reception at the Hilton Hotel before left Kuching.



His Majesty presenting a trophy to the Brunei Darussalam Boat Race Team.



His Majesty receiving a *pesambah* (souvenir) prior to leaving Kuching.

## His Majesty names granddaughter

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 7<sup>th</sup> November** - By the command of 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, The Office of His Majesty Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, hereby announces that: His Majesty with great pleasure has named His Majesty's granddaughter and the daughter of Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Suami Abdullah Nabil Mahmoud Al-Hashimi, as;

Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Daniya Rahmatul Bolkiah binti Pengiran Suami Abdullah Al-Hashimi.

His Majesty and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam as well as other members of the royal family sincerely thanked all those who were involved during the birth and who had conveyed messages of congratulations

and greetings on the birth of Their Majesties granddaughter on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> Rabiulawal 1446 Hijrah corresponding to 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 Masihi at Portland Hospital, London, United Kingdom, at 9.55 a.m.



Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Daniya Rahmatul Bolkiah binti Pengiran Suami Abdullah Al-Hashimi.



# State Visit to Republic of Peru (continued)



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 being welcomed on arrival by Her Excellency President of the Republic of Peru for the state visit in Lima.

## From front page

His Majesty continued the visit with an Official Welcome Ceremony at Palacio de Gobierno (the Government Palace), where His Majesty was welcomed by Her Excellency Dina Ercilia Boluarte Zegarra, President of the Republic of Peru. During the ceremony, His Majesty inspected the Guard of Honour and held a meeting with the President of the Republic of Peru, expressing gratitude for the warm hospitality and emphasising the importance of the visit in strengthening cooperation. His Majesty invited the President of Peru for a state visit to Brunei Darussalam.

The state visit continued with a bilateral meeting at the Tupac Amaru Hall, where His Majesty expressed appreciation for the warm welcome extended by the President and the Government of Peru. Both leaders discussed ways to strengthen bilateral relations, particularly in trade, defence,

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the welcoming ceremony at the Government Palace.

climate change, and people-to-people exchanges. His Majesty highlighted the potential for enhanced cooperation, including through the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), and welcomed Peru's efforts to expand its economic presence in Southeast Asia, with Brunei as a key partner. His Majesty also welcomed Peru's support for climate change initiatives.

The meeting concluded with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Establishment of a Mechanism for Bilateral Consultations, aimed at deepening cooperation between the two countries. His Majesty and the President witnessed the Signing Ceremony. The MoU was signed by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof, Second Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam, and His Excellency Elmer José Germán Gonzalo Schialer Salcedo, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the Republic of Peru.

Following the signing of MoU, His Majesty was awarded the Grand Collar of the

Order of the Sun of Peru by the President, in recognition of Brunei's strong ties with Peru.

His Majesty then proceeded for a State Luncheon hosted by the President as part of the state visit before receiving a farewell from the President at the Government Palace.

During the state visit, His Majesty also held a meeting with His Excellency Rafael López Aliaga, Mayor of Lima, at the Municipal Palace. Following the meeting, the Mayor of Lima presented His Majesty with the Key to the City of Lima, a prestigious honour given to distinguished guests. In his speech, the Mayor emphasised the importance of the presentation as a symbol of trust and friendship. In return, His Majesty expressed appreciation for the honour and the warm hospitality of the people of Lima, highlighting the city's transformation and its role as a cultural, economic, and political hub. His Majesty expressed confidence that receiving the key would further strengthen the relationship between Brunei and Peru.

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His Majesty and Her Excellency President during the bilateral meeting.



From page 6



His Majesty and Her Excellency President at the Signing Ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of a Mechanism for Bilateral Consultations.

His Majesty then held a meeting with His Excellency Eduardo Salhuana Cavides, President of the Congress, and was presented with the prestigious Congressional Medal of Honour, the highest honour bestowed by the Peruvian Congress. In a *titah* (royal speech), His Majesty expressed gratitude for the award, highlighting it as a symbol of the rich history and values of Peru, as well as a reflection of the strong friendship between Brunei and Peru. His Majesty expressed hope for continued cooperation and the further strengthening of bilateral relations between the two nations.

His Majesty then held a meeting with His Excellency Javier Arévalo Vela, President of the Supreme Court of Peru, at the Palace of Justice. Before leaving, His Majesty signed the Visitor's Book.

Accompany His Majesty to the events was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.



His Majesty delivering a *titah* (royal speech). Also present was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.



His Majesty receiving the Grand Collar of the Order of the Sun of Peru conferred by Her Excellency President.



His Majesty receiving the Congressional Medal of Honour from His Excellency President of the Congress.



His Majesty during the handing over ceremony of the Key of Lima City by His Excellency Mayor of Lima, at the Municipal Palace.



His Majesty and His Royal Highness in a group photo with His Excellency President of the Supreme Court.



# His Majesty visits Naval School of Peru



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 walking past the Static Guard of Honour towards the Admiral Grau memorial monument for the Floral Offering Ceremony. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

**LIMA, REPUBLIC OF PERU, 13<sup>th</sup> November** – 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 visited the Naval School of Peru in Callao, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was welcomed by His Excellency Walter Astudillo, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Peru; Rear Admiral Luis Leon Cores, Chief of the Naval School of Peru and several Peruvian Senior Navy Officers.

His Majesty then walked past the Static Guard of Honour towards the Admiral Grau memorial monument for the Floral Offering Ceremony.

His Majesty later proceeded to Edificio Aguirre to witness the Peruvian Marine Corps Fanning Company and also attended a luncheon.

The Naval School of Peru educates future naval officers, focusing on academic, physical, and ethical training. Graduates earn a Bachelor's Degree in Naval Maritime Sciences and become Frigate Ensign.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen during the visit to Naval School of Peru (above and left).



## Bilateral meeting strengthens cooperation in various fields



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 during the bilateral meeting with His Excellency President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

**LIMA, REPUBLIC OF PERU, 14<sup>th</sup> November** - 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 a Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Luong Cuong,

President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, which was held at The Westin Lima Hotel and Convention Centre. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

This was the first official meeting between the two leaders, where His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam congratulated the President of Viet Nam on his recent election and expressed enthusiasm for visiting Viet Nam again.

His Majesty highlighted the strong and growing bilateral relations, especially in economic cooperation, which has surpassed a trade target set in 2017. His Majesty suggested setting a new target to further strengthen ties.

His Majesty also expressed Brunei's support for Viet Nam in hosting APEC in 2027. Diplomatic relations between Brunei and Viet Nam have been active since 29<sup>th</sup> February 1992 covering a range of sectors.

## Leverage digital transformation to empower people, businesses



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 during the APEC Leaders' Informal Dialogue with guests.

**LIMA, REPUBLIC OF PERU, 15<sup>th</sup> November** - 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 APEC Leaders' Informal Dialogue at the Lima Convention Centre (LCC).

During the session, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam expressed concerns over geopolitical conflicts in Palestine, Lebanon, and the Balkans, stressing the need for collective international action to

prevent further escalation.

His Majesty highlighted APEC's role in fostering economic cooperation since its founding in 1989 and reaffirmed APEC's commitment to the Bogor Goals, which advocate for free trade and a rules-based multilateral system.

His Majesty also emphasised the importance of sustainability and inclusivity for global economic stability, noting the need for the region to adapt to emerging economic challenges.

Furthermore, His Majesty stressed the

significance of digital transformation, particularly in e-commerce, digital payments, and online education, and the need for skill-building to empower individuals and businesses.

His Majesty pointed to initiatives like Accelerate Bootcamp and Coursera as vital in supporting Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in Brunei Darussalam and beyond.

In closing, His Majesty wished success to the upcoming APEC and G7 summits in 2025 and 2024, respectively. The dialogue also addressed ways to improve economic cooperation for sustainable and inclusive growth.

His Majesty also held a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Yoon Suk Yeol, President of the Republic of Korea (RoK). His Majesty expressed satisfaction over the long-standing, friendly relations between Brunei Darussalam and RoK, highlighting cooperation in strategic areas like ICT and agriculture.

As the two countries mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic ties, His Majesty expressed confidence in deepening bilateral cooperation, particularly in technology and smart cities.

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His Majesty welcomed more Korean investors, emphasising the importance of trade and economic collaboration, especially in food security and agriculture through the BIMP-EAGARoK Cooperation Fund.

In the evening, His Majesty attended the APEC Economic Leaders' Gala Dinner hosted by Her Excellency Dina Ercilia Boluarte Zegarra, President of the Republic of Peru who is the Chair of the 31<sup>st</sup> APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting.

His Majesty's arrival at the Government Palace was warmly welcomed by the President of the Republic of Peru.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen, accompanied His Majesty at the events.



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 Republic of Korea during the bilateral meeting.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the APEC Economic Leaders Gala Dinner at the Government Palace.

## Encourage inclusive growth through trade, investment

**LIMA, REPUBLIC OF PERU, 16<sup>th</sup> November** - 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 APEC Economic Leaders' Retreat at Lima Convention

Centre (LCC), accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

In a *titah* (royal speech), His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam highlighted the stable growth in various sectors but emphasised the need to address ongoing challenges such

as climate change and unrest, which threaten global stability and prosperity. His Majesty stressed that collective action is essential, as no economy can tackle these issues alone.

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From page 10

Key topics discussed included clean hydrogen, low-carbon initiatives, and efforts to prevent food loss and waste, all of which align with the Bangkok Goals agreed upon in 2022. His Majesty also noted Brunei Darussalam's commitment to renewable agriculture and green technologies. Additionally, ongoing conflicts, particularly in Palestine, Lebanon, and the Balkans, pose serious threats to global stability and economic resilience.

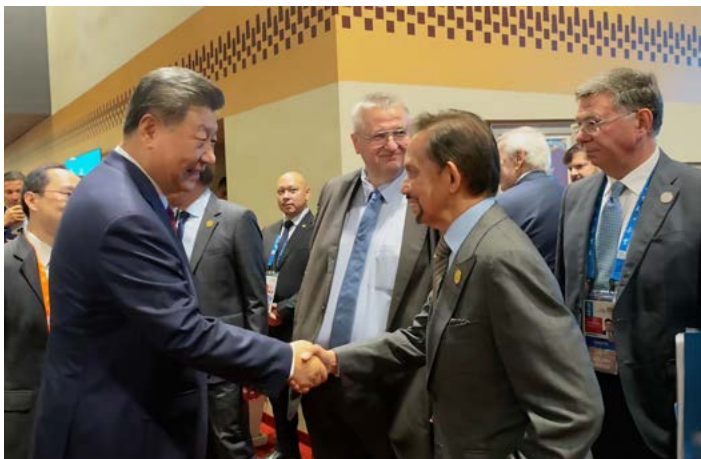
APEC leaders discussed priorities such as promoting inclusive growth, advancing innovation and digitisation, and ensuring sustainable development. At the conclusion of the retreat, the presidency of APEC was handed over from Republic of Peru to Republic of Korea for 2025.

Several key documents were adopted, including the Ichma Statement on a New Look at the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific agenda; the Lima Roadmap to Promote the Transition to the Formal and Global Economy; and the 2024 APEC Leaders' Machu Picchu Declaration.

Following the APEC Economic Leaders' Retreat, His Majesty left Lima. Present at Jorge Chávez International Airport to bid farewell was His Excellency Gustavo Lino Adrianzén, the President of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Peru.



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 with Her Excellency President of the Republic of Peru.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the APEC Economic Leaders' Retreat.



His Majesty in a group photo.

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His Majesty prior to departure from Lima.





## New members of the Council of Succession (continued)

From front page

Vice President:

Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, Ex-Officio, State Mufti.

Members:

Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Sanggamara Diraja Major General (Rtd) Pengiran Haji Ibnu Basit bin Pengiran Datu Penghulu Pengiran Haji Apong;

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib;

Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yusoff;

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Seri Utama Dato Paduka Seri Setia Haji Awang Salim bin Haji Besar;

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Maharaja Diraja Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Abdul Wahab bin Haji Md. Said; and

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Adanan bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Mohd. Yusof.

Secretary:

Yang Mulia Pengiran Haji Raffizanna bin Pengiran Haji Razali, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Civil Service Governance, at the Prime Minister's Office as Acting Grand Chamberlain.

The date of the appointment of the new Members of the Council of Succession is effective from Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> Jamadilawal 1446 corresponding to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024.

## KUPU SB - a pillar in contributing to moral and educational development



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 delivers a *titah* (royal speech).

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 21<sup>st</sup> November** - At the 14<sup>th</sup> Seri Begawan Religious Teachers University College (KUPU SB) Convocation, 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 in a *titah* (royal speech) emphasised the important role of KUPU SB in producing well-trained religious teachers who contribute to moral and educational development in Brunei Darussalam. His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam called for continuous evaluation and

updating of KUPU SB's programmes to remain relevant to the country's needs, particularly in Islamic education, and to ensure graduates are competitive in the job market.

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Graduates with their certificates.



From page 12

His Majesty also highlighted the importance of maintaining a high-quality learning environment for staff and praised KUPU SB's leadership for its ongoing

reforms, including restructuring, improving management systems, rebranding, and addressing human resource needs. The Monarch encouraged KUPU SB to lead in Syariah-compliant education and to evaluate educational practices that may

need improvement.

Finally, His Majesty congratulated the graduates, acknowledging their success and expressing gratitude to their families and lecturers for their support.



A total of 252 graduates received degrees and diplomas in various fields of Religious Education. Graduates received certificates in programmes such as Doctoral and Master's degrees in Religious Education, Bachelor's degrees in Islamic Education with various minors, and Advanced Diplomas in Arabic Language and Islamic Education.

The ceremony included the recitation of Surah Al-Faatihah, Asma' al-Husna, and verses from the Al-Quran.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam taking a selfie with a graduate.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting certificates to graduates.



## Celebrating 50 years of peace, prosperity



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) at the Gurkha Reserve Unit (GRU) Golden Jubilee Celebration held at the Parade Ground, Sungai Akar Camp.

**SUNGAI AKAR, 28<sup>th</sup> November** – The Gurkha Reserve Unit (GRU) has marked 50 years of contributing to Brunei Darussalam's peace and prosperity. At the GRU Golden Jubilee Celebration, 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 expressed satisfaction with the unit's growth into a reputable security organisation capable of addressing evolving challenges. The unit's diverse personnel have enriched it with expertise, experience, and resilience.

As part of the celebration, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam announced the conferral of the GRU Golden Jubilee Medal to serving personnel and former leaders in recognition of their loyalty and contributions. His Majesty also inaugurated the Gurkha Gallery, which highlights the unit's history, cultural heritage, and the achievements of Gurkha personnel, including Victoria Cross recipients.

In honour of the milestone, His Majesty renamed the unit the 'Gurkha Security Unit' and emphasised the importance of upholding core values to ensure its future relevance.

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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 inspecting the Guard of Honour.

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The celebration included a parade, cultural performances, and a demonstration by the PSG K-9 Unit.

His Majesty also officiated the gallery opening, attended a Royal Luncheon, and participated in a cake-cutting ceremony. The event concluded with a group photo, a *pesambah* (souvenir) presentation of a traditional *Khukri* sword, and a get-together with GRU personnel and their families.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam signing the Inauguration Plaque of the Gurkha Gallery (right).



His Majesty being briefed while touring the gallery.



His Majesty during the meet-and-greet at the event.

## Appointment of Deputy Permanent Secretary (Professional), MOH

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 9<sup>th</sup> November** - By the command of 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, it is hereby announced that His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented

for Dr. Hajah Rafidah binti Haji Gharif, Acting Director of Health Services, Ministry of Health to be appointed as Deputy Permanent Secretary for Professional, Ministry of Health.

The date of appointment of the said officer is effective from Friday, 6 Jamadilawal 1446 Hijrah corresponding to 8<sup>th</sup> November.



## Crown Prince witnesses Jungle Warfare Demonstration (continued)

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His Royal Highness also witnessed a Sail Pass involving personnel and assets from the Royal Brunei Land Force (RBLF) and Royal Brunei Navy.

The RJWS 2024, chaired by the RBLF in partnership with British Forces Brunei, marks the fourth symposium and included 289 participants from 17 countries under the theme 'Enhancing Survivability Through Training and Technology'. It aims to promote regional cooperation, information sharing, and advancements in jungle warfare capacity and training.



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 witnessing the Jungle Warfare Demonstration held at Kargu Dam, Andulau Forest Reserve in Sungai Liang.



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince touring the exhibition (left); and presenting awards to the participants (right).



The Jungle Warfare Demonstration taking place (above and below).





# Her Royal Highness visits the Republic of the Philippines



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with First Lady Louise Araneta-Marcos during a fashion show.

**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, 7<sup>th</sup> November** - Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, visited the Republic of the Philippines on 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> November to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of the Philippines.

On 6<sup>th</sup> November, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna visited the Hibla ng Lahing Filipino Gallery at the National Museum of Anthropology,

Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna at the Hibla ng Lahing Filipino Gallery at the National Museum of Anthropology.

showcasing traditional Filipino textiles.

Later, Her Royal Highness and the First Lady Louise Araneta-Marcos,

attended a reception and fashion show at Shangri-La Hotel, themed 'Brunei Darussalam-Philippines: The Fabric of Friendship'.



## MFA Day: Celebrating 40 years of establishment

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 27<sup>th</sup> November** - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with 'MFA Day' at the International Convention Centre (ICC). Officiated by Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at MFA, the event featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a tour of the MFA Photo Exhibition, which highlights the ministry's founding and key milestones over four decades.

The day included the commencement of a Model United Nations (MUN) simulation, engaging students from 21 government schools and youths from non-governmental organisations in United Nations procedures. Participants also attended the 'MFA Talk' with Bruneian diplomats. Informational booths showcased the ministry's work and bilateral partnership opportunities, including scholarships.



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) officiating MFA Day.



# BADAI TADUH Operation contingent safely returns



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Defence greeting the contingent.

**RIMBA, 5<sup>th</sup> November** - A total of 37 personnel from the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) returned to Brunei Darussalam after completing their mission for Humanitarian and Disaster Relief (HADR) in the Republic of the Philippines, following Tropical Storm Kristine (Trami) from 27<sup>th</sup> October to 5<sup>th</sup> November.

Present to welcome their return 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 and Second Minister of Defence.

The team delivered essential supplies to remote areas in the Philippines using C295MW transport aircraft and Blackhawk helicopters.

In recognition of Brunei's contribution to the disaster relief efforts, the Brunei contingent received medals and awards from the Philippine Air Force. This mission highlights Brunei's commitment to regional disaster response and cooperation under the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER).

## Joint commitment in regional and international security



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Defence at the 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus.

**VIENTIANE, LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, 21<sup>st</sup> November** - The 11<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (11<sup>th</sup> ADMM-Plus) was chaired by His Excellency General Chansamone Chanyalath, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR).

The meeting was attended by defence ministers and representatives from ADMM-Plus member countries, the ASEAN Secretariat, and Timor-Leste as an observer.

Brunei Darussalam's delegation was led by the Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja

(Rtd) Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Defence.

The meeting discussed ASEAN's latest developments, regional and international security, and reaffirmed commitments to peace, stability, and multilateralism. It also adopted a Joint Statement on resilience to climate-related and natural disasters.

The meeting included the ASEAN-China Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting, followed by celebrations of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-Australia relations and the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of

ASEAN-Republic of Korea relations.

The ADMM Chairmanship was handed over from Lao PDR to Malaysia, marking the end of Lao PDR's 2024 chairmanship. Malaysia will assume the ADMM Chair for 2025, with key meetings planned for February and November. The theme for Malaysia's chairmanship is 'ASEAN Unity for Security and Prosperity'.

Meanwhile, the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) took place yesterday was chaired by His Excellency General Chansamone Chanyalath, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of

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Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Defence in a group photo.

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National Defence of Lao PDR.

Key outcomes of the meeting included the adoption of the Observer Protocol for the ADMM-Plus EWGs and the approval of the 'A Future Ready ADMM and ADMM-Plus: Strategy Paper',

co-authored by Brunei Darussalam and Singapore. A major achievement was the adoption of the Vientiane Joint Declaration on 'Together for Peace, Security, and Resilience'.

Additionally, there was an ASEAN-United States Defence Ministers' Informal Meeting and a bilateral meeting between Brunei and Lao PDR.

## Foster sense of shared community

**MANGGIS, 14<sup>th</sup> November** - The Russian Embassy in Brunei Darussalam organised a special concert of classical music performed by talented young musicians from Brunei Darussalam.

The event aimed to celebrate cultural exchange and strengthen the ties between Russia and Brunei.

Present 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 and Second Minister of Defence.



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Defence and His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Russia to Brunei Darussalam at the classical musical concert.

In his opening speech, His Excellency Mikhail Vladimirovich Baranov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Russia to Brunei Darussalam emphasised that the concert was intended to show that while Russia and Brunei Darussalam may be geographically distant, culture serves as a bridge that unites the people of both nations and fosters a sense of shared community.



Musicians during the classical music concert.

## Increase awareness, understanding of AMR

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 20<sup>th</sup> November** – Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Ministers of Health; 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 Muhammad Juanda bin Haji Abdul Rashid, Minister

of Development, in a statement for World Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness Week 2024, highlighted the critical issue of AMR, where infections no longer respond to antimicrobial treatments.

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AMR is spreading rapidly across all microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites, and poses a complex challenge to global development, affecting human health, food security, economic stability, and the environment.

A 2024 global study found that 1.91 million deaths were caused by AMR, and by 2050, this could rise to 8.22 million. AMR could reduce life expectancy by 1.8 years by 2035, with significant healthcare and economic consequences.

The ministers emphasised the importance of raising awareness and adopting best practices to combat AMR through the global campaign, 'Educate. Advocate. Act Now.'

Brunei has actively joined the global effort, forming the Brunei Darussalam AMR Committee (BDAMRC) in 2018, which developed a National Action Plan (NAP) on AMR in 2019.

BDAMRC is progressing with its next NAP, aligning with global priorities.

The campaign offers a platform for education, public engagement, and sector-specific actions to prevent and reduce AMR. The ministers called for sustained, multi-sectoral actions to address AMR for a positive future.



## Leverage technological advancements in healthcare

**JERUDONG, 21<sup>st</sup> November** - The world is undergoing the Fourth Industrial Revolution, with the integration of digital technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), big data, and Internet of Things (IoT) transforming healthcare, including clinical laboratories. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated this shift, highlighting the importance of laboratory medicine in managing infectious diseases.

Additionally, changing healthcare demands, such as the rise of non-communicable diseases and an ageing population, are driving the adoption of smart diagnostic methods.

In his speech at the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Conference of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (ACCLS), Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, the Minister of Health emphasised the need for faster, accurate diagnostics for better treatment and intervention.

The Minister of Health discussed Brunei Darussalam's investments in next-generation diagnostic tools and digital health systems, aiming to meet international standards.

Future AI integration will enable personalised treatment, real-time monitoring, and health predictions, shifting focus from treatment to prevention.

The Minister also highlighted the potential of point-of-care testing (POCT) to improve healthcare delivery, especially in remote areas,



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health delivering his speech at the event.

by offering rapid and advanced tests.

However, the Minister stressed the importance of addressing ethical issues, data privacy, and regulatory challenges while embracing technology.

Finally, the Minister discussed the role of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in advancing innovative healthcare solutions, aligned with Brunei Vision 2035.

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PPPs can enhance healthcare quality, efficiency, and accessibility, benefiting the community and supporting economic growth.

Brunei Darussalam hosted the 18<sup>th</sup> ACCLS this year, organised by the ASEAN Association of Clinical Laboratory Science (AACLS), the Brunei Darussalam Medical Laboratory Scientists Association (BAMLS), and the Department of Laboratory Services, Ministry of Health.

The event took place at Indera Samudera Grand Hall, The Empire Brunei, and was officiated by the Minister.

The conference, attended by 294 participants (234 local and 39 international), focused on advancements in laboratory medicine.

It aimed to update professionals on new technological developments, research findings, and innovations in clinical laboratory science, emphasising its role in improving disease diagnosis, treatment, and patient outcomes.

The theme, 'Laboratory Medicine in Tomorrow's Healthcare Landscape', highlighted the impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, with a focus on AI, automation, and machine learning in laboratory services.

The conference also aimed to enhance the skills of participants, foster collaboration, and support Brunei's Vision 2035.

The event included keynote lectures, scientific talks, workshops, and paper presentations, with contributions from international and local experts.



Yang Berhormat Minister launching the 18<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Conference of Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

Over 300 attendees, including scientists, healthcare professionals, and students, participated in the event.

## CPTPP: Providing avenue for collaboration, bilateral trade

**VANCOUVER, CANADA, 30<sup>th</sup> November** – Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Second Minister of Finance and Economy attended the Eighth Meeting of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) from 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November.

The meeting was chaired by Her Excellency Mary Ng, Minister of Export Promotion, International Trade and Economic Development of Canada as the Chair of the Commission this year.

The meeting was attended by ministers and representatives from the 12 CPTPP Economies.

The CPTPP commission welcomed the United Kingdom (UK) as the 12<sup>th</sup> member of CPTPP.

The Protocol on the Accession of the UK of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the CPTPP will enter into force on 15<sup>th</sup> December for UK; Japan; the Republic of Singapore; the Republic of Chile; New Zealand; the Socialist Republic Viet Nam; the Republic of Peru; Malaysia; and Brunei Darussalam. Meanwhile, it will enter into force for Australia on 24<sup>th</sup> December.

The CPTPP commission also welcomed the outcomes achieved under Canada's



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy at the Eighth Meeting of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership in Vancouver, Canada.

chairmanship priorities this year (progressive stewardship; comprehensive utilisation; and developing an effective path forward on accessions), and endorsed the Interim Report by Senior Officials to Ministers on Progress on the General Review of the CPTPP.

The CPTPP Commission additionally agreed to establish an Accession Working Group (AWG) for the Republic of Costa Rica's accession to CPTPP, which will be

chaired by Peru, with Canada and New Zealand as Vice-Chairs.

At the meeting, the Minister at the PMO and Second Minister of Finance and Economy stated that UK's accession into the CPTPP provides an avenue for greater collaboration and deepening of bilateral trade relation, since CPTPP will become the first Free Trade Agreement established between Brunei Darussalam and UK.



## Build collaborative networks, address mental health issues



Yang Berhormat Minister of Home Affairs touring the International Symposium 2024 booth, organised by the Brunei Darussalam Counselling Association (PERKAB).

**RIMBA, 12<sup>th</sup> November** - The International Symposium 2024 organised by the Brunei Darussalam Counselling Association (PERKAB) emphasised the importance of mental health as the foundation of community well-being.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ahmaddin bin Haji Abdul Rahman, Minister of Home Affairs, highlighted the crucial role of grassroots leaders such as village heads, religious leaders, and counsellors in supporting mental health at the community level.

The symposium, with the theme 'From Awareness to Action: Mobilising Grassroots with Counselling Skills to Address Mental Health Challenges', aimed to empower leaders with practical skills, promote collaboration, and address mental health issues through inclusive and accessible approaches.

It also provided a platform for mental health professionals to share knowledge and experiences, contributing to a national effort to address mental health challenges in Brunei Darussalam.



Attendees during the symposium.

## Exploring potential partnerships in education



Yang Berhormat Minister of Education in a group photo with Her Excellency Deputy Trade Commissioner for Southeast Asia and delegation of the United Kingdom Trade Mission.

**BERAKAS, 27<sup>th</sup> November** – Yang Berhormat Datin Seri Setia Dr. Hajah Romaizah binti Haji Md. Salleh, Minister of Education received a courtesy call from Her Excellency Rhianon Harries, Deputy Trade Commissioner for Southeast Asia as the Head of Delegation for the United Kingdom (UK) Trade Mission at Conference Hall 1, Ministry of Education (MoE).

Cleeve, Deputy High Commissioner at the British High Commission, Bandar Seri Begawan.

Following the courtesy call, a roundtable discussion was held, which included presentations by the delegation members

Accompanying Her Excellency was Catherine Pochkhanavala-

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of the UK Trade Mission, comprising representatives from Cambridge University Press; Pearson; uTalk; University of Newcastle; Association of Chartered Certified Accountants; and the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council.

The discussion's objective was to explore potential partnerships between

Brunei Darussalam and UK in the field of education.

Also present were Dr. Haji Azman bin Ahmad, Permanent Secretary (Higher Education) at MoE; Dr. Shamsiah Zuraini Kanchanawati binti Haji Tajuddin, Permanent Secretary (Core Education) at MoE; Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, Rector of Universiti Islam

Sultan Sharif Ali; Dr. Chin Wei Keh, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Higher Education) at MoE; Dr. Joyce Teo Siew Year, Assistant Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam; Dr. Mohamad Saiful bin Haji Omar, Assistant Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Teknologi Brunei; as well as senior officials from MoE and the British High Commission.

## Shape resilient future for aviation in Asia-Pacific



Yang Berhormat Minister of Transport and Infocommunications delivering a speech during the 68th Assembly of Presidents of the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines.

**JERUDONG, 13th November** - The aviation industry is undergoing significant transformation, driven by technology, sustainability goals, and shifting geopolitical dynamics.

At the 68th Annual Assembly of the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines

(AAPA) in Brunei Darussalam, Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Setia Shamsiah bin Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Mustapha, the Minister of Transport and Infocommunications, discussed how the industry is recovering from the impact of COVID-19, with strong growth in passenger traffic.

Asia Pacific is projected to lead in passenger growth over the next two decades. The focus is on embracing technological innovation, improving sustainability, and overcoming supply chain challenges.

Brunei Darussalam is actively involved in reducing aviation emissions and working on initiatives for a greener future. The ongoing discussions at the AAPA assembly aim to strengthen collaboration and develop practical solutions for a sustainable aviation sector in the Asia-Pacific region.

The AAPA, themed 'Jetting into 2050 – Future-proofing Asian Aviation', brought together leaders from prominent airlines

across the Asia-Pacific region which focused on preparing Asian aviation for the future, with discussions on sustainable growth, innovation, and challenges such as supply chain disruptions and labour shortages.

Key topics included achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, digital transformation, and improving the passenger experience. Airbus highlighted the region's significant growth potential, forecasting the need for 19,500 new aircraft in the next 20 years. The assembly also featured cultural experiences for delegates, showcasing Brunei's heritage and hospitality.

Meanwhile, last night, Royal Brunei Airlines (RB) held a Reception at The Empire Brunei to welcome the Leaders of Asia-Pacific airlines who are in the country to attend the AAPA.

Present at the event was Captain Sabirin bin Haji Abdul Hamid, CEO of RB.

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Yang Berhormat Minister of Transport and Infocommunications in a group photo.





The CEO of Royal Brunei Airlines (RB) at the 68<sup>th</sup> Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) Leaders' Assembly.

## Committed enhancing transport cooperation in ASEAN region



Yang Berhormat Minister of Transport and Infocommunications, representing Brunei Darussalam at the 30<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting.

**KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA, 22<sup>nd</sup> November** - Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Setia Shamhary bin Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Mustapha, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications, represented Brunei Darussalam at the 30<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Transport Ministers

(ATM) Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

The meeting, chaired by His Excellency Loke Siew Fook, Minister of Transport, Malaysia focused on transportation sustainability, with key documents

endorsed on topics like decarbonisation, digitalisation, and port sector development.

The Minister of Transport and Infocommunications signed Protocol 5, which allows ASEAN airlines to pick up and drop off passengers at multiple points within member states, boosting regional passenger movement.

The Minister also held bilateral meetings with the Minister of Transport of Malaysia, the Minister for Transport of the Republic of Singapore as well as the Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea to discuss collaboration on digitalisation, sustainability, and smart city development.

The meeting was preceded by the 58<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM), where officials discussed the Kuala Lumpur Transport Strategic Plan (KLTPSP) and global transport challenges.

The 30<sup>th</sup> ATM serves as an annual platform to enhance transport cooperation and connectivity within ASEAN.

## Empowering role of youth for global progress

**MANAMA, BAHRAIN, 5<sup>th</sup> November** - The Launching Ceremony of The Global Network for Youth Competitiveness 'Hope Network', hosted by Ministry of Youth Affairs of Bahrain, was recently held in Manama.

The event was attended by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Nazmi bin Haji Awang Mohamad, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports of Brunei Darussalam, along with ministers and representatives from various countries.

The network aims to foster hope and positive confidence among youth globally and support their role in national and global development.

The ceremony coincided with the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa's reign.

His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al-Khalifa led the initiative. Member countries, including Brunei Darussalam, presented best practices in youth

development during the event.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports also met with Her Excellency Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi, Minister of Youth Affairs of Bahrain to discuss youth-related challenges and potential cooperation. Brunei and other countries signed the Hope Network Charter to support Bahrain's efforts in empowering youth globally.

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Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the launching ceremony of The Global Network for Youth Competitiveness 'Hope Network'.

## Share best practices, strengthen family institutions

**REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, 8<sup>th</sup> November** – Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Nazmi bin Haji Awang Mohamad, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, attended the Asian Family Conference held in Republic of Singapore from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> November.

The conference, themed 'Strong and Resilient Asian Families: Challenges and Opportunities,' was jointly organised by the Ministry of Social and Family Development of Singapore and the Singapore University of Social Sciences.

The event was attended by ASEAN ministers, academics, and leaders of organisations from the Asia region responsible for social and family affairs.

The Guest of Honour at the conference was His Excellency Tharman Shanmugaratnam, the President of Singapore and the opening speech was delivered by His Excellency Masagos Zulkifli bin Masagos Mohamad, Singapore's Minister for Social and Family Development, Second Minister for Health, and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs.

The conference brought together experts and leaders from across Asia to discuss strategies, policies, and best practices for strengthening family institutions.

It also focused on evidence-based programmes aimed at improving



Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, during the Asian Family Conference.

family outcomes in terms of resilience, relationships, well-being, and child development.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports delivered a speech titled 'Strengthening the Pillars of Society: Brunei Darussalam's Commitment to Supporting and Enhancing Family Institutions'.

In his speech, the Minister shared Brunei Darussalam's initiatives to strengthen family institutions as a cornerstone of social development, aligned with the Malay Islamic Monarchy (MIB) philosophy, which promotes family well-being through

policies that support community stability and harmony.

The conference was preceded by a Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (Special AMMSWD) chaired by Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Hajah Nancy binti Shukri, Malaysia's Minister of Women, Family, and Community Development.

During this meeting, ASEAN Ministers agreed on collaboration to better understand the state of ASEAN families and to establish a research network on family issues in the region.



# Together in advocating children's right



Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 20<sup>th</sup> November** - World Children's Day (WCD) is celebrated annually on 20<sup>th</sup> November, marking the anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1959) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989). This year's WCD theme 'For every child, every right'.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Nazmi bin Haji Awang Mohamad,

the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports emphasised that WCD is an opportunity to advocate for children's rights, including safety, education, health, and protection. The event also aims to raise awareness about the challenges children face globally.

A key event for this year's celebration is a workshop titled 'Voices of Children: Empowering Children to Participate', focusing on children's rights and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The workshop will engage students, including those with special needs, to inspire empathy, advocacy, and action for positive change.

Brunei Darussalam has made significant efforts to protect children's rights, including the National Children's Welfare Action Plan, which involves government and non-governmental organisations working together. Brunei also has various committees and services dedicated to child protection and welfare.

In terms of progress, Brunei has seen youths excel in international sports,

including judo, wushu, and the SUKMA Games, and has also been represented by young Olympians at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

Various programmes, such as the Bootcamp for Special Needs Students and awareness campaigns about children's rights, have been implemented. The government also runs initiatives like the Hybrid School programme to improve education access for students in rural areas.

Additionally, Brunei children have participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Children's Forum, focusing on climate change challenges. The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports also called for support for Palestinian children affected by ongoing conflicts, encouraging donations to the Palestinian Humanitarian Fund.

The Minister concluded by wishing all children in Brunei a Happy World Children's Day, urging continued efforts to protect and care for children's well-being.

## Brunei-Oman continue to strengthen diplomatic relations

**JERUDONG, 21<sup>st</sup> November** - The bilateral relationship between Brunei Darussalam and the Sultanate of Oman has strengthened as they celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their ties and Oman's 54<sup>th</sup> National Day.

The event, held at Royal Brunei Polo and Riding Club, was attended by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Nazmi bin Haji Awang Mohamad, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Her Excellency Erma Said Mohamed Al Kathiry, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam, praised the enduring friendship and strong diplomatic relations between the two nations.

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam highlighted the success of annual bilateral meetings and the Oman-Brunei Joint Committee, which fosters economic and investment cooperation.

Economic ties are growing, with successful joint ventures like Comquest and Innovateq.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports and Her Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam during the cake-cutting ceremony.

The Ambassador also noted Golden Corporation's 50 per cent stake, further strengthening economic links. Additionally, financial cooperation will deepen with participation in the 16<sup>th</sup> Islamic Financial Services Board Summit in Brunei and future meetings with Brunei's Central Bank.

Energy cooperation remains key, with ongoing seminars and agreements between Shell Brunei and Oman's energy companies.

The event featured a cake-cutting ceremony, souvenir presentations, and a video presentation.



# Flag handover for the national contingent

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 26<sup>th</sup> November** – Brunei Darussalam will be joining the 11<sup>th</sup> BIMPNT-EAGA Friendship Games 2024 in Puerto Princesa, the Republic of the Philippines, from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> December.

A National Flag Handover Ceremony for the contingent was held at Digadong Hall at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS) building.

Officiating the handover as the Guest of Honour was Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Nazmi bin Haji Awang Mohamad, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, who presented the national flag to Pengiran Haji Mohamed Asran bin Pengiran Haji Mahmud, Assistant Director of the Research Development and International Affairs Division as Chief de Mission of the Brunei Darussalam Contingent to the 11<sup>th</sup> BIMPNT-EAGA Friendship Games 2024.

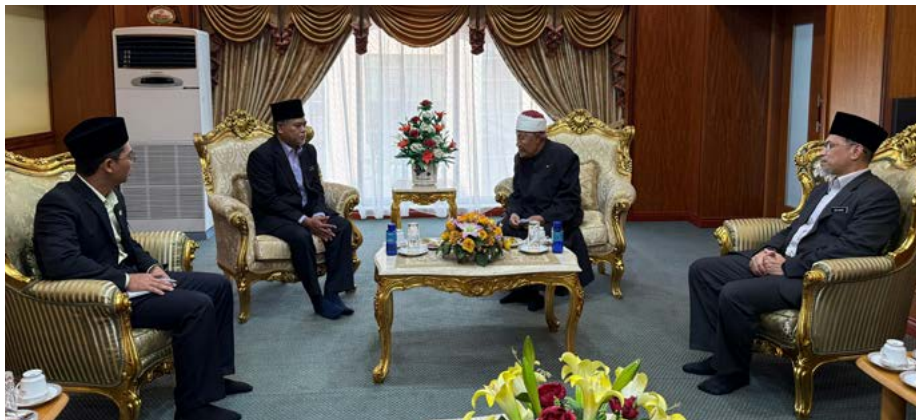
Also present at the ceremony were Her Excellency Bernadette Mendoza, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Philippines to Brunei Darussalam; Awang Haji Zakaria bin Haji Serudin, Permanent Secretary (Youth) at MCYS; Pengiran Haji Rosli bin Pengiran Haji Halus, Acting Deputy Permanent Secretary (Culture) at MCYS; members of the National Athlete Selection and Assessment Executive Committee; national sports associations; as well as parents and guardians.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports handing over the national flag to the Brunei Darussalam Contingent to the 11<sup>th</sup> BIMPNT-EAGA Friendship Games 2024 in Puerto Princesa, the Republic of the Philippines.

The athletes will participate in six events: aquatics (swimming), badminton, karate, athletics, *pencak silat* and *sepak takraw*. The national contingent will depart for the Philippines in stages starting 28<sup>th</sup> November.

## State Mufti receives courtesy visit



Yang Berhormat the State Mufti receiving a courtesy visit from officials representing the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia and the Federal Territories Islamic Religious Department of Malaysia.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 7<sup>th</sup> November** – Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti received a courtesy visit from officials of Malaysia's Department of Islamic Development (JAKIM) and the Department of Islamic Religious Affairs of the Federal Territories.

The delegation was in Brunei Darussalam to attend the 48<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) of MABIMS, held from 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> November. During their meeting, the Malaysian officials and the State Mufti exchanged views on the development of Islam in both countries.

## Exchange views, experiences related to legal and judiciary matters



**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 18<sup>th</sup> November** - His Excellency Mohammad Taghi Rajabi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam paid a courtesy visit to the Syariah Courts, State Judiciary Department, Prime Minister's Office.

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Yang Berhormat Chief Syar'ie Judge and His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam in a group photo.



The visit, held at the Supreme Court and Syariah Courts, was welcomed by Yang Amat Arif/Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Seri Utama Dato Paduka Seri Setia Awang Haji Salim bin Haji Besar, the Chief Syariah Judge, along with other judges

and officials.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged views on legal and judicial matters to reinforce the positive diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Iran.

## Strengthen cybersecurity cooperation, promote knowledge sharing

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 19<sup>th</sup> November** - The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Regional Asia-Pacific CyberDrill 2024, jointly organised by Cyber Security Brunei (CSB) and the ITU, is being held from 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November.

The event gathers cybersecurity experts and representatives from 21 countries across ASEAN, the Pacific Islands, and the Indian subcontinent to enhance communication, incident response, and collaboration among Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) to address cyber threats.

The event was officiated by the Deputy Minister (Security and Law) at the Prime Minister's Office, Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Sufian bin Haji Sabtu, who is also the Deputy Chairman of the National Cybersecurity Committee.



Yang Mulia Deputy Minister (Security and Law) at the Prime Minister's Office at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Regional Asia-Pacific CyberDrill 2024.

Key features of the conference include presentations on the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) 2024, panel discussions on the current cybersecurity landscape, and experience-sharing sessions on national cybersecurity strategies.

The event also offers training sessions on advanced malware analysis and crisis

management. On the final day, participants will take part in a CyberDrill exercise simulating real-world cyberattacks.

The CyberDrill aims to strengthen regional cybersecurity resilience, foster cooperation, and promote knowledge-sharing to ensure a safer digital future for the Asia-Pacific region.

## Brunei-Oman committed in exploring potential opportunities



Her Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam and Permanent Secretary (Culture) at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports at the event.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 4<sup>th</sup> November** - The Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman, in collaboration with Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS) of Brunei Darussalam and Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth of Oman organised a symposium titled 'Oman-Brunei Relations: A Thriving Present and Promising Future' to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two nations.

Present at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Sports Complex were Her Excellency Erma Said Mohamed Al Kathiry, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam and Pengiran Haji Mohd. Hasnan bin Pengiran Haji Ali Hassan, Permanent Secretary (Culture) at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

In her speech, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam highlighted the significance of the 40-year relationship between Oman and Brunei, emphasising mutual respect, cultural exchanges, and cooperation.

She noted the shared heritage, the caring leadership of both nations, and the importance of Islamic values in shaping their societies. The Ambassador also discussed the strategic geographical positions of both countries, which enhance their role in global trade and open up opportunities for further collaboration. The symposium also facilitated discussions on potential areas for future cooperation.



The symposium in progress.



## Explore new opportunities in research



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) and Hadhramout University, Yemen.



MoU between UNISSA and Universitas Islam Negeri Siber Syekh Nurjati Cirebon.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 2<sup>nd</sup> November** – Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) has welcomed a visit from Hadhramout University, Yemen, resulting in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore collaboration in specific fields.

The MoU was signed by Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, UNISSA's Rector and, Professor Dr. Mohammed Saeed Khanbash, the President of Hadhramout University.

This agreement aims to enhance cooperation in research,

community programmes, and student and academic mobility.

Additionally, UNISSA hosted a delegation from Universitas Islam Negeri Siber Syekh Nurjati Cirebon (UINSSC), Indonesia, led by its Rector, Professor Dr. Aan Jaelani. Discussions focused on international collaboration opportunities and strengthening partnerships to address challenges in the digital realm.

An MoU was also signed between UNISSA and UINSSC, with plans for student and academic exchanges in areas such as technology, manuscripts, and religious studies.

## Brunei highlights investment opportunities



Brunei Economic Development Board Acting Chief Executive Officer at the investment seminar in Chennai, Republic of India.

**REPUBLIC OF INDIA, 7<sup>th</sup> November** - Brunei Darussalam's potential as a gateway to ASEAN and regional markets was showcased at the inaugural investment seminar organised by the Brunei Economic Development Board (BEDB) in Chennai, on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

The seminar, titled 'Weaving New Connections: The Brunei-Chennai Story', brought together over 100 business leaders from both countries to highlight Brunei's investment opportunities in sectors like oil and gas, food, ICT,

services, and tourism.

Present at the seminar was His Excellency Dato Paduka Haji Awang Alaihuddin bin Pehin Orang Kaya Digadong Seri Lela Dato Seri Utama Haji Awang Mohd. Taha, Brunei's High Commissioner to Republic of India.

Key speaker, Daniel Leong, the Acting CEO of BEDB, emphasised Brunei's strategic location, conducive business environment, low tax regime, and access to regional trade agreements

like Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

The event also featured successful Indian companies operating in Brunei, such as Polygel and Atoll Oxygen, showcasing Brunei's potential as a base for expansion into Southeast Asia.

The seminar coincided with the resumption of direct flights between Brunei and India after two decades and was part of the Brunei-India Business Exchange Mission.

The mission, which continues with bilateral meetings and site visits, aims to strengthen business ties between the two countries.

The event was supported by the Indian High Commission in Brunei and Royal Brunei Airlines, concluding with a 'Brunei Night' to promote Brunei's tourism and culture.

Following the seminar, BEDB plans to organise follow-up visits to Brunei for potential Indian investors.



## Film screening celebrates diplomatic relations

**SALAMBIGAR, 15<sup>th</sup> November** - The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Brunei Darussalam hosted a special screening of 'Worm and the Widow' by local filmmaker Awang Abdul Zainidi, marking the final event in the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of diplomatic relations between Germany and Brunei.

Her Excellency Gerda Winkler, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Brunei Darussalam expressed excitement about Awang Abdul Zainidi's participation in the prestigious

Berlin International Film Festival, where his film earned an invitation.

The screening was part of a series of events, which included visits by the ASEAN Friendship Group of the German Parliament to Tutong District. The film highlights the Tutong dialect and collaboration with the hearing-impaired community.

Her Excellency Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Brunei Darussalam delivering a speech (right).



## JASTRe holds Signing Certificate Handover for CASA Project



His Excellency the incoming Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam and Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Development witnessing the signing ceremony.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 18<sup>th</sup> November** - The Department of Environment, Parks, and Recreation (JASTRe) of the Ministry

of Development held a Certificate Handover Ceremony for the Clean Air for Sustainable ASEAN (CASA) Project at the Betabur Hall, marking Brunei Darussalam's participation in this regional initiative.

The event was attended by Dr. Dayang Nor Imtihan binti Haji Abdul Razak, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Development, and His Excellency Sun Nahmkook, the incoming Ambassador of the Republic of Korea (RoK) to Brunei Darussalam.

The ceremony included speeches and the formal signing of the handover certificate for the CASA Project, a collaboration between the RoK and ASEAN Member States (AMS).

The project, running from 2023 to 2026, aims to support AMS in reducing air pollution through political, scientific, and technical measures. Brunei will receive two air quality monitoring devices to help achieve these goals.

## Brunei Energy Hub displays Japanese artist's paintings

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 19<sup>th</sup> November** - An exhibition featuring 42 paintings by 10 Japanese artists is on display at the Brunei Energy Hub Art Gallery until 8<sup>th</sup> December.

The opening ceremony of 'Variation and Autonomy: The Prints of Contemporary Japanese Painters' was attended by Pengiran Haji Rosli bin Pengiran Haji Halus, Acting Director of Museums, and His Excellency Maeda Toru Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam.

The event included prayers and a speech by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam, followed by the signing of the exhibition poster.

The exhibition, organised by the Embassy of Japan and the Department of Museums, showcases Japanese printmaking from the



Acting Director of Museums, and His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam at the exhibition.

1960s to 1980s, featuring works by artists like Kusama Yayoi and Murai Masanari. It is open to the public on Mondays to

Thursdays and Saturdays from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., and Sundays from 8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.



## Foster awareness, strengthen regional solidarity



Presentation of books by Her Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Philippines to Brunei Darussalam.

**TUNGKU LINK, 20<sup>th</sup> November** - To mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of the Philippines, the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines donated over 50 books to the Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) at a ceremony held at the UTB Library Complex.

The donation covers a variety of subjects, including history, culture, travel, architecture, and art, which will enrich UTB's library and enhance learning experiences for students and faculty.

Her Excellency Marian Jocelyn R. Tirol-Ignacio, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Philippines to Brunei Darussalam highlighted the importance of cultural awareness and unity within ASEAN. The event also featured the launch of the 'Philippine Corner,' aimed at promoting Philippine heritage and fostering regional solidarity.

## Six officers receive OBOE Endeavour Academic Excellence Award



His Excellency High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam as Guest of Honour presenting the OBOE Endeavour Academic Excellence Award to a recipient.

**TANAH JAMBU, 25<sup>th</sup> November** – Six officers from the Ministry of Defence (MinDef) received the OBOE Endeavour Academic Excellence Award from the

Australian Government in recognition of their outstanding results during the recently concluded 14<sup>th</sup> Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) Command and Staff Course (CSC). The ceremony was held at the Defence Academy (DA) RBAF.

Present as the Guest of Honour was His Excellency Luke Lazarus Arnold, High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam. Also present were Yang Mulia Brigadier General (U) Dato Seri Pahlawan Mohammad Sharif bin Dato Paduka Haji Ibrahim, Commander of the Royal Brunei Air Force (RBAirF) as representative of the Commander of RBAF; Acting Service Commanders; Deputy Permanent Secretary at MinDef; members of the Australian High Commission; Directors; RBAF officials; and recipients from 2018 to 2023.

His Excellency presented the awards to six recipients: 805 Major (U) Haji Ilhamdi bin Haji Md. Dali, 854 Major

(U) Dayangku Nurazriana binti Pengiran Hassan, and 904 Major (U) Mohd. Adi Faiz bin Haji Abu Bakar from RBAirF; 928 Lieutenant Commander Muhammad Adib Izzuddin bin Haji Ramli, and 929 Lieutenant Commander Mohd. Shahrul Idham bin Haji Bungsu from the Royal Brunei Navy; and Mohammad Hazwan bin Mohammad Azani from DA RBAF.

The OBOE Endeavour Academic Excellence Award is an academic excellence programme from the Australian Government, awarded to CSC participants who have achieved outstanding results during the course. These officers will be invited to Australia to meet senior military officers from the Australian Defence Force, tour selected Australian military bases, participate in educational and cultural activities, and engage in dialogues as well as discussions. This year's award recipients will leave for Australia from 30<sup>th</sup> November to 5<sup>th</sup> December.

## Curtains down on CARAT Exercise 2024

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 25<sup>th</sup> November** – The 30<sup>th</sup> Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Exercise 2024 between the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) and the United States Navy (USN) has concluded with a closing ceremony held at Wira Seni Concert Hall, RBAF Band building, Bolkiah Garrison.

During the ceremony, closing addresses were delivered by Colonel Aldi bin Haji Hassan, Deputy Joint Force Commander of RBAF; and Colonel Stuart W. Glenn, Commanding Officer of the Marine Rotational Force Southeast Asia.

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The Deputy Joint Force Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces and Commanding Officer of the Marine Rotational Force Southeast Asia at the 30<sup>th</sup> Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training Exercise 2024 Closing Ceremony.



# Innovative approach, technology empowering religious services

**JERUDONG, 5<sup>th</sup> November** - The 48<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) for MABIMS was held in Brunei Darussalam at The Empire Brunei, chaired by Awang Haji Mohammad Rosli bin Haji Ibrahim, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Brunei Darussalam.

The meeting began with welcome speeches from the head of delegation from Brunei, Republic of Indonesia and Malaysia, followed by a speech from the Chair of SOM, who emphasised the role of AI in enhancing religious services.

He highlighted AI's potential to improve public engagement, strengthen *zakat* and *wakaf* (endowments) systems, and support religious education and youth empowerment.

The meeting proceeded with confirmation of the agenda and the presentation of resolutions from the earlier seminar.



The 48<sup>th</sup> Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) for MABIMS in progress.

In the afternoon, discussions focused on the implementation of MABIMS' Strategic Plan for 2026–2030, with each member country presenting their strategic focus areas: Youth Potential (Brunei), Religious Education and Appreciation (Indonesia), Social Welfare (Malaysia), and Regional

Harmony (Singapore).

The meeting aimed to strengthen cooperation among MABIMS member countries and create initiatives that will positively impact society in the region.

# Exploring alternative mobility methods, advancing AIMS research



Permanent Secretary (Higher Education) Ministry of Education at the 9<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting for the Asia International Mobility for Students (AIMS) Programme.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 6<sup>th</sup> November** - The Ministry of Education of Brunei Darussalam hosted the 9<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of Asian International Mobility for Students (AIMS)

Programme from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> November, at the Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah.

Present as Guest of Honour at the

event was Dr. Haji Azman bin Ahmad, Permanent Secretary (Higher Education) Ministry of Education.

The meeting, attended by AIMS Programme member – Republic of the Philippines, State of Japan, Kingdom of Cambodia, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Republic of Singapore, and Kingdom of Thailand, focused on advancing the AIMS programme.

Discussions covered technical issues, exploring new mobility methods, aligning with Southeast Asia-Europe Mobility for sustainable development, and enhancing regional coordination.

The meeting outcomes are expected to contribute to the growth of the AIMS Programme, including resource development and internationalisation efforts.

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Also, in attendance to witness the ceremony was Her Excellency Caryn R. McClelland, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to Brunei Darussalam, along with exercise participants from both nations.

The 30<sup>th</sup> CARAT Exercise has successfully conducted a wide range of activities – including the Subject Matter Expert Exchanges, operational training and community engagement programmes – aimed at enhancing cooperation, building professional skills and fostering stronger ties between the exercise participants, including contributions to the community.

Also present was Her Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to Brunei Darussalam (left).



## Discuss key education developments

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 15<sup>th</sup> November** - The 14<sup>th</sup> Joint-Working Group Meeting between Brunei Darussalam's Ministry of Education and the Republic of Singapore's Ministry of Education served as a platform to discuss key education developments, review ongoing collaboration, and explore new areas for future partnership in education.

The meeting was held at the Radisson Hotel, and this year, both ministries shared updates on Early Childhood Care and Education, and internship initiatives within Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

The meeting was co-chaired by Dr. Shamsiah Zuraini Kanchanawati binti Haji Tajuddin, Permanent Secretary (Core Education), Ministry of Education,



Permanent Secretary (Core Education), Ministry of Education, and Permanent Secretary for Education, Ministry of Education (MoE), Republic of Singapore in a group photo.

and Her Excellency Ms. Lim Wan Yong, Permanent Secretary for Education, Ministry of Education, Singapore.

Further areas for future collaboration were discussed during the meeting which included increasing teacher

and student exchanges, as well as Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics (STEAM) integration in the curriculum. The Singapore delegation also visited the Sultan Hashim Batu Apoi Primary School in the Temburong District.

## Strategic partnership driving the country's economic growth

**REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, 21<sup>st</sup> November** - Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Singapore have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to boost economic



During the signing ceremony.

diversification through the production, distribution, and export of processed beef.

The MoU, between PDS Abattoir Sdn. Bhd., Brunei and Pondok Abang, Singapore, aims to enhance food security and promote economic growth in both countries.

The agreement, witnessed by Dayang Hajah Tutiatty binti Haji Abdul Wahab, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (MPRT), and Damian Chan, the Chief Executive Officer of the Singapore Food Agency (SFA), marks the first commercial-scale export of processed beef from Brunei to Singapore.

This partnership is a significant step in Brunei's efforts to diversify its economy and increase global trade, with exports expected to begin in the first quarter of 2025.

## Flag Handover for MALBATT 850-12 Mission



**RIMBA, 1<sup>st</sup> November** - The National Flag Handover Ceremony for the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) contingent heading to Lebanon under United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) took place at Rimba Air Force Base.

It was handed over by Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Muhammad Haszaimi bin Bol Hassan, Commander of RBAF to Major Pengiran Muhd. Syahir Fadillah bin Pengiran Salleh, Head of Brunei Darussalam's Contingent. The contingent will soon depart for Malaysia before proceeding to Lebanon.

RBAF has participated in UNIFIL since 2008, demonstrating Brunei's commitment to United Nation principles of peace, security, and human rights.

Commander of Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) hands over the national flag.