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Fuzy-Policy
WISMA PUTRA TO FURTHER POLISH SKILLS OF OFFICIALS

KUALA LUMPUR, July 3 (Bernama) -- Newly-appointed Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Datuk Ahmad Fuzy Abdul Razak said today that ministry officials and staff need to be fully prepared to effectively implement Malaysia's foreign policy in the face of the changing global scenario.

He said ministry-level human resource development would be given further emphasis to enable Wisma Putra to have capable officials to fulfil its role at various forums in upholding the interest of the country.

"There is a higher expectation on the part of the government with regard to the functions and roles that have to be played by the Foreign Ministry at various forums.

"And it is important that all of them are geared and trained well in order to play this important role as expected by the government," he told reporters here after a ceremony to mark the handing over of the post by Tan Sri Abdul Kadir Mohamad who ended his contract as secretary-general today.

Abdul Kadir is now contracted for two years as Ambassador-at-Large.

Ahmad Fuzy said ministry officials would need to cope with the challenges and demands of the time as the situation had changed at the global level.

The 52-year old diplomat who starts his new job tomorrow began his career at Wisma Putra on April 7, 1972. He had served in various capacities in Russia, the Netherlands, Australia and the United States.

During the ceremony earlier, he thanked the government, in particular Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, for their confidence in choosing him to succeed Abdul Kadir.

He described the appointment as an honour and pledged to give his best in undertaking his duties.

Ahmad Fuzy also said there would be a special event to pay tribute to his predecessor who chalked up a remarkable 33-year service with the ministry.

Meanwhile, Abdul Kadir told reporters that as ambassador-at-large, he would undertake special assignments as directed by the minister or the ministry.

"I don't have any particular portfolio, I do not head any particular division. But whenever the minister and the ministry consider they need somebody else other than the regular officers to undertake, then they can ask me to do it," he said.

Asked on his immediate task, Abdul Kadir said he would continue to work on defending Malaysia's rights over the islands of Sipadan and Ligitan which were disputed by Indonesia.

He was the country's agent at the International Court of Justice in The Hague where Kuala Lumpur objected to the intention of the Philippines to intervene in the Malaysia-Indonesia dispute over the sovereignty of the islands.

On his successor, Abdul Kadir said: "He is my good friend. He will do very well. I am one of those who recommended him."

The veteran diplomat's service with Wisma Putra took him, among others, to the United States, Vietnam, Belgium and Pakistan.

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