



برونى دارالسلام

Brunei Darussalam

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His Majesty attends 14th CAEXPO and CABIS, Nanning, People's Republic of China, September 10 - 12



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah 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 by His Excellency Lan Tianli, the First Vice Governor of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the PRC.

Arrival

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, arrived in Nanning, People's Republic of China (PRC) on September 10, to attend the 14th China-ASEAN (CAEXPO) and the China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (CABIS) held on September 12.

Accompanying His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam throughout the visit was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Present at Nanning Wuxu International Airport to greet His Majesty on arrival was His Excellency Lan Tianli, the First Vice Governor of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the PRC; and Her Excellency Yang Jian, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the PRC to Brunei Darussalam.

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His Majesty's State Visit to the People's Republic of China September 12 - 14

Departure from Nanning, China



His Majesty and His Royal Highness during the *Doa Selamat* read by Pehin Daru Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, State Mufti.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam left Nanning for Beijing, People's Republic of China on September 12 for a State Visit.

Accompanying His Majesty throughout the entire visit was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Present at Nanning Wuxu International Airport to bid farewell to His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam were Her Excellency Mo Changying, the Vice Chairman of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region People's Political Consultative Conference and His Excellency Huang Jiang, the Vice Mayor of Beihai.

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Menteri

Brunei Darussalam

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam receives in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman from:

1



2



1. His Excellency Wang Jiarui, Deputy Chairman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on September 5.
2. Ministers of Health and heads of delegations attending the 13th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting which includes Her Excellency Professor Dr. Nila Djuwita Farid Moeloek, Indonesia's Minister of Health; The Honourable Datuk Seri Dr. Subramaniam K. V. Sathasivam, Malaysia's Minister of Health; His Excellency Dr. Myint Htwe, Myanmar's Minister of Health and Sports; His Excellency Gan Kim Yong, Singapore's Minister of Health; His Excellency Dr. Piyasakol Sakolsatayadorn, Thailand's Minister of Public Health; Her Excellency Professor Dr. Nguyen Thi Kim Tien, Vietnam's Minister of Health; His Excellency Associate Professor Dr. Phouthone Muongpak, Deputy Minister at the Ministry of Health Laos; Her Excellency Dr. Lilibeth C. David, Philippines' Secretary of Health; and His Excellency Professor Eng Hout, State Secretary at Cambodia's Ministry of Health on September 6.

Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha receives in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman from:

1



1. Her Excellency Nurul Qomar, outgoing Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Brunei Darussalam on September 25.

2



2. The spouse of the outgoing British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, Mrs Xanthe Lindsay on September 25.

His Royal Highness The Crown Prince Receives Audiences

1



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 the Qashr Al-Meezaan from:

2



1. His Excellency Yasuo Fukuda, former Prime Minister of Japan on September 9.
2. Her Excellency Nurul Qomar, outgoing Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Brunei Darussalam on September 13.

HIS MAJESTY SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam sent congratulatory messages to:

- His Excellency General Tran Dai Quang, President of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and His Excellency Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on the occasion of Vietnam's 72nd National Day on September 2.
- Her Excellency Halimah Yacob, President of the Republic of Singapore on her recent appointment as President of the Republic of Singapore on September 14.
- His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, King of Saudi Arabia and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques on the occasion of the Kingdom's National Day on September 23.

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Visit to the Brunei Darussalam Commodities Pavilion

On September 11, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, visited the Brunei Darussalam Commodities Pavilion of the 14th CAEXPO, held at the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre (NICEC) in Nanning, PRC.

Upon arrival, His Majesty was welcomed by His Excellency Lan Tianli, the First Vice Governor of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the PRC.

His Majesty then proceeded to Hall 5 to tour the Brunei Darussalam Commodities Pavilion, which was participated by more than 100 companies comprising local Brunei Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), education institu-

tions, Government-linked companies (GLCs), and Chinese companies with business present in Brunei Darussalam.

Brunei Darussalam was the Country of Honour at the 14th CAEXPO, participating in two pavilions, namely the Commodity Pavilion and the City of Charm Pavilion.

The main objective of taking part in this expo was for Brunei's local businesses to benchmark their products and services with other ASEAN and China counterparts and as well as creating opportunities to seek potential distribution and supply channels.

Seven categories of industries took part in the expo: seven educational institutions; 48 food and beverage companies;

15 fashion and handicraft companies; 11 healthcare and cosmetic companies; two companies producing household products; eight manufacturing companies; and 28 companies providing services.

This year's CAEXPO participants were also joined by representatives from Energy and Industry Department at the Prime Minister's Office; DARE (Darussalam Enterprise); Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism; Ministry of Development; Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports; and the Prime Minister's Office.

Receives in audience, the Chinese Media Delegation

In the afternoon, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in audience a Chinese media delegation led by Mr. Gao Hang, President and Editor-in-Chief of the China-ASEAN Panorama Magazine Agency. The audience was held at Marriott Hotel, Nanning.

China-ASEAN Panorama Magazine, which is published by ASEAN-China Centre, aims to promote friendship and ties between ASEAN countries and China.

His Majesty attends Bilateral Meeting and Welcoming Dinner

In the evening, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Zhang Gaoli, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and Vice Premier of the State Council of the PRC; and a Welcoming Dinner for the 14th CAEXPO and CABIS. Both events took place at the Liyuan Resort, Nanning.

Upon arrival at the Liyuan Resort, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-

Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was greeted by His Excellency Zhang Xiaolin, Vice Governor of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the PRC.

His Majesty first attended a Bilateral Meeting and was greeted by His Excellency Zhang Gaoli.

During the meeting, His Majesty and His Excellency discussed bilateral matters including ways to further promote economic cooperation. His Majesty and His Excellency both commended the role of the China-ASEAN Expo in

strengthening investment and trade linkages between ASEAN and China.

In this regard, His Majesty looked forward to welcoming His Excellency to visit Brunei Darussalam's City of Charm Pavilion at the 14th CAEXPO.

His Majesty then proceeded to the Banquet Hall for the Welcoming Dinner for all State Leaders attending the 14th CAEXPO and CABIS, hosted by His Excellency Zhang Gaoli.

Receives in audience, His Excellency the Party Secretary and His Excellency The Governor Of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region

After dinner, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in audience His Excellency Peng Qinghua, the Party Secretary of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region; and His Excellency Chen Wu, the Governor of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, held at the Marriott Hotel, Nanning.

During the audience, His Majesty and Their Excellencies discussed economic cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region including the Brunei-Guangxi Economic Corridor.

*From page 1

The Opening Ceremony of the 14th CAEXPO and CABIS; and Brunei Darussalam City of Charm Pavilion

On September 12, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, attended the Opening Ceremony of the 14th CAEXPO and CABIS; and the Brunei Darussalam City of Charm Pavilion,

held at the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre (NICEC) in Nanning, People's Republic of China.

The Opening Ceremony of the 14th CAEXPO and CABIS



His Majesty together with His Excellency Zhang Gaoli inaugurates the opening of the Brunei Darussalam City of Charm Pavilion.

His Majesty was welcomed on arrival by His Excellency Zhang Xiaojin, Vice Governor of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region of the PRC.

Prior to the event, His Majesty signed the Visitor's Book, then proceeded to the Osmanthus Hall for the opening ceremony.

In a *titah* (Royal Speech) at the event, His Majesty, applauded the 14th CA-

EXPO for establishing itself as a premier event that showcased the resilient economic and trade ties between ASEAN and China. His Majesty particularly commended the work of the CAEXPO in promoting Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as these businesses represented a significant source of employment in the ASEAN region.

As ASEAN celebrates the 50th anniversary of its establishment this year, His Majesty observed that throughout much of ASEAN's existence, it has worked closely with China in promoting peace and stability in Southeast Asia, as well as in working towards further economic development and integration.

His Majesty then expressed his appreciation to China for its consistent support of ASEAN's economic endeavours, as ASEAN is stepping up its efforts in securing the maximum benefits that can be obtained from an economically integrated region.

His Majesty also praised China for its strong leadership and contribution to the global economy, and welcomed more cooperation between ASEAN and China in implementing measures that promote

Asia as an engine of growth in the global economy.

His Majesty underlined the importance of enhancing global connectivity, and commended China on its Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road Belt. His Majesty also encouraged ASEAN and China to explore closer collaboration in carrying out the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 and the Belt and Road Initiative.

His Majesty looks forward to the upgrading of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area as a way to further strengthen the ASEAN-China partnership, and expressed hope that this will contribute to achieving the twin goals of two-way trade volume of USD 1 trillion and investment of USD 150 billion by 2020.

His Majesty welcomed the designation of the year 2018 as the ASEAN-China Year of Innovation, and encouraged business people and private sectors to be innovative in finding ways to work closer together.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty expressed confidence that the ASEAN-China relationship will continue to be a win-win partnership for both sides.

The Brunei Darussalam City of Charm Pavilion

His Majesty then proceeded to the Zone B Hall of the NICEC for the Opening Ceremony of the Brunei Darussalam City of Charm Pavilion.

Prior to the event, His Majesty was introduced to Awang Mohd. Farihin bin Haji Mohd. Jaafar, the Architect of the Brunei Darussalam City of Charm Pavilion.

Shortly thereafter, His Majesty welcomed His Excellency Zhang Gaoli to the pavilion and together, inaugurated the opening of the Brunei Darussalam



His Majesty together with His Excellency Zhang Gaoli toured the Brunei Darussalam City of Charm Pavilion.

City of Charm Pavilion.

The Brunei Darussalam City of Charm Pavilion showcases the history, culture, tourism and economic development of the country and illustrates the strengthening friendship and cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and China.

Roundtable Dialogue at the 14th CABIS

In the afternoon, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, attended the Roundtable Dialogue with CEOs from Chinese companies during the 14th CABIS, held at the Liyuan Grand Metropark Hotel, Nanning.

His Majesty was welcomed on arrival by His Excellency Jiang Zengwei, the Chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade and Chairman of the CABIS Organising Committee; His Excellency Peng Qinghua, the Party Secretary of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region; and Miss He Xiaoling, the Secretary-General of the CABIS.

During the Roundtable Dialogue, His Majesty delivered a *titah* in which His Majesty welcomed Brunei Darussalam's increasing engagement with Chinese businesses and companies, and expressed hope for more mutually beneficial partnerships to be forged.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam launches the 14th CAEXPO and CABIS with Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and His Excellency Zhang Gaoli, Vice Premier of the State Council, People's Republic of China and other leaders.

His Majesty commended Brunei Darussalam's special economic relationship with the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and welcomed the collaboration between both sides under the Brunei-Guangxi Economic Corridor (BGEC) that includes cooperation in areas such as ports, fisheries and clean energy technology.

His Majesty elaborated on Brunei Darussalam's objective of establishing itself as a regional logistics hub, which has been boosted by the operationalisation of the newly developed Muara Port.

His Majesty welcomed efforts in im-

proving connectivity between China and Southeast Asia, and was pleased that direct air links from Nanning and Brunei Darussalam had recently commenced. His Majesty also underscored that tourism promotion efforts needed to be further strengthened to promote greater people-to-people exchanges.

His Majesty further stated that as Brunei Darussalam was focused on diversifying the country's economy, there would be opportunities for China to benefit through more involvement in that process.

His Majesty elaborated that Brunei Darussalam's Economic Diversification

priority areas are in the Halal Industries; Innovative Technology and Creative Industries; Business Services; Tourism; and Downstream Oil and Gas.

His Majesty also highlighted that Brunei Darussalam had undertaken several reforms in the past few years to create a more business friendly environment.

After delivering the *titah*, His Majesty held a dialogue session with CEOs from Chinese companies.

The Roundtable Dialogue of the 14th CABIS carried the theme, "Deepening China-Brunei Economic and Trade Cooperation for Mutual Development."

*From page 1

His Majesty's Arrival in Beijing, China



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 by His Excellency Chen Xiaodong, the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

Later in the evening, His Majesty and His Royal Highness arrived at the Beijing Capital International Airport. His Majesty's arrival was greeted by His Excellency Chen Xiaodong, the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China. His Majesty consented to receive a flower bouquet before walking past a Static Guard mounted by the People's Liberation Army and boarded a motorcade to His Majesty's hotel.

Bilateral Meeting with the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the NPC



The state visit to Beijing began with a Bilateral Meeting on September 13. His Majesty in the morning consented to hold a Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Zhang Dejiang, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) of the People's Republic of China. The meeting was held at the Reception Hall, the Great Hall of the People, Beijing.

During the meeting His Majes-

ty and His Excellency discussed bilateral relations, in particular strengthening people-to-people exchanges such as through more parliamentary engagement. Both sides also discussed ways to enhance bilateral economic cooperation, and emphasised the importance of increasing connectivity between Brunei Darussalam and China.

His Majesty with His Excellency Zhang Dejiang, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) of the People's Republic of China.



His Majesty consented during the Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Zhang Dejiang, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) of the People's Republic of China held at the Reception Hall, the Great Hall of the People, Beijing. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Wreath-laying Ceremony



His Majesty laying a wreath at the Monument to the People's Heroes.

In the afternoon, His Majesty attended a Wreath-laying Ceremony held at the Monument to the People's Heroes.

Upon arrival, His Majesty was introduced to His Excellency Kong Xuanyou, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and His Excellency Yan Zhongqiu, Vice Chairman of the Beijing Municipal Committee of the 12th Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

This was followed by the national anthems of Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China.

His Majesty then laid a wreath at the monument which commemorated those who gave their lives in defending their nation during the 19th and 20th centuries.

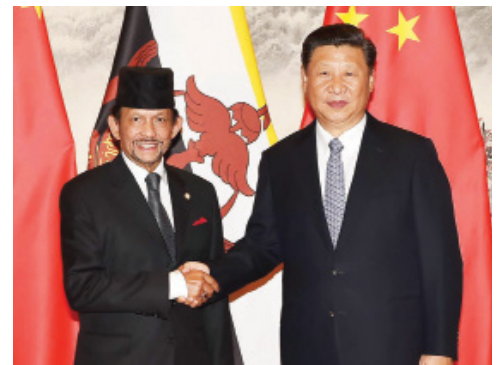
Official Welcoming Ceremony

Later in the afternoon, His Majesty attended the Official Welcoming Ceremony in honour of the State Visit of His Majesty to the People's Republic of China. The Ceremony was held at the Eastern Plaza, the Great Hall of the People, Beijing.

Upon arrival at the Eastern Plaza, His Majesty was welcomed by His Excellency Xi Jinping, the President of the People's Republic of China.

His Majesty was later introduced to the State Dignitaries of China, and this was followed by the introduction of Brunei Darussalam's delegation members to His Excellency President Xi Jinping.

His Majesty then proceeded to the dais to receive the Official Salute, accompanied with the playing of the national anthems of Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China and a 21 gun salute. His Majesty then inspected the Guard of Honour mounted by the People's Liberation Army.



His Majesty with His Excellency Xi Jinping, the President of the People's Republic of China.

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His Majesty inspecting the Guard of Honour mounted by the People's Liberation Army.



His Majesty receiving the Official Salute, accompanied with the playing of the national anthems of Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China and a 21 gun salute.

Bilateral Meeting with President Xi

His Majesty and President Xi then proceeded to the East Hall for a Bilateral Meeting.

Prior to the meeting, both leaders joined an official photo session.

During the meeting, President Xi congratulated His Majesty on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne.

President Xi commended the

strengthening of ties between Brunei and China in various areas of cooperation.

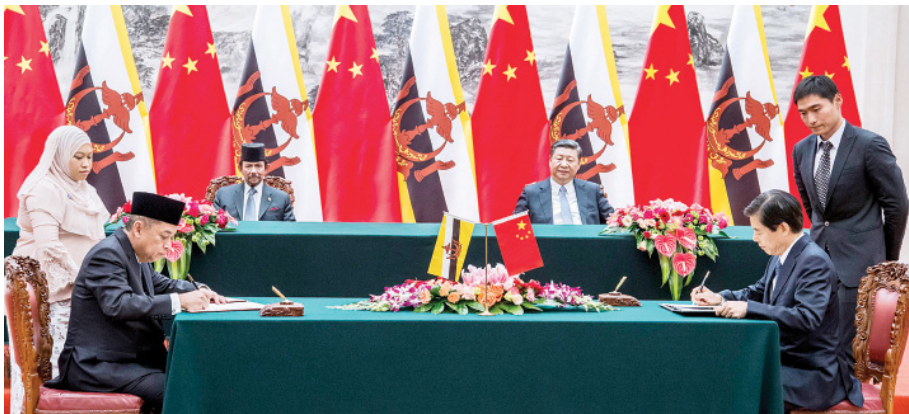
His Majesty also commended China for its contributions in maintaining global peace, prosperity and development. His Majesty also reaffirmed Brunei Darussalam's commitment in upholding the One-China policy.

Both leaders had a comprehensive discussion on Brunei-China bilateral re-

lations, which included economic ties, connectivity, people-to-people exchanges, education links, and defence cooperation. They looked forward to further strengthening bilateral cooperation for the mutual benefit of the peoples of both countries.

His Majesty and President Xi also exchanged views on regional developments.

Signing of Agreements



After the meeting, His Majesty and President Xi witnessed the Signing of Cooperation Agreements in a ceremony held at the Great Hall of the People.

Four agreements were signed comprising various fields of cooperation. Signing on behalf of His Majesty's Government was the Minister of Energy and Industry at the Prime Minister's Office.

State Banquet

After the signing ceremony, His Majesty then proceeded to the Golden Hall for a State Banquet in honour of His Majesty's State Visit to China, which was hosted by the President of the People's Republic of China.

Departure from Beijing, China

The following day, His Majesty left Beijing, People's Republic of China after concluding the State Visit.

Present at the Beijing Capital International Airport to bid farewell to His Majesty were His Excellency Kong Xuanyou, the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and Her Excellency Yang Jian, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam.

Before boarding the plane, His Majesty consented to walk past a Static Guard mounted by the People's Liberation Army.

His Majesty receives Honourary Doctorate in Engineering at UTB's 5th Convocation Ceremony



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 Chancellor of Universiti Teknologi Brunei receiving the conferment of the Honourary Doctorate in Engineering from the university, presented by the Minister of Education and Chairman of the UTB Council, Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman.

TUNGKU LINK, September 30 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Chancellor of University Technology Brunei (UTB) consented to receive the conferment of the Honourary Doctorate in Engineering.

The award was presented by the Minister of Education, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman at the UTB's 5th Convocation Ceremony held at the Plenary Hall, ICC, Berakas.

With the prestigious Leadership of His Majesty in presiding over the Government of Brunei Darussalam, His Majesty's subjects can witness and enjoy the rapid development of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

One of His Majesty's contributions in STEM's field was his encouragement to various government agencies, related institutions and industries to aggressively pursue research and development activities by providing high quality infrastructure and facilities, research funds through the Brunei Research Council and human resources to ensure the rapid advancement of science and technology.

The policies of His Majesty fully supports the development of the country, in order for his subjects can live in comfort; peace and prosperity, have gained recognition all over the world.

UBD's 29th Convocation Ceremony



His Majesty awarding a certificate to one of the UBD graduates.

TUNGKU LINK, September 7 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) consented to award certificates to 863 graduates at UBD's 29th convocation ceremony held at Chancellor's Hall.

Of the total, 36 graduates were PhD graduates and 827 were undergraduates.

His Majesty also consented to grace the convocation exhibition focusing on the UBD Five-Year Strategic Plan (2016

-2020) which shows the Centre for Life-long Learning (C3L) Programmes and Entrepreneurship Education.

Meanwhile, in the afternoon, His Royal Highness Prince (Dr) 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, Pro-Chancellor of University of Brunei Darussalam (UBD) consented to present certificates to 346 Master's Degree graduates and diplomas to 98 graduates.

UBD introduces new programmes

The Vice-Chancellor of UBD, Datin Dr. Dayang Hajah Anita Binurul Zahrina binti Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz elaborated that to enhance the employability amongst graduates, UBD introduced new programmes, namely Dentistry, last August, as a result of collaboration with the Ministry of Health. In addition, advanced training programmes for medical doctors in seven areas of specialty training programs were also introduced to enable doctors to continue their services during training.

On the other hand, the Centre for Life-long Learning (C3L) has also offered new

programmes, namely Bachelor of Science in Digital Economy and Master of Government.

As a step towards expanding education, UBD has worked with FPT University in Viet Nam, embarking on English Language training in Da Nang, last August this year. FPT University, owned by FPT Corporation, Viet Nam's largest information technology company, also works with UBD to run UBD programmes related to information technology such as data analytics, internet of things, cloud computing, cyber security and applications.

In terms of research, for the first time, UBD was classified by QS University

Rankings as a high research intensive university. While UBD puts efforts to expose students in research activities, the students have contributed to nearly 50 percent of the publications from UBD. This convocation also presented the first 'dual degree' award for the Master Degree, with Korea University. This collaboration is one of the UBD's strategic initiatives to improve the culture and ecosystem of research in UBD.

UBD has also added the Islamic Governance programme and data analytics as a new key focus area of research.

Increase in the number of International Students

The international student ratio still has not reached the optimum target for Higher Education Institutions. Therefore UTB should increase the effort to attract students from abroad.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stated in a *titah* at UTB's 5th Convocation Ceremony.

His Majesty welcomed UTB's efforts to benchmark through star ratings among Asian universities, where UTB has managed to earn 4 stars on overall ratings by QS and this achievement is very meaningful to UTB, since UTB has not yet reached its 10th year but has already being able to gain recognition like others established universities.

Not only that, UTB also opened the Science, Technology and Innovation Laboratory to place industry inside the campus. The impact of such collaboration strongly emphasises local or global marketability, and expertise in the STEM field.

In addition, His Majesty also understood that cooperation between UTB and Sesame World Technology Company has resulted in significant innovation through the production of Directed Sound System which has commercial value.



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 Chancellor of Universiti Teknologi Brunei delivering a *titah* during UTB's 5th Convocation.

His Majesty was pleased with the progress achieved in 'Quadra-Helix' so far, with the concept of 'Triple Helix' already being plastered into 'Quadra-Helix' and was also pleased that UTB Con-

vocation Ceremony this time witnessed the inaugural award for the Bachelor of Chemical Engineering and Masters by Coursework program.

His Majesty awards certificate to UTB graduates

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Chancellor of University Technology Brunei (UTB) consented to award Master Degrees to 66 graduates, 359 with Bachelor's Degrees, 119 with Higher National Diplomas and Higher National Diplomas BDTVEC for 258 graduates at UTB 5th Convocation Ceremony.

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

Vice Chancellor of UTB, Profesor Dr. Dayang Hajah Zohrah in her welcoming remarks, said that UTB has provided several preferred routes through the diversification of programs that have an impact to the national development with the establishment of the School of Design which will offer two new programmes in 2018,



His Majesty presenting the certificate to a UTB graduate.

namely Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch) and Bachelor of Science (Hons).

Whereas, another new initiative introduced by UTB is BriTE or Bridging for Tomorrow's Engineers specifically for ap-

plicants with an 'A' Level Examination that does not meet admission requirements to engineering programs at UTB.

The commands of Allah are obligatory and those who are patient are rewarded

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 1 - Every believer in Islam will receive challenges from Allah the Almighty as it is a test to measure the length of one's faith and patience. No matter how difficult the challenges may be, if one's faith is strong in his heart, he will succeed in overcoming it.

This was stated in 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's *titah* (royal speech) in conjunction Hari Raya Aidil Adha 1438 Hijrah 2017.

In his *titah*, His Majesty also touched upon the heaviest test given to Prophet Ibrahim (pbuh) and Prophet Ismail (pbuh), where they have been tested by Allah to perform an abnormal sacrifice.

"Prophet Ibrahim was asked by Allah to sacrifice his son, Prophet Ismail, to be slaughtered alive. Imagine, which father would be willing to sacrifice his child and which child would be willing to be sacrificed by his father?"

However, this is what Allah commands of upon him and in whatever form it may be, it is all obligatory to obey. For the sake of obedience, not only did Prophet Ibrahim obeyed Allah's commands, but Prophet Ibrahim as well did not argue for him to be slaughtered. From this incident, we can take from it that every command from Allah must be followed.

His Majesty then in his *titah* emphasised how we are very fortunate not to be tested heavily as how Prophet Ibrahim and Prophet Ismail were tested. We are only tested with our act of worship such as performing prayers, fasting and others; and with following the Shari'ah law such as choosing from what is halal and avoiding the haram as well as implementing Allah's laws in punishments and so forth.

These are the tests demanded on us. The concept is the same in which it must be obeyed and should not be violated, if so, it is haram and sinful," asserted His Majesty.

His Majesty also said that if a person is consistently obedient, then he is full of patience, because there cannot be obedience without patience. Another example would be a person who is fasting, without patience, fasting may not be possible for that person.



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* in conjunction Hari Raya Aidil Adha 1438 Hijrah 2017 Masihi at the Istana Nurul Iman.

His Majesty elaborated in his *titah* that Allah loves those who are patient, as stated in the verses of the Al-Quran and Allah will grant them an infinite reward. This is what it means to be patient. With patience, we can take care of and perfect our act of worship, and with patience we are able to reach success in whatever field of work. These are the blessings given to those who are patient in Islam.

At the end of his *titah*, His Majesty and his family were pleased to take the opportunity to wish a Happy Aidiladha to every muslim wherever they may be.

His Majesty attends Hari Raya Aidiladha Ceremony at Jame' 'Asr and at Istana Nurul Iman

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 2 - 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 joined the congregation in the Jame' 'Asr Hassanal Bolkiah mosque in Kampung Kiarong to perform the Sunnat Aidiladha prayer for 1438 Hijrah.

Upon arrival at the mosque, His Majesty was received by Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, the Minister of Religious Affairs.

His Majesty was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

The prayer was led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Seri Utama Dato Paduka Seri Setia Haji Awang Salim bin Haji Besar, Chief Syar'ie Judge.

The *Khutbah* (sermon) was delivered by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti, in which he talked about the history of *Korban* and the incident of Prophet Ibrahim (pbuh) and Prophet Ismail (pbuh) which contains a lesson that is important for us Muslims.

After performing the Sunnat Aidiladha prayer, His Majesty then proceeded to the courtyard of the mosque and consented to witness the *Korban* ceremony of the sacrificial livestock of His Majesty and members of the royal family.

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 Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam then attended the Hari Raya Aidiladha 1438 Hijrah / 2017 celebration at Istana Nurul Iman.

Accompanying Their Majesties were: His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahman; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul 'Adawiyah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Norhayati.

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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 Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam at the Hari Raya Aidiladha 1438 Hijrah / 2017 Masihi celebration at Istana Nurul Iman. With Their Majesties were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab. Rahman.



Their Majesties gifting the Korban meat to 100 chosen recipients.

Also present were; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Noor Ehsani and other members of the royal family.

Prior to the start of the event, a mass recital of the Hari Raya Takbir was performed by representatives from government departments, religious school teachers, undergraduates from tertiary education institutions and members of various associations, followed by the recitation of verses from the Al-Quran by Ahmad Zulwaqar bin Suhaili, Champion of the National Youth Musabaqah Al-Quran 2017. Assistant lecturer at Institut Tahfiz Al-Quran Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, Muhammad Azim bin Haji Ali then explained the meaning of the verses read. Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti recited the *Doa Selamat* to bless the ceremony.

During the ceremony, Their Majesties consented to convey the *Korban* meat to 100 chosen recipients; comprising of 50 males and 50 females.

This year, the sacrificial livestock of His Majesty and members of the royal family was a total of 155 cattles, 5 buffaloes and 14 goats were sacrificed and the *Korban* meat was distributed to 12,461 poor and needy people from across the country, consisting of the heads of the family and their dependents who were considered to be rightful recipients; 8,526 from Brunei-Muara District, 1,865 from Belait District, 1,829 from Tutong District, and 241 from Temburong District.

Among those who were invited were new Muslim converts, mosque youths, mosque Muslimah, undergraduates from tertiary education institutions and religious school students.

His Majesty graces new Islamic year 1439 Hijrah Celebration

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 22 - 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 grace the new Islamic year 1439 Hijrah celebration held at the Jame' 'Asr Hassanil Bolkiah in Kampung Kiarong.

Accompanying His Majesty were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

The ceremony began with the recitation of the *Doa Akhir Tahun 1438 Hijrah* by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal. His Majesty then joined other congregants and performed the *Fardhu Maghrib* prayer which was led by Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Seri Utama Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Salim bin Haji Besar who also recited the *Doa Awal Tahun 1439 Hijrah* and led the mass *Sunnat Hajat* prayer.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka

Seri Setia (Dr) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti, then recited the Surah Al-Fatihah. Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, the Minister of Religious Affairs, in a welcoming remark, touched on the theme for this year's celebration, 'Fair Leadership a Core to Prosperity' and its significance as the country marks His Majesty's Golden Jubilee.

This was followed by a religious talk delivered by Haji Saharuddin bin Haji Patra, the Acting Assistant Director of Syariah Affairs, Ministry of Religious Affairs.

His Majesty with other congregants then performed the *Fardhu Isyak* prayer. Before leaving Jame' 'Asr Hassanil Bolkiah, His Majesty and members of the royal family consented to receive *Junjung Ziarah* from the congregants present.

Meanwhile, in a *titah* (royal speech) marking the new Islamic year 1439 Hijrah, His Majesty reminded people to be cautious against deviations of belief (*Akidah*) and called on the relevant parties to act on the matter through propagation (*dakwah*), ad-

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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; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel joining other congregants together in the recitation of the *Doa Akhir Tahun 1438 Hijrah* and *Doa Awal Tahun 1439 Hijrah*.

vice or law.

His Majesty also said this year's Hijrah celebration was of special significance as the country was only a few days away from celebrating the Golden Jubilee of His Majesty's accession to the throne.

In the *titah*, His Majesty expressed Brunei Darussalam's regret about the sit-

uation happening in Myanmar and urged the authorities in the country to resolve the humanitarian crisis in fairness.

"If in the past we only heard or read about people being oppressed, now with sophisticated technology we could see with our own eyes how these atrocities are committed, such as the killing or tor-

turing or burning of villages and houses. All these can be seen on social media including television screens."

In the closing of the *titah*, His Majesty and the royal family conveyed and wished all citizens a happy new Islamic year 1439 Hijrah.

His Majesty graces 27th National Teachers' Day Celebration

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 26 - 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 27th National Teachers' Day Celebration at the International Conference Centre (ICC), Berakas.

Accompanying His Majesty were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

Upon arrival, His Majesty and the royal family members were greeted by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, the Minister of Education, and Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Othman, the Minister of Religious Affairs as Co-Chairman of the Executive Organising Committee for the 27th National Teachers' Day celebration, as well as other members of the organising committee.

The ceremony commenced with the recitation of the Surah Al-Fatihah dedicated to Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Muhammad Jamal Alam and to teachers who have departed, followed by a *Doa Selamat* led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti.

The ceremony continued with the recitation of the holy verses of the Quran from Surah Ali 'Imran (verses 159 - 161) by Awang Ahmad Syuza'iee bin Mudim Haji Matassim, who was a representative for the 1434 Hijrah / 2013 International Al-Quran Reading Competition held in Kuwait, whereas its interpretation was delivered by Haji Mohd Sharol Azmi bin Haji Abdul Muluk, the Deputy Director of the Centre of Core Knowledge at the Religious Teacher's University College of Seri Begawan (KUPU SB).



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* at the 27th National Teachers' Day Celebration.

Afterwards, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, the Minister of Education, as Co-Chairman of the Executive Organising Committee for the 27th National Teachers' Day celebration, gave the welcoming address followed by His Majesty's *titah* (royal speech).

His Majesty stated in his *titah*, "As educators, teachers are always required to be outstanding in order to produce successful

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Four students receive the Sultan's Scholar Scholarship Award

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 18 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was pleased to award the Sultan's Scholar Scholarship, Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, to four students for the 2017 - 2018 academic session at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Also present was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

This year, three students received the Sultan's Scholar for 2017 - 2018 undergraduate academic session, while another received a scholarship for postgraduate academic session.

The recipients were Awang Muhammad Azim bin Abdul Hadi, Dayang Amal Aqilah Fathiah binti Haji Abdullah, Awang Teo Zhi Perng and Dayang Nurul Syadirah binti Awang Sayang. They will pursue their studies at well-known universities in the United Kingdom and Egypt.

Dayang Nurul Syadirah binti Awang Sayang was previously a recipient of the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation Sultan's Scholars scholarship scheme in 2014 and graduated with the B.Sc (Hons) Second Class Upper in Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics at University of Warwick, United Kingdom.

Through the Sultan's Scholar, she will pursue her master's degree in International Public Policy at University College London, United Kingdom.

Meanwhile, Awang Muhammad Azim bin Abdul Hadi, who is also a former student of the Hassanal Bolkiah Arab Male Secondary School, will be pursuing a degree in Lughah Arabiah at Al-Azhar University, Egypt.

Dayang Amal Aqilah Fathiah binti



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The 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 in a group photo with the recipients of the Sultan's Scholar.

Haji Abdullah, a student of the Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan Science College, will continue her studies in Veterinary Medicine at the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.

While Awang Teo Zhi Perng, previously a student at the Sixth Form Centre, in Bukit Beruang, Tutong will continue his study in Materials Science and Engineering at Imperial College London, United Kingdom.

The ceremony began with the recitation of the Surah Al-Fatihah led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti.

His Majesty then consented to award the Sultan's Scholar for the 2017 - 2018

academic session to four recipients followed with a *Doa Selamat*.

Before leaving the ceremony, His Majesty consented to a group photo and interacted with the recipients of the Sultan's Scholar, their families and invited guests.

Also present at the ceremony were: Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, Minister of Education, also as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Foundation; Members of the Administrative Board of Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah; Members of the Working Committee and Members of the Sultan's Scholar Scholarship Scheme.

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students. Teachers are the pulse of success. As the world is ever-changing and evolving, the demand for human resource capacity is increasingly challenging. This also implies the definition of a teacher's excellence."

His Majesty also expressed how pleased he is with the Ministry of Education's efforts to develop teacher capacity as the main focus of educational strategy, which is the Literacy and Numeracy Coaching Programme. The programme aims at producing more outstanding teachers as Local Coaches.

At the same time, His Majesty reminded us that we will also be measuring students' competency in knowledge and thinking skills. This is carried out through the country's participation in the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). Every student aged 15 in the year 2018 will participate and their competen-

cy will be assessed and ranked amongst other students on an international level.

His Majesty added that this is a challenge for our teachers' capacity in ensuring the students' comprehensive ability to understand the complex thinking processes in life.

His Majesty also stated in his *titah*, that other than academic accomplishments, students' moral values are equally as important and should not be ignored. Accordingly, teachers are responsible for shaping the students' character and moral values. In the same context, are the parents of the students, who cannot be exempted from teaching responsibilities as they are the students' first educators before all else. Parents have a strong enough influence towards shaping their children's personality and character.

The ceremony also included poetry performances titled 'Kecemerlangan

Guru Teras Kejayaan Ummah' (Teachers' Excellence as the Core of Success of the People), and medley songs; 'Guru Oh Guru' (Teacher Oh Teacher), 'Jasamu Guru' (Your Kind Deeds, Teacher), 'Pelita Hidupku' (Light of My Life) and 'Terima Kasih Cikgu' (Thank You Teacher), from four primary and secondary school teachers, six officers and staff from the Special Educational Needs Unit, including six special educational needs students, six primary school students, 10 secondary school students, and seven students from higher educational institutions.

Prior to departing from the ICC, His Majesty greeted the 2011 - 2016 Teachers' Day award recipients, teachers, students from various schools and institutions, and performers present at the event.

His Majesty graces RBAF's 56th Anniversary Celebration

MUARA, September 17 – 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, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) consented to grace RBAF's 56th Anniversary celebration held at the Royal Brunei Navy (RBN) Base in Muara.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and General of the RBAF.

Upon arrival, His Majesty was greeted by First Admiral (Rtd) Dato Seri Pahlawan Awang Haji Abdul Aziz bin Mohd Tamit, the Deputy Minister of Defence and Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Mohd Tawih bin Abdullah, the Commander of the RBAF.

At the parade ground, His Majesty received the royal salute and inspected the parade contingent comprising of 1,056 RBAF personnel from the Royal Brunei Land Force, Royal Brunei Navy, Royal Brunei Air Force, Training Institute, Special Forces Regiment and Women Military Personnel led by Parade Commander, Commander Sapry bin Haji Serudi @ Haji Seruji of the RBN.

In a *titah* (royal speech) delivered at the parade ground, His Majesty called on the Royal Brunei Armed Forces to continue



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* at the RBAF's 56th Anniversary 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, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) consents to grace RBAF's 56th Anniversary celebration held at the Royal Brunei Navy (RBN) Base in Muara. Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and General of the RBAF.

strengthening their internal defence, including spiritual and religious resilience in the face of the deviation of ideology.

His Majesty also urged the RBAF to give more attention to the country's preparedness or alertness in facing the increasingly worrying cyber threats that can lead to radicalisation.

In the field of cooperation, His Majesty hopes that the Ministry of Defence and the Royal Brunei Armed Forces will continue to cooperate with the country's internal security agencies to use a holistic security strategy. His Majesty emphasised that similar cooperation with foreign allies is equally important.

To bless the ceremony, a *Doa Selamat* was recited by Commander Haji Ainolnizam bin Haji Ibrahim of the RBN, the Head of RBAF's Religious Department.

His Majesty then received the royal salute followed with a sail-past of the KDB Darussalam and fly-past of Royal Brunei Air Force aircrafts.

From the parade ground, His Majesty boarded the KDB Daruttaqwa to witness an arena performance showcasing RBAF's abilities in carrying out maritime operations. His Majesty also toured static exhibitions set up by different units under the RBAF and the Ministry of Defence.

At the Petty Officers' Mess, His Majesty and His Royal Highness were presented with a *pesambah* in the form of an armour breastplate jacket as well as a shield inspired by Islamic traditions from RBAF senior and junior non-commissioned officers.



His Majesty receiving the royal salute and inspected the parade contingent comprising of 1,056 RBAF personnel from the Royal Brunei Land Force, Royal Brunei Navy, Royal Brunei Air Force, Training Institute, Special Forces Regiment and Women Military Personnel led by Parade Commander, Commander Sapry bin Haji Serudi @ Haji Seruji of the RBN.

His Majesty and His Royal Highness then proceeded to the RBN's Officers' Mess for a luncheon where His Majesty consented to cut a cake marking RBAF's 56th Anniversary and received a *pesambah* in the form of a 'General's Sword' from RBAF officers.

His Majesty then consented to a Junjung Ziarah with serving RBAF officers and personnel, former RBAF officers and personnel who have been appointed Legislative Council members as well as penghulus and village heads.

The ceremony concluded with the signing of the royal parchment and a group photo of His Majesty and His Royal Highness with members of the Defence Executive Committee, service commanders, RBAF Chief of Staff, RBAF head of inspectorate, former deputy ministers of defence, former commanders of the RBAF, military and civilian directors, and commandants.

This year's RBAF anniversary celebration carries the theme 'Together in Accomplishing the National Vision', which underlines RBAF's continuous commitment as a key security institution contributing to the nation's progress and development by ensuring a safe and peaceful environment through the steady provision of defence and security.

The celebrations, traditionally held every May 31, was brought to a later date out of respect for the holy month of Ramadhan.

Ukhuwah Fillah Prayer



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam performing the Friday Prayer at Jame' 'Asr Hassanil Bolkiah, Kampung Kiarong. Also present, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 22 - We as Muslims are bound to two forms of brotherhood; brotherhood as one family and brotherhood in religion (Islam).

Brotherhood as one family refers to limited brotherhood, such as at home or in a home country. However, brother in religion (Islam), is not just at home or in the country, but all over the world.

"Yes! our brothers, not only in Brunei, but also everywhere. Any ethnic name, as they are Muslims, are our brothers in this world or in other words, called Ukhuwah Islamiah or Ukhuwah Fillah (Brotherhood in the name of Allah)," stated in the special Friday *Khutbah* (sermon) delivered by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustadz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti, at the Jame' 'Asr Hassanil Bolkiah, Kampung Kiarong.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam also consented to attend the Friday Prayer at the Jame' 'Asr Hassanil Bolkiah.

Also present were His Royal High-

ness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel.

The *Khutbah* also emphasised the issues of injustice towards Rohingya Muslims, "this is the most despicable tyranny and we Muslims should not be silent and we need to help them," said Yang Berhormat Pehin.

"Brunei Darussalam will not be silent about this issue. But last night, our sovereign, our leader, through radio and television broadcasts nationwide, has told the world that Brunei Darussalam is united with a 'worldwide voice' regretting on what is happening in Myanmar and asked authorities in the country to solve the humanitarian crisis in an affair manner.

This is not an enemy's voice, but a friend's voice, and a caring world leader. This is the voice of the Brunei sovereign, a sincere advice from friend to friend, to end this humanitarian crisis with justice," added Yang Berhormat Pehin.

Yang Berhormat Pehin elaborated on His Majesty's *titah* (royal speech) on justice, that His Majesty is worthy and entitled to say justice, because under His

Majesty's administration, His Majesty is a practitioner of justice, which is why His Majesty is quite knowledgeable about justice and understands the value and glory of justice.

In addition, the *Khutbah* also emphasised the importance of Muslims caring for relatives, as it is unreasonable to ignore the sadness of our brothers and sisters.

"The brotherhood of one religion is a great brotherhood in the sight of Allah. That is why it is called by the name of Ukhuwah Fillah (Brotherhood in the name of Allah)," he said.

Earlier, Yang Berhormat Pehin explained, history has recorded many examples about these two types of brotherhood. Brotherhood is purer and more beautiful than family members.

In addition, the *Khutbah* also narrated the comparison between brothers and brotherhood in religion; Abu Lahab is a relative, while Sayyidina Abu Bakar, is a relative of a religion.

"Ukhuwah Fillah is clear; here is the value of brotherhood in Islam. And, through it we can see our Muslim brothers in Palestine and Rohingya or anywhere in this world.

Therefore, we have a dream too. We follow the Prophet's (pbuh) Sunnah to read the Qunut Nazilah prayer, to ask Allah to save our brothers. Prayer is the interaction between servant and God. Do not underestimate the role of prayers.

It is not just people who pray but animals pray as well for safety when a disaster happens," Yang Berhormat Pehin added.

The Friday prayer was led by Yang Dimuliakan Begawan Pehin Khatib Dato Paduka Haji Suhaili bin Hj Metali Al-Hafiz, while the *Sunat Hajat* prayer congregation was led by Yang Dimuliakan Begawan Pehin Khatib Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mustafa bin Haji Murat.

Appointment of new Deputy Minister (Energy and Industry) at the PMO and new Permanent Secretary

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 21 - By the command 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 Prime Minister's Office (PMO) hereby informs that His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented to the appointments of:

Dato Paduka Awang Haji Jamain bin Haji Julaihi, the Permanent Secretary (Energy) at the Prime Minister's Office as the Deputy Minister (Energy and Industry) at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), and, Awang Haji Kamaluddin bin Haji Bungsu, Deputy Managing Director and Human Resource Director, Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sendirian Berhad as the Permanent Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office.



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 Prime Minister's Office (PMO) consents to the appointment of Dato Paduka Awang Haji Jamain bin Haji Julaihi, the Permanent Secretary (Energy) at the Prime Minister's Office as the Deputy Minister (Energy and Industry).

The date of appointment of the said individuals will take effect from Thursday, 29th Zulhijjah 1438 Hijrah, corresponding to September 21, 2017.

His Majesty joins the crowd in The Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam participating The Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation. Joining His Majesty in the enlivening the activity were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel; Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah; and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 3 - The Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation proved not only to be a health activity but also as a unity for the people of the nation.

What was more meaningful for the people of this country was the participation of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in leading the Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation, cycling with more than 1,000 cyclists comprising from children to senior citizens, in which itself became a record in history.

His Majesty's involvement and spirit of sportsmanship shows that His Majesty is an icon in generating sports activities for all to practise towards a healthy and active lifestyle.

Joining His Majesty in enlivening the activity were: His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel; Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and other members of the royal family.

Upon arrival at the Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien, His Majesty was greeted by the Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Mejar Jeneral (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport and other cabinet ministers.

His Majesty set off the event at 7.30 a.m. by releasing 71 colourful balloons in the shape of the number 71 and a banner in conjunction of His Majesty's Birthday Celebration this year.

His Majesty led the cycling crowd in a 11.5 km route which started and ended at the Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien in a course of almost one hour.

After arriving, His Majesty witnessed the return of 71 cyclists comprised of youths who have successfully completed a 71km route which started earlier at 6.20 a.m. in the morning.

Brunei's 29th Southeast Asia (SEA) Games contingents, who competed in Kuala Lumpur recently, also participated in The Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation.

His Majesty then went on to take a closer look at the cheerful happenings of Bandarku Ceria which involved various activities organised by different agencies and numerous food and beverage vendors.

The cycling event was jointly organised by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (KKBS), the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Development, the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Ministry of Health as well as the involvement of other ministries and the Brunei Darussalam Bicycle Federations.

His Royal Highness pays final respects to late Sultan of Kedah



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Deputy Sultan with His Majesty Sultan Muhammad V, Yang Di-Pertuan Agong.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Deputy Sultan with His Royal Highness Sultan Al-Mu'tassimu Billahi Muhibbuddin Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Al-Haj, a member of Kedah Darul Aman's royal family.

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His Royal Highness attends Golden Jubilee Celebration Executive Committee Meeting

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 5 - 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 as the Patron of the Advisory Committee for the Golden Jubilee Celebration consented to attend the fifth meeting of the Executive Committee for the Golden Jubilee celebration held at the Prime Minister's Office Building.

His Royal Highness was greeted upon arrival at the meeting by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, member of the Advisory Committee for the Golden Jubilee Celebration.

The meeting began with a *Doa Selamat* recitation by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal, a member of the Executive Committee for the Golden Jubilee celebration. The meeting continued with opening remarks by Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz.

At the meeting, His Royal Highness also consented to deliver a *sabda* that stressed the importance of disseminating clear and accurate information to prevent the spreading of unverified information that might confuse and give a negative perception to members of the public.

His Royal Highness continued by sharing the *titah* (royal speech) of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam on matters pertaining to the Golden Jubilee Celebration, of which among others include the dates of the various events.

In the *sabda*, His Royal Highness also reminded all committee members of His Majesty's *titah*, which highlighted that, the Golden Jubilee Celebration is to honour and appreciate history and stressed that all committees should compile relevant materials for the purpose of archiving history and as reference for future generations.



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 delivering a *sabda* at fifth meeting of the Executive Committee for the Golden Jubilee celebration.

Ending the *sabda*, His Royal Highness said that all members should continue their concerted efforts with full dedication and the highest commitment in ensuring the smooth implementation of tasks towards the successful celebration of the Golden Jubilee of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne.

This meeting also discussed matters regarding the final preparations of the events including matters raised in the previous meeting.

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ALOR SETAR, KEDAH DARUL AMAN, September 12 – His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Deputy Sultan and as the personal representative of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, consented to attend the Royal Ceremonial Funeral of Al-Marhum His Majesty Sultan Al-Mu'tassimu Billahi Muhibbuddin Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Al-Haj ibni Almarhum Sultan Badlishah, Sultan of Kedah Darul Aman at Istana Anak Bukit, Alor Setar, Kedah Darul Aman.

His Royal Highness was greeted at the Pulau Pinang International Airport in Bayan Lepas by Abdul Bari bin Abdullah, Mayor of the Langkawi Municipality; Dato Paduka Haji Alaihuddin bin Pehin Orang Kaya Digadong Seri Lela Dato Seri Utama Haji Awang Mohd Taha, the High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam to Malaysia; senior officers from the Malaysian Ministry of

Foreign Affairs and the High Commission of Brunei Darussalam in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

His Royal Highness then boarded a motorcade towards Tabung Haji Hotel and Convention Centre in Alor Setar. His Royal Highness later proceeded to Istana Anak Bukit, Alor Setar.

The arrival of His Royal Highness was welcomed by Dato Lela Putra Dato' Tunku Jaafar Laksamana bin Tunku Nong Jiwa, a member of Kedah Darul Aman's royal family. His Royal Highness then consented to pay final respects to Al-Marhum His Majesty Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Al-Haj, the late Sultan of Kedah Darul Aman.

Al-Marhum His Majesty Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Al-Haj passed away at 2.30 pm on September 11, at the Istana Anak Bukit. His Majesty, who reigned the State of Kedah Darul Aman for 59 years, was 89 years old. The late Sultan also made Malaysian history by being elected twice as the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong.

His Royal Highness Consents to officiate the UBD Convocation Fair



HRH touring the exhibits created by UBD students at the UBD Convocation Festival in conjunction with the 29th UBD Convocation Ceremony this year.

TUNGKU LINK, September 4 - His Royal Highness Prince (Dr) 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, Pro-Chancellor of University of Brunei Darussalam (UBD) consented to officiate the UBD Convocation Fair in conjunction with the 29th UBD Convocation Ceremony this year.

His Royal Highness's arrival at the UBD Sports Complex Building was greeted by the Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Sato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, Minister of Education and Datin Dr. Hajah Anita Binurul Zahrina Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abd. Aziz, Vice Chancellor of UBD, .

The ceremony began with the recitation of the Surah Al-Fati-

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HRH The Crown Prince officiates UTB's 4th Convocation Festival

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 16 – His Royal Highness Prince (Dr) 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, Pro-Chancellor of Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) consented to officiate UTB's 4th Convocation Festival in conjunction with UTB's 5th Convocation Ceremony at Library Complex, Phase 3, UTB.

Upon arrival at the Library Complex in UTB, His Royal Highness was greeted by the Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, Minister of Education as Chairman of UTB Council and Professor Dr Hajah Zohrah binti Haji Sulaiman, Vice-Chancellor of UTB.

His Royal Highness then consented to deliver a *sabda* launching UTB's 4th Convocation Festival 2017 which was followed by the call of *Takbir* and a multimedia show.

His Royal Highness then toured the 'Innov8' exhibition. In ensuring competitiveness through constant improvements in quality, efficiency and productivity, 'Innov8' was the chosen theme for this year's convocation festival as the digit '8' in the theme signifies that eight important areas where innovation has been applied in order to produce quality graduates who can make an impactful contribution to the nation. These areas are: Innov8 Network, Innov8 Research, Innov8 Campus, Innov8 FEng, Innov8 SCI, Innov8 UTB SB, Innov8 Enterprise and Innov8 Leader. The theme is also in line with the university's ambition to achieve excellence in the areas of teaching, research and community engagement.

To innovate is also one of the core values of UTB. The other core values are professionalism, integrity, being passionate and engaging.



His Royal Highness Prince (Dr) Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, and Pro-Chancellor of UTB touring the Innov8 exhibition.

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hah, followed by a *Doa Selamat* led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Seri Utama Dato Paduka Seri Setia Haji Awang Salim bin Haji Besar, Chief Syariah Judge.

His Royal Highness then consented to deliver the *sabda* and signed the UBD Convocation plaque 2017.

This year's convocation theme, 'Youths are the Catalyst of Transformation for a Successful Future' defines the youth as an agent of change, which triggered the future pattern of the country, especially in the era of sophisticated technology and in today's uncertain economy; where the youth's ideas, their courage to engage in various fields including companies and their enthusiasm in innovating the country is indispensable, in order to make pro-

gress and developments parallel with other developed countries.

His Royal Highness also consented to receive the *pesambah* from the Student Representative Council, UBD Student Council (PMUBD) followed by a photo session.

Before leaving the ceremony, His Royal Highness consented to receive *Junjung Ziarah* from the students of UBD.

The Convocation Festival is an annual UBD event which celebrates the students who have successfully completed their studies, with a series of interesting activities such as the Khatam Al-Quran and *Doa Kesyukuran* ceremony in conjunction with the 29th Convocation; the *Ibadah Korban* and *Aqiqah* ceremony in conjunction with the Aidiladha 1438H Celebration; the Blood Donation Programme; the PMUBD Carnival and the UBD Sports Day.

Legislative Council Speaker receives courtesy visit from Japanese Ambassador

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 27 – The Department of Councils of State received a courtesy visit from the Embassy of Japan to Brunei Darussalam aimed at strengthening the cordial relations between both countries.

The courtesy visit also symbolised the strong friendship and good relations between Japan and Brunei.

During the visit, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Motohiko Kato and the Speaker of the Legislative Council, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib exchanged views and discussed matters of interest to both parties.

Also present during the courtesy visit was the Secretary of Cabinet Ministers Council and Clerk to the Legislative Council Yang Dimulikan Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Jaya Dato Paduka Awang Haji Judin bin Haji Asar.



Speaker of the Legislative Council, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Motohiko Kato.

AIPA plays an important role in the ASEAN Community

MANILA, PHILIPPINES REPUBLIC, September 16 - The 38th General Assembly of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) was inaugurated by President Senate of the Philippines Republic, The Honourable Aquilino Pimentel III in Makati Shangri-la.

The theme of the AIPA General Assembly this year is 'AIPA and ASEAN: Partnering for Inclusive Change'.

President of the Senate of the Republic of the Philippines in his speech, hoped AIPA can provide any kind of assistance to ASEAN, which through various AIPA activities, can address the challenges faced by ASEAN and expressed the belief that with the teamwork between ASEAN and AIPA, the importance of AIPA to the ASEAN people will be assured.

Brunei Darussalam at the opening ceremony was lead by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, Yang Di-Pertua of the Legislative Council (LegCo) as the Head of Delegation.

Also present were the Yang Dimulihkan Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Jaya Dato Paduka Awang Haji Judin bin Haji Asar, Secretary of the Cabinet Ministers and Secretary of the Council together with six LegCo Members.



Yang Di-Pertua of the Legislative Council (LegCo), Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib delivering his speech during The 38th General Assembly of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

Brunei supports Singapore operate Safety Congress and Health

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, September 4 - Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs, on September 3, attended the Special Session of the ASEAN Labour Ministers on Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) in conjunction with the 21st World Congress on OSH.

During the special session, the ASEAN Labour Ministers have formally ratified and signed the 'Statement on the Minister of Labor of the ASEAN on the Improvement of Workers Safety and Health for Sustainable Economic Growth'.

In his speech at the special session, Yang Berhormat Pehin, applauded the Ministry of Energy, Republic of Singapore for his efforts to organise the 21st World Congress on OSH which is the world's largest safety and health event for the first time in Southeast Asia.

Yang Berhormat Pehin said that ASEAN can learn more about safety and health approaches in the field of economic and social evolving its partnership with ASEAN Plus Three, as well as through relationships with international expert organisations.

The ASEAN Labour Ministers also had the opportunity to exchange views during a meeting with His Excellency Le Luong Minh, ASEAN Secretary-General; Mr. Guy Ryder, International Labour Organisation (ILO) Director-General and His Excellency Dr. Joachim Breuer, President of the International Social Security Association (ISSA).

Following the special session, Yang Berhormat Pehin and the ASEAN Labour Ministers also attended the Reception Council hosted by His Excellency, Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore.

Brunei – Saudi's Strong cooperation

JERUDONG, September 28 - The close collaboration between Brunei Darussalam and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been strengthened through historical links, cultural and religious values by maintaining their respective interests based on mutual respect and desire for peace and stability of the world.

His Excellency Hisham bin Abdul Wahab bin Zar'ah, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Saudi Arabia to Brunei Darussalam in his welcoming speech expressed his pleasure, to witness the historic arrival of King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud to the country, at the invitation of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

The arrival is the achievement of both countries in the overall agreement as well as the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in all areas of politics, economic security, religious fields and expanding commercial landscape of cooperation and investment between the two countries.

On this occasion, His Excellency also delivered his congratulations to His Majesty's Golden Jubilee on his accession to the throne and expressed appreciation to the Government of His Majesty for the support and facilities granted to the Embassy of Saudi Arabia to perform tasks efficiently.

Attending to represent the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam to the Reception in conjunction with the 87th National Day of Saudi Arabia's was Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, the Minister of



Minister of Home Affairs, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong in a cake cutting ceremony with Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Saudi Arabia to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Hisham bin Abdul Wahab bin Zar'ah in conjunction with the 87th National Day of Saudi Arabia's.

Home Affairs.

Earlier, the national anthems of both countries were played and the ceremony was accompanied by a video clip on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continued with a joint cake cutting ceremony by the Minister of Home Affairs and His Excellency in conjunction with the National Day of Saudi Arabia.

ASEAN-Japan explores various collaborations



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, Minister of Education in a group photo with alumni ASCOJA from ASEAN countries.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 9 - With the theme of Enriching ASEAN - Japan Relations Through Culture, Education and Economy, the 23rd ASEAN Council of Japan Alumni (ASCOJA) Conference aims to address the needs of multi-disciplinary approaches to achieve a truly integrated ASEAN with one heart, one mind and with Japan as a partner.

In addition, the conference aims to explore potential areas for the continuation of ASEAN and Japan cooperation, especially from various stakeholders such as NGOs, academic communities and the private sector.

The Brunei Association of Japanese Alumni (BAJA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Japanese Embassy hosted a conference attended by more than 200 alumni members from all ASEAN countries and representatives of Japanese related organisations. The conference took place at the Centrepoint Hotel in Gadong.

Present at the opening ceremony was Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, the Minister of Education and His Excellency Yasuo Fukuda, former Prime Minister of Japan.

The conference began with a welcoming speech from the Chairman of ASCOJA, Dr. Chin Wei Keh, followed by His Excellency Yasuo Fukuda and Iwao Horii's.

The Minister of Education in his speech among other things said that since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1984, the Japanese Government has been actively undertaking various cultural exchange programmes (people-to-person) to promote the interest and understanding of Japanese culture in Brunei, such as Japanese Speech Contest, Japanese Language and Culture Week, Southeast Asian Youth Program (SSEAYP)

and the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS and JENESYS 2.0).

Held in parallel with the conference is the Asia Japan Alumni International (ASJA) - ASCOJA symposium with the theme of ASEAN - Japan Trade Opportunity - Tapping into the Halal Market with the increasing number of Muslims worldwide, the halal industry is now a global phenomenon which has expanded especially with lifestyle products such as food, cosmetics, and even the hosting of halal tourism.

"The ASJA - ASCOJA symposium provides a platform for discussing the potential rules for ASEAN and Japan contributing to the development of the halal industry in which participants have the opportunity to learn from experience primarily from a Brunei perspective, in developing its halal industry, as well as to explore the potential of cooperation between ASEAN and Japan in the halal industry," said the Minister of Education.

ASCOJA, established on June 11, 1977 is a regional association of alumni from major organizations in 10 ASEAN countries and consisting of former graduates, students and trainees from universities, schools and training institutions in Japan, who can foster friendship, educational, cultural and social ties among the members of ASEAN - Japan's dynamic.

Also present was Yang Mulia Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Haji Bahrom bin Pengiran Haji Bahar, Deputy Minister of Education; His Excellency Iwao Horii, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Japanese Parliament; His Excellency Motohiko Kato Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam as well as senior officials from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

UNISSA explores joint venture with Singapore

GADONG, September 13 - The Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA) received a courtesy call from His Excellency Masagos Zulkifli bin Masagos Mohamad, Minister of Environment and Water Resources of Singapore.

The arrival of His Excellency and delegation at the UNISSA Campus were welcomed by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman, the Minister of Education and the Dr. Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, Rector of UNISSA, .

During the visit, His Excellency and the delegation were briefed on the UNISSA's 10-year establishment, presented by the Rector of UNISSA.

Starting with 107 students at the beginning of its establishment, UNISSA has now reached more than 1,000 students. This increase is expected to continue in the coming years with the development of more dynamic, relevant and flexible academic

programmes that will be offered by UNISSA in the future.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Environment and Water Resources of Singapore in his speech among others, shared about the development and issues of the country concerned.

This was followed by a briefing on the Mazhab Shiafi'i Research Centre presented by the Dr. Azme bin Haji Matali, Director of Mazhab Shiafi'i Research Center.

The visit aimed to know more about the programmes available in UNISSA, in addition to seeing opportunities for cooperation with Singapore.

Also present were: Yang Mulia Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Haji Bahrom bin Pengiran Haji Bahar, the Deputy Minister of Education; His Excellency Lim Huang Huai, the High Commissioner of the Republic of Singapore to Brunei Darussalam, officials of the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore and officials of UNISSA.

Minister attends IAMM, AFMM and 72nd UNGA



NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, September 23 - The Minister of the Prime Minister's Office and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Awang Lim Jock Seng attended the Informal Asean Ministerial Meeting (IAMM) and the Asean Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AFMM) with the UN Secretary-General and the President of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). The meetings took place on September 23 in New York, United States of America.

The Minister of the Prime Minister's Office and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Awang Lim Jock Seng attending the Informal Asean Ministerial Meeting (IAMM) and the Asean Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AFMM) with the UN Secretary-General and the President of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

ASEAN +3 has the potential to expand its environmental environment



The Minister of Development, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah at the 15th EMM + 3 Ministerial Meeting on the Environment held at the International Conference Centre.

BERAKAS, September 13 - Through the ASEAN +3 Environmental Ministerial Meeting it is hoped that it will result in a more beneficial and productive collaboration, especially in promoting environmental cooperation between ASEAN and +3 partners as well as welcoming other potential collaborations in the field of environment in the future.

This was stated in an opening speech by the Minister of Development, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah as Chairman of the 15th EMM + 3 Ministerial Meeting on the Environment held at the International Conference Centre.

The Minister of Development said the progress achieved in ASEAN +3 cooperation under the environmental sector included: ASEAN-CHINA Environmental Cooperation Strategy (2016 - 2020); ASEAN Environment Cooperation - Japan; the implementation of the ASEAN - ROK Environmental Cooperation and the new Framework for the ASEAN - ROK 2017 - 2020 Cooperation Fund.

Evidently, this collaboration enables capacity building and implementation of major projects that include the spectrum of conservation and environmental protection, for example: water

and wastewater, waste management, sustainable urban, biological diversity and environmental education.

In addition, he said, this collaboration also benefits policy-makers, environmental practitioners and youths through increased knowledge and expertise, as well as best practices.

Brunei Darussalam hosted the 15th EMM + 3 Ministerial Meeting on the Environment, chaired by Brunei Darussalam's Minister of National Development, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah and Deputy Minister of Development, Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Suhaimi bin Haji Gafar as the Head of Delegation for Brunei Darussalam.

The meeting was attended by various Ministers of Environment and Senior Officers from ASEAN Member Countries (AMS) +3, Japan, China and the Republic of Korea, to study regional cooperation on several environmental issues and to discuss new initiatives to promote regional cooperation on the environment.

The annual Meeting of ASEAN +3 Environment Ministers is aimed at promoting environmental co-operation between ASEAN countries and +3 member states.

Haze pollution-free by 2020

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, September 12 - Ministers responsible for the environment of the ASEAN Member States-AMS held the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COP-13th to AATHP) held constant after Meeting The 14th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on the Environment (14th AMME) held at the International Convention Center, Berakas.

A total of 100 delegates from the AMS, representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, representatives from the ASEAN Special

Meteorological Center (ASMC) and senior officials from government agencies convened to consider and receive progress reports of the 13th Meeting of the Committee (COM-13) to AATHP agenda, held on September 11, 2017. The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Development, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah.

In his welcoming speech, the minister thanked the AMS on the ongoing efforts in carrying out their respective roles to handle land and forest fires to ensure the region is free of pollution by

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2020.

The Brunei Darussalam delegation was headed by the Deputy Minister of Development, Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Suhaimi bin Haji Gafar.

AATHP aims to prevent and monitor cross-border haze pollution due to forest fires that need to be mitigated through integrated efforts and nation efforts as well as regional and international cooperation.

The agreement was signed on June 10, 2002, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and came into force in 2003 under the management of ASEAN Environment Ministers and other representatives from ASEAN member states.

AATHP includes measures for monitoring and evaluation, prevention, readiness, emergency response, procedures for people placement, cross-border materials and equipment, as well as technical and scientific research cooperation.

Prior to the Official Opening Ceremony, AIPA Member Country Speakers attended the Executive Committee Meeting. At this meeting, agenda at the level of committees, resolutions and matters arising were discussed.

AIPA President and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines, The Honourable Pantaleon D. Alvarez, during his speech at the event, was pleased to be given the opportunity to become President of AIPA this year, as it is a significant year for AIPA that will celebrate its 40th anniversary.

ASEAN's goal of regional identity and its integrated community has encouraged AIPA to become more active. The AIPA renewal of AIPO in 2006 aims to ensure that AIPA serves as a connecting link that will connect the Southeast Asian community. AIPA, as representative of ASEAN's people, has shown its determination to contribute significantly to the ASEAN Community.

As always, every AIPA member country delivered a Message Speech from the heads of state. His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam



The Minister of Development, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Bahrin bin Abdullah chairing 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution (COP-13th to AATHP) delivered his welcoming speech.

said in his message, 40 years since its inception, AIPA has been able to realise some joint efforts. The role of AIPA has helped ASEAN in moving towards the ASEAN Community.

To date, AIPA has played an important role in ensuring ASEAN regional policies can be understood by the people of ASEAN countries by ensuring that every member country's parliament speeds up the necessary support and is clearly explain to the people. Undoubtedly, this will link the government with the people in creating a united, integrated and responsible community.

He further praised the AIPA's diligence in discussing issues related to Sustainable Development Goals, Climate Change, Drug Symptoms, Cross-Border Crimes, Foreign Workers and various matters not only concern ASEAN countries but the general world.

At the First Plenary Session Session chaired by the President of AIPA, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, in his speech said that 2017 is an important year for AIPA, which celebrated its 40th anniversary since its inception in 1977 and is also a historic moment for ASEAN countries celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Throughout its establishment, ASEAN and AIPA have demonstrated close ties with significant engagement and have already brought people closer to ASEAN, in line with the theme of 'AIPA and ASEAN: Partnering for Inclusive Change' this year.

Yang Berhormat Pehin also congratulated the Republic of the Philippines for hosting the two important events.

Brunei Darussalam, said Yang Berhormat Pehin, will always provide solid support in enhancing the country's involvement with AIPA.

AIPA is getting more mature and sensitive to its environment where important issues become topics of discussion in Politics, Economic, Social, WAIPA and Organisation. Yang Berhormat Pehin hopes that AIPA member countries will be able to move forward in achieving collective desires and wishes for a safe and stable life, sustainable economic growth, prosperity sharing and social progress to advance towards ASEAN 2025.

39th AMAF & 17th AMAF + 3 in Chiang Mai, Thailand

CHIANG MAI, THAILAND, September 28 – The 39th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) Meeting was held in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The meeting was chaired by Thailand's Agriculture and Cooperatives Minister, His Excellency General Chatchai Sarikulya.

Brunei Darussalam's delegation was led by the Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong. At the meeting, the ministers discussed and exchanged views on regional development in view of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Action Framework 2025 and progress made in the field of food, agriculture and forestry in 2016 – 2017.

The ministers expressed their thanks to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), World Trade Organisation (WTO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Economic Forum (WEF) for their support.

Concurrently, the 17th AMAF + 3 meeting with regional dia-

logue partners People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea and Japan was also held. The meeting was chaired by Thailand's Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives and discussed the various aspects of the ASEAN Plus Three Cooperation Strategy (APTCS) in food, agriculture and forestry.

At the sidelines of the AMAF & AMAF + 3 meetings, Yang Berhormat also held bilateral discussions on cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry with Thailand's Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, His Excellency General Chatchai Sarikulya; Singapore's Minister of State at the Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of National Development, His Excellency Dr Koh Poh Koon and the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, People's Republic of China, His Excellency Mr Qu Dong Yu.

Earlier, the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) of the 39th AMAF and 17th AMAF + 3 took place and Brunei Darussalam was represented by the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, Dr Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin.

The 40th AMAF and related meetings in 2018 will be held in Viet Nam.