

# Malaysia and Yemen sign **MoU** on air **services**

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KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia and the Republic of Yemen have concluded a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to provide air services arrangements between the two countries.

In a joint statement by Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and his counterpart from Yemen, Capt Saeed Abdullah Al-Yafe'e, it said the MoU provided a flexible arrangement to enable the airlines of both countries to plan and commence air services in future.

It would also look into the possibility of having services on a code-share arrangement, it said, adding that the text of a bilateral air services agreement had also been drafted.

Currently Yemen Airways

flies to Bombay only in the east and Malaysia Airlines has yet to start its route to Yemen.

The Yemen minister also expressed interest to have further collaboration with Malaysia in the training of aviation personnel at the Malaysian Civil Aviation College.

Capt Saeed Abdullah was visiting Malaysia in response to an invitation by Dr Ling during his official visit to Yemen with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad last month.

It said both ministers discussed matters pertaining to transport and exchanged views on areas of mutual interest and benefits to both countries.

On maritime matters, both countries agreed in principle to enter into a "sister port

agreement" between Yemen Ports Authority and Klang Port Authority for information exchange, technical assistance, port studies and training for port workers.

The Yemen Ports Authority also offered Port Klang Authority to jointly develop and manage part of Aden Port, which was currently managed by Yemen Ports Authority.

"The ultimate focus would be on trade development between Yemen and Malaysia," it said.

Capt Saeed Abdullah said the market in Yemen was open to Malaysian businessmen.

He said many Malaysian products were found in his country but they were imported by a third country.

"One of the purposes of my visit is to have direct dealings with Malaysia," he added.