

# Malaysia and Russia mark 35 years of diplomatic relations

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KUALA LUMPUR: Senior Malaysian and Russian diplomatic officials gathered at the Russian Centre for Science and Culture here yesterday to commemorate the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two sides.

Malaysia-Russia diplomatic ties were established on April 3, 1967.

Among those present were Russian ambassador Vladimir Morozov and Wisma Putra's Under-Secretary of the Europe and Central Asia Division, Lily Zachariah.

Similar events were held by the Malaysian Embassy in Moscow.

Morozov said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit to Russia last month laid the foundation for closer bilateral co-operation between the two countries.

He said Dr Mahathir's visit was most successful and "had provided a very

positive resume of the developments in our bilateral relations."

Zachariah said that 35 years was not a long time but Malaysia and Russia "have come far" and forged significant relations within that span.

"From mainly defence co-operation, our relations are now multi-faceted.

"We are opening doors in the fields of science and technology, aerospace engineering, design engineering and education," she added.

In conjunction with the anniversary, the centre is holding a photograph-and-documents exhibition.

On display are photographs of visits of past and present Malaysian leaders to Russia and letters and documents on bilateral relations.

The exhibition will end on May 10. However, it will be closed from May 1-May 5.

Visiting hours are from 9am to 4pm.

The centre is located at 205, Lorong Ampang, off Jalan Ampang (Tel: 03-2144 4001).