



BA NEWSLETTER

Inside This Issue

- Ambassador's Message
- New Government of Malaysia
- Ambassador's Visit to Uruguay
- COVID-19 in Argentina
- COVID-19 Task Force Work
- ASEAN Activities
- Ambassador's Engagements
- Embassy's Activities
- Media Diplomacy
- PERWAKILAN BA
- Embassy's Contact



AMBASSADOR'S MESSAGE



Assalamualaikum WBT,

Bienvenidos to the 1st edition of BA Newsletter for the year 2020. The year has just began and all of us have already been tested with the unprecedented global outbreak crisis, COVID-19. I would like to begin with doa and prayers to Almighty Allah SWT to give us strength in going through this difficult time especially the frontlines who have worked day and night in battling the COVID-19 disease. No doubt, we the Diplomats are also the frontlines of our beloved nation and are ready to render our assistance and service for the people and country. Let's pray that all the humankind will come through this tough period together and succeed.

I would like to also take this opportunity to personally congratulate YAB Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Malaysia's 8th Prime Minister who was sworn-in on 1 March 2020. My warmest congratulations also to YB Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, our new Foreign Minister and YB Dato' Kamarudin Jaffar, our new Deputy Foreign Minister, both appointed on 9 March 2020. I know that our foreign policy will be well promoted and our national interest will be well protected under the able stewardship of our new leaders.

Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19 in Argentina, apart of the usual networking meeting in Argentina, I had the opportunity to travel to Uruguay to attend the Presidential Inauguration Ceremony of the new President Dr Luis Lacalle Pou. During the ceremony, I had expressed Malaysia's commitment in further strengthening the bilateral relations between Malaysia and Uruguay especially in trade and investment. While in Uruguay, I had meetings with the former Minister of Labour Uruguay, representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Uruguay and President of MERCOSUR-ASEAN Chamber of Commerce (MACC) Uruguay to explore ways to lift the bilateral relations between the two countries to a higher height. Uruguay could also be an opportunity for Malaysia to diversify its import and export trade.

As Argentina had implemented the mandatory quarantine since 20 March 2020, Embassy's main focus had been in providing consular assistance to Malaysians in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay. To date, Embassy had assisted 59 Malaysians who were here in Argentina on holiday, to leave the country on time and avoided any stranded Malaysians here. We share with you in this edition, some snippets of Malaysians who have managed to travel back home safely, after the border closure and mandatory quarantine in Argentina.

Despite this difficult situation, we hope to keep on flying high our Jalur Gemilang here in Argentina as well as in Paraguay and Uruguay. I hope you will enjoy reading our newsletter and wish it will give a glimpse of light to our life in facing this tough period.

Stay calm, healthy and indoor.

DATO' MOHD KHALID ABBASI ABDUL RAZAK
Ambassador

HON. TAN SRI MUHYIDDIN YASSIN SWORN IN AS MALAYSIA'S 8TH PRIME MINISTER

TAN SRI MUHYIDDIN YASSIN
8TH PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

Date of Birth : May 15, 1947



GOVERNMENT POSTS

- 1986-1995 : Johor Menteri Besar
- 1995-1999 : Youth & Sports Minister
- 1999-2004 : Domestic Trade & Consumer Affairs Minister
- 2004-2008 : Agriculture & Agro-Based Industry Minister
- 2008-2009 : International Trade & Industry Minister
- 2009-2015 : • Deputy Prime Minister
• Education Minister
- July 23, 2015 : Dropped in a Cabinet reshuffle
- May 12, 2018 - Feb 24, 2020 : Home Affairs Minister (under Pakatan Harapan government)

POLITICS

BERSATU

Sept 8, 2016 : Pro-tem President

Jan 14, 2017 : President

UMNO

- 1971 : Pagoh Division member
 - 1976 : • Pagoh Youth Chief
• Johor Youth Secretary
 - 1977-1980 : Johor Youth Deputy Chairman
 - 1980-1986 : Johor Youth Chairman
 - 1986-2016 : Pagoh Division Head
 - 1987-1993 : Supreme Council member
 - 1987-1996 : Johor Liaison Committee Chairman
 - 1993-1996 : Vice President
 - 2000-2007 : Vice President
 - 2000-2003 : Johor Liaison Committee Deputy Chairman
 - 2008-2016 : Deputy President
 - Feb 26, 2016 : Suspended as Deputy President until next party elections
 - June 24, 2016 : Sacked for indiscipline
- ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE
- 1978-1986 : Member of Parliament (MP) for Pagoh
 - 1986-1995 : Bukit Serampang Assemblyman
 - 1995-2018 : MP for Pagoh
 - 2018-now : MP for Pagoh (on Bersatu ticket)



Bernama Infographics



On 1 March 2020, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin took his oath of office as Malaysia's 8th Prime Minister before the HM King and Queen at Istana Negara, succeeding Tun Mahathir Mohamad.



DATUK KAMARUDIN JAAFAR
DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Age: 68

EDUCATION

- High school in Malay College Kuala Kangsar (MCKK), Perak.
- Bachelor of Political Science, University of Kent at Canterbury, United Kingdom.
- Master at University of London, United Kingdom.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- Assistant Secretary, Research Division, Prime Minister's Department.
- Lecturer in Political Science, National University of Malaysia (UKM).
- Chairman of Institute for Policy Research.
- Currently the Chairman of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians for Population and Development (AFPPD) Malaysia.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

(2018 -2020): Deputy Minister of Transport

PARLIAMENT

- Member of Parliament for Tumpat, Kelantan
- Member of Parliament for Bandar Tun Razak, Kuala Lumpur

DATUK SERI HISHAMMUDDIN TUN HUSSEIN
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Age: 58

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Laws (LLB), University of Wales, UK

Master of Laws (LLM) (Commercial & Corporate), London School of Economics, UK

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

- 1989-1993 : Lawyer, Skrine & Co
- Founded the Lee Hishammuddin law firm
- Director, Daiwa Securities Co Ltd
- 1991-1992 : Director, Zalik Bhd
- 1991-1995 : Director, Nanyang Press (M) Bhd
- Director, Ancom Bhd
- Executive director, Ekovest Bhd

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

- 1995-1997 : Parliamentary secretary, Ministry of International Trade & Industry
- 1997-1999 : Deputy Minister of Primary Industries
- 1999-2004 : Youth & Sports Minister
- 2004-2009 : Education Minister
- 2009-2013 : Home Affairs Minister
- 2013-2014 : Acting Transport Minister
- 2013-2017 : Defence Minister
- 2017-2018 : Minister with Special Functions in the Prime Minister's Department

PARLIAMENT

- 1995-2004 : Tenggara Member of Parliament
- Since 2004 : Sembrong Member of Parliament



POLITICAL ARENA

UMNO

- 1989 : Joined
- 1993-1995 : Ledang division Youth chief
- 1993-1996 : Youth executive council member
- 1995-1996 : Johor Youth chief
- 1995-1997 : Tenggara division Youth chief
- 1996-1998 : Youth vice chief
- 1998-2003 : Tenggara division chief
- Since 2003 : Sembrong division chief
- 2008-2011 : Terengganu liaison chairman
: Terengganu BN chairman
- 1999-2008 : Youth chief
- 2009-2018 : Vice president

Bernama Infographics



MINISTERS

 Senior Minister: International Trade & Industry Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali	 Senior Minister: Defence Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob	 Senior Minister: Works Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof	 Senior Minister: Education Dr Mohd Radzi Md Jidin	 Finance Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz	 Transport Datuk Seri Dr Wee Ka Siong	 Environment Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man	 Human Resources Datuk Seri M. Saravanan	 Federal Territories Tan Sri Annuar Musa	 Women & Family Datuk Seri Rina Mohd Harun	 Higher Education Datuk Dr Noraini Ahmad
 Energy & Natural Resources Datuk Dr Shamsul Anuar Nasarah	 Home Affairs Datuk Seri Hamzah Zainuddin	 Health Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba	 Agriculture & Food Industry Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiangdee	 Rural Development Datuk Dr Abd Latiff Ahmad	 Foreign Affairs Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein	 Domestic Trade & Consumer Affairs Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi	 Communications & Multimedia Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah	 Housing & Local Government Zuraida Kamaruddin	 Science, Technology & Innovation Khairy Jamaluddin	 Entrepreneur Development & Cooperatives Datuk Seri Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar
 Plantation Industries & Commodities Datuk Lim Ban Razali	 Tourism, Arts & Culture Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri	 National Unity Datuk Halimah Mohamed Sadique	 Youth & Sports Datuk Seri Reezal Merican Naina Merican	 Prime Minister's Department (Economy) Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed	 Prime Minister's Department (Special Functions) Datuk Seri Mohd Redzuan Md Yusof	 Prime Minister's Department (Parliament & Law) Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan	 Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affairs) Datuk Seri Dr Zulkifli Mohamad Al-Bakri	 Prime Minister's Department (Sabah & Sarawak Affairs) Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Johnny Ongkili		

DEPUTY MINISTERS

 International Trade & Industry Datuk Lim Ban Hong	 Defence Datuk Ikhmal Hisham Abdul Aziz	 Finance I Datuk Abd. Rahim Bakri	 Finance II Mohd Shahar Abdullah	 Works Datuk Dr Shahrudin Md Salleh	 Education I Datuk Dr Mah Hang Soon	 Education II Muslimin Yahaya	 Transport Hasbi Habibollah	 Environment Datuk Dr Ahmad Masrizal Muhammad	 Human Resources Awang Hashim	 Federal Territories Datuk Seri Dr Santhara Kumar
 Women & Family Datuk Siti Zailah Mohd Yusoff	 Higher Education Datuk Dr Mansor Othman	 Energy & Natural Resources Ali Anak Biju	 Home Affairs I Datuk Seri Dr Ismail Mohamed Said	 Home Affairs II Jonathan Yassin	 Health I Datuk Dr Noor Azmi Ghazali	 Health II Datuk Aaron Ago Dagang	 Agriculture & Food Industry I Datuk Seri Ahmad Hamzah	 Agriculture & Food Industry II Datuk Che Abdullah Mat Nawi	 Rural Development I Abdul Rahman Mohamad	 Rural Development II Datuk Henry Sum Agong
 Foreign Affairs Datuk Kamaruddin Jaffar	 Domestic Trade & Consumer Affairs Datuk Rosol Wahid	 Communications & Multimedia Datuk Zahidi Zainul Abidin	 Housing & Local Government Datuk Seri Ismail Abd Mutalib	 Science, Technology & Innovation Ahmad Amzad Hashim	 Entrepreneur Development & Cooperatives Datuk Mas Ermeyati Samsudin	 Plantation Industries & Commodities I Datuk Seri Dr Wee Jock Seng	 Plantation Industries & Commodities II Willie Anak Mongin	 Tourism, Arts & Culture Datuk Dr Jeffrey G. Kitingan	 National Unity Datuk Seri Tiong King Sing	 Youth & Sports Wan Ahmad Fayhsal Wan Ahmad Kamal
	 Prime Minister's Department (Economy) Arthur Joseph Kurup	 Prime Minister's Department (Special Functions) Datin Mastura Yazid	 Prime Minister's Department (Parliament & Law) Datuk Eddin Syazlee Shith	 Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affairs) Ahmad Marzuk Shaary	 Prime Minister's Department (Sabah & Sarawak Affairs) Datuk Hanifah Hajar Taib					

AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO URUGUAY



1st March. Ambassador Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak had the honour to represent HM King of Malaysia to the Presidential Inauguration Ceremony of Dr Luis Lacalle Pou in Uruguay. We look forward to further strengthening the warm & close relationship of Malaysia and Uruguay.



Uruguay is a country in the southeastern region of South America. It borders Argentina to its west and southwest and Brazil to its north and east, with the Río de la Plata to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the southeast. Uruguay is home to an estimated 3.45 million people, of whom 1.8 million live in the metropolitan area of its capital and largest city, Montevideo. With an area of approximately 176,000 square kilometers (68,000 sq mi), Uruguay is geographically the second-smallest nation in South America.



During the protocol greeting, the Ambassador conveyed His Majesty King of Malaysia & Prime Minister warm greetings and the continued commitment in strengthening the relations to a new height under the able stewardship of President Lacalle Pou.





February 29. During his stay in Montevideo, the Ambassador had dinner with Mr. Alvaro Alonso, a former Congressman; Senator and Minister of Labor of Uruguay. Both had in-depth and casual exchange of views on issues of mutual interests and certainly, Mr. Alvaro is now a new Friend of Malaysia.



1 March – Meeting and Dinner with Mr. Diego Martínez Prado and spouse. He is the President of MERCOSUR-ASEAN Chamber of Commerce (MACC) of Uruguay and well-known businessman.



Meeting with Mr. Marcelo Magnou, Officer in charge of Asia and Oceania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay

Ms. Florencia Di Bello, Liaison officer of Malaysia for the Inauguration ceremony



COVID-19 IN ARGENTINA



Following the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) declared by the WHO, the Argentinian Government implemented a social, preventive and mandatory isolation, by means of Decree No. 297/2020, which is in force as from the 00:00 hours of March 20, until March 31.

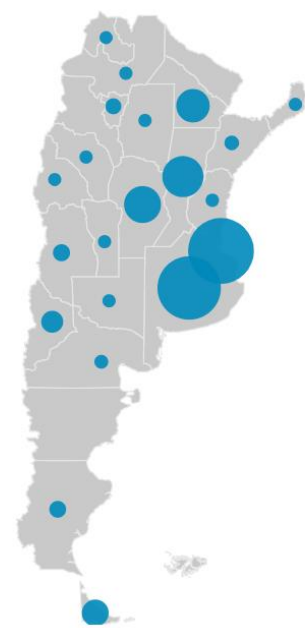
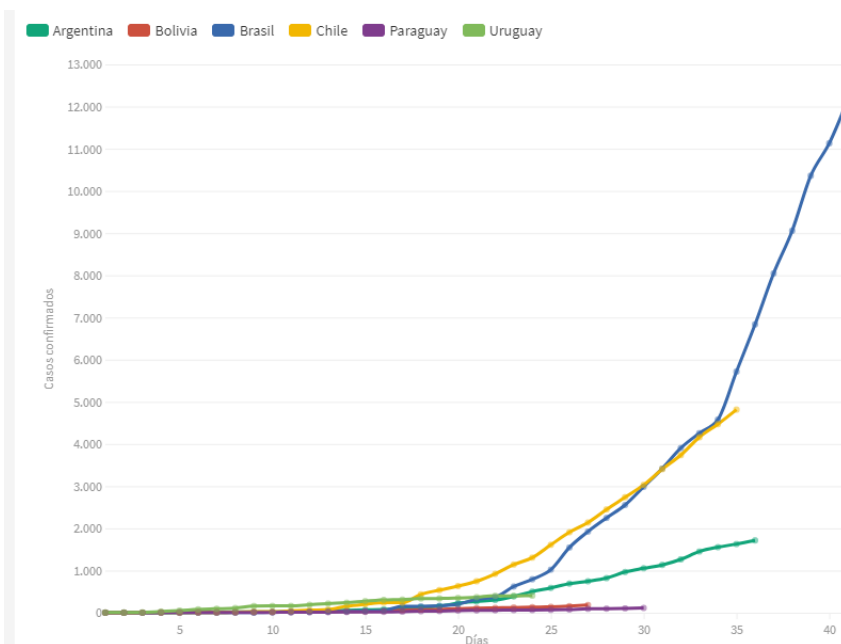
Control and security authorities shall verify compliance with Isolation Regime and, in case of noncompliance, they may order the immediate arrest and retention of vehicles that circulate in violation of the regime. Failure to comply with the isolation will also result in the promotion of criminal actions.

The Government expressed that the country is in a potential sanitary crisis that has no precedents, which requires extreme measures to preserve public health, and proposes the Isolation Regime as a measure that could avoid the massive propagation of the virus.

On March 30, the Isolation period was extended until April 12.

COVID-19 cases in Argentina, compared to bordering countries

Affected areas throughout the country



COVID-19 TASK FORCE WORK

Since 13 March 2020, HE Dato' Mohd. Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, Ambassador of Malaysia to Argentina has chaired the COVID-19 Daily Task Force Meeting to monitor the latest development of COVID-19 in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.



The meeting was also to keep track of Malaysians registered in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay as well as Malaysians who are visiting those countries for holiday. Through WhatsApp group, the Malaysians here are well informed about the development of COVID-19 in the three countries.

 Embassy of Malaysia Buenos Aires
23 March at 1:04 PM · 🌐

CONSULAR ASSISTANCE
Argentina has announced Mandatory Quarantine from 20 March until 31 March 2020. For any consular assistance, please kindly email us at mwbuenosaires@kln.gov.my or consular.malasia@fibertel.com.ar or contact the duty officers at this numbers:
00 (54911) 6165 3000
00 (54911) 3161 6070
00 (54911) 2570 6705

Embassy of Malaysia, Buenos Aires

ASISTENCIA CONSULAR
Argentina ha declarado la cuarentena obligatoria para sus habitantes del 20 de marzo hasta el 31 de marzo 2020. Para asistencia consular, por favor enviar un correo a mwbuenosaires@kln.gov.my o consular.malasia@fibertel.com.ar o contacte nuestros teléfonos de guardia:

00 (54911) 6165 3000
00 (54911) 3161 6070
00 (54911) 2570 6705

Embajada de Malasia, Buenos Aires

 You, Neeza Aniza and 4 others

3 shares

COVID-19 ALERT

Malaysians residing in Republic of Argentina, Republic of Paraguay and Oriental Republic of Uruguay are advised to immediately register with the Malaysian Embassy in Buenos Aires, Argentina

To register:
Email your particulars
NAME, GENDER, IC/PASSPORT NUMBER, CONTACT NUMBER & LOCATION to
mwbuenosaires@kln.gov.my

<https://www.kln.gov.my/web/guest/malaysian-mission>

WISMA PUTRA
Division of Communication and Public Diplomacy



KEDUTAAN BESAR MALAYSIA
BUENOS AIRES, REPUBLIK ARGENTINA

MAKLUMAN KEPADA RAKYAT MALAYSIA MENGENAI PENYEBARAN CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) DI ARGENTINA, URUGUAY DAN PARAGUAY

Dimaklumkan bahawa pada 3 Mac 2020, Kerajaan Argentina telah mengesahkan kes pertama COVID-19 di Argentina. Pesakit ialah seorang lelaki berusia 43 tahun yang baru pulang dari Milan, Italy pada ahad, 1 Mac melalui penerbangan Alitalia Airlines. Pesakit telahpun dirawat dan ditinggalkan di Swiss Clinic & Maternity Hospital di Avenue Pueyrredon, Recoleta. Manakala kes kedua telah disahkan pada khamis, 5 Mac yang melibatkan seorang lelaki berusia 23 tahun yang juga baru pulang dari Italy. Pesakit ini sedang dirawat dan dikuarantin di Sanatorio Otamendi Private Hospital, Recoleta.

Sehubungan dengan itu Kedutaan ingin menasihatkan supaya tuan/puan mengambil langkah-langkah pencegahan bagi menghadapi/membendung jangkitan COVID-19 ini seperti berikut:

- (i) Sentiasa mengamalkan tahap kebersihan diri yang tinggi dengan kerap mencuci tangan dengan air dan sabun atau pencuci tangan (*hand sanitizer*).
- (ii) Menutup mulut dan hidung dengan tisu ketika bersin atau batuk dan sentiasa membawa bersama penutup mulut dan hidung (*mask*) serta pencuci tangan (*hand sanitizer*).
- (iii) Elakkan mengunjungi tempat tumpuan ramai dan bergaul rapat dengan mana-mana individu yang mempunyai gejala penyakit.
- (iv) Segera mendapatkan rawatan perubatan sekiranya jatuh sakit (iaitu mengalami gejala jangkitan saluran pernafasan seperti demam, batuk mahupun kesukaran untuk bernafas) dalam tempoh 14 hari selepas pulang dari lawatan ke tempat yang ada berlaku penyebaran wabak tersebut. Maklumkan mengenai sejarah perjalanan berkenaan kepada doktor yang merawat.
- (v) Memantau perkembangan semasa dan mematuhi langkah-langkah pencegahan seperti arahan Kerajaan Tempatan.

Untuk sebarang pertanyaan dan maklumat lanjut sila berhubung dengan Kedutaan Besar Malaysia di Buenos Aires seperti berikut:
 Talian pejabat: +54 11 47760504/2553
 Emel: mbu@buenosaires.kln.gov.my

Kedutaan Besar Malaysia, Buenos Aires
 Republik Argentina

Tarikh: 6 Mac 2020

LANGKAH-LANGKAH MELINDUNGI DIRI ANDA dan orang lain daripada Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

- 1** Selalu mengamalkan tahap kebersihan diri yang tinggi seperti kerap mencuci tangan dengan menggunakan air dan sabun atau bahan pencuci tangan (*hand sanitizer*)
- 2** Semasa dalam tempoh lawatan ke tempat-tempat yang berlaku wabak ini (jika perjalanan tidak dapat dielakkan)
 - Sentiasa membawa bersama penutup mulut dan hidung (*mask*) serta bahan pencuci tangan (*hand sanitizer*)
 - Elakkan dari melawat ke ladang haiwan, pasar yang menjual haiwan hidup, tempat sembelihan haiwan atau menyembuh sebarang jenis haiwan
 - Elakkan dari memakan sebarang produk haiwan yang mentah/ tidak dimasak dengan sempurna
- 3** Segera mendapatkan rawatan perubatan sekiranya jatuh sakit (iaitu mengalami gejala jangkitan saluran pernafasan seperti demam, batuk mahupun kesukaran untuk bernafas) dalam tempoh 14 hari selepas pulang dari lawatan tersebut. Bagitu juga, maklumkan mengenai sejarah perjalanan berkenaan kepada doktor yang merawat.

Sumber: CPKC Kelantan

KURANGKAN RISIKO JANGKITAN NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-nCoV):

- 1.** Tutup mulut dan hidung menggunakan tisu apabila batuk dan bersin. Buang tisu yang telah digunakan ke dalam tong sampah.
- 2.** Kerap cuci tangan menggunakan air dan sabun atau bahan pencuci tangan (*hand sanitizer*).
- 3.** Pakai penutup mulut dan hidung (*mask*) apabila terpaksa berhubung / berurusan dengan orang lain.
- 4.** Pastikan anda menjaga kebersihan diri sepanjang masa.

Logos: MHA, MHEALTH, myhalal.gov.my

The Embassy team was able to facilitate and assist our fellow Malaysians who were here for vacation to depart safely back home.



'Great acts are made up of small deeds...'



3:52

Esteban Consular

Ok 3:46 PM

Forwarded

Thank you Esteban for all your valuable help for the past few days. Please thank all your other colleagues who was helping us all along and also say thank you to the Ambassador for us too. We really appreciate all your help and the Malaysian Mission here in Buenos Aires. This is the 1st hand experience we had with any of our Embassy in the world, and I travelled almost every month everywhere for my holidays. Now we really know what kind of valuable work all of you are doing.

Ok tq 3:51 PM ✓

Re: Safe Journey Back Home

Thank You so much! Dato! I felt like I came back from hell just to find a ticket to go home awhile ago. Thank You for making sure I was well off to get a ticket home!

But I was lucky to have Esteban with me...he keep WhatsApp me and calling me like 9 hours until he helped to get a ticket.

I was here for my Antarctica expedition, they cancelled it a day before, I was already at Ushuaia. Then I try to fly out from BA, they stopped me for not staying 14 days. And I have rebooked my KLM flight on 25th March, they cancelled it without telling me. Do you know how difficult to reach them.

My mistake was I did not contact Malaysia Embassy earlier.

I'm proud of you lead a fabulous Embassy team here. More efficient than any ministry in Malaysia I've ever known.

Muchas Gracias!!!

I wish you and everyone all well too! Take Care! How can I forget all of you. Thanks again!

Huck

ASEAN ACTIVITIES



Handing over of ACBA Chairmanship

22 Jan. Handing over of ASEAN Committee in Buenos Aires (ACBA) chairmanship from The Philippines to Vietnam and Luncheon hosted by the outgoing chair Madam Lingling.



On 5 March 2020, H.E Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, Ambassador attended the 14th ACBA Meeting chaired by Ambassador of Vietnam. The meeting discussed on program of works and also the forthcoming event which is Fiesta de ASEAN on 15 March 2020.



AMBASSADOR'S ENGAGEMENTS



Feb. 14. Ambassador met H.E. Pablo Anselmo Tettamanti, Deputy Foreign Minister, MOFA Argentina. They discussed on the strategic partnership & collaboration in areas of technical cooperation, services, tourism and sports.



Feb. 27. The Ambassador met Amb. Jorge Neme, the new Secretary of International Economic Relations, MFA Argentina. They had fruitful exchanges on elevating both countries trade and investment relations by way of diversification and working on possible Public-Private Partnerships in areas such as food industry, services and hospitality.



March 10. Ambassador made a demarche by meeting the Undersecretary of Foreign Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentina to inform about the recent political developments in Malaysia. Ambassador emphasised that the political transition process was done in accordance with the Constitution and Malaysia's foreign policy remains unchanged and business as usual.



Networking gathering and bowling hangout hosted by Ambassador with his colleagues of the OIC group in BA.



Ambassador attended the Presentation of the Book 'El Majlis Global' (dialogue between cultures) by HE Hamad Al-Kawari, Minister of State of Qatar at University of Belgrano, BA.

Ambassador received Mr. Alejandro Namandú - Head of Diplomatic Police and his team at the Chancery. They had interactive exchanges on issues of mutual concerns and the overall law & order including security matters of the embassy.

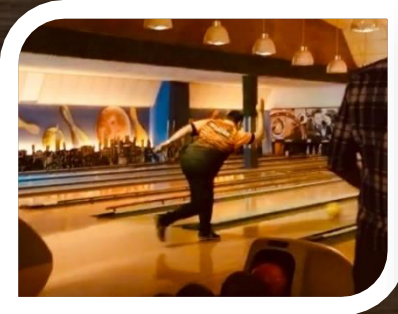


Ambassador Khalid with Ambassador Jorge Argüello, a well-respected diplomat and scholar of Argentina. He is the new Ambassador of Argentina to Washington and presented his credentials to the President of the USA on 17 Feb recently.



Qatar Sports Day 2020

Ambassador attended the Qatar Sports Day 2020 and emerged as the Inaugural Champion of Men Bowling games. He also walked away with the top prize for one of the two lucky draws winners.



Call by Mr. Juan Jose Aguero, CEO of SCOMI Argentina. They discussed on SCOMI projects in Argentina and the way forward



Networking Meeting with Mr. Patricio DeGiorgis, Director, Centre of International Studies, University of Belgrano. The Embassy will be working with the University for our Public Diplomacy programs and also promotion of VM2020



Ambassador received a Visit and Briefing by Head of Petronas in Argentina.

Networking Meeting with President Global of Mercosur-ASEAN Chamber of Commerce (MACC) – The Ambassador discussed and exchanged views with Mr. Rodolfo Caffaro Kramer on the program of works (POW) for the year consisting on beef exportation, wheat processing and water treatment facility.



Ambassador had a business meeting with DEVESA Argentina, the company approved by Malaysia Government to export halal frozen beef to Malaysia from January 2020 onwards.



Ambassador Khalid honoured a Lunch invitation by Amb. Hackett from Australia inviting the new Secretary of Economic Policies, Ministry of Economy, Argentina.

Ambassador Khalid held a business luncheon with Mr. Juan Carlos Fernandez, the CEO of IMPSA Argentina. They discussed and exchanged views on the possible strategic alliances that includes new business opportunities and technological exchange regarding energy generation between Malaysia and IMPSA. The company has been present in Malaysia since 1989 and was a key player in the Bakún project in Sarawak, including the upgrading of the new hydraulic & mechanical design of the Tenom Pangi Hydroelectric Power Station.



Ambassador Khalid chaired the first HBS and LRS Meetings of 2020



Ambassador Khalid chaired the ASEAN Bazaar Preparatory Meeting



EMBASSY ACTIVITIES

Celebrating Chinese New Year in Buenos Aires with the embassy officers and family at Mr and Mrs Khoo residence at Canning Ezeiza, an hour drive from downtown. We experienced the colourful lunar celebration beginning from the lighting of firecrackers, tossing of Yee Sang and enjoying the varieties of CNY vegetarian dishes. Thank you to the host as we have really enjoyed the day especially the young Malaysians who had the opportunity to enrich their knowledge of an important multicultural celebration of Malaysia, unity in diversity.



MEDIA DIPLOMACY



Ambassador Dato Khalid had his first media engagement for the year, interviewed by Mr. Rogelio Peloso and Ms. Maria Laura Arano from AmbitoInternacional.com at the Chancery. He talked about the state of bilateral relations, trade performance in 2019, the breakthrough of beef exportation, Visit Malaysia Year 2020 and the Embassy program of works for this year. The session ended with refreshments.



An excellent piece by Mr. Rogelio Peloso and Ms. Maria Laura Arano from Ambitointernacional.com on Ambassador's interview on Malaysia specially on the Visit Malaysia 2020.

The news can be viewed via this link:

<http://ambitointernacional.com/visit-malaysia-2020/>

Ámbito Internacional

LAST NEWS CULTURE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ARGENTINA IN THE WORLD FOREIGN EMBASSIES TOURISM ABOUT US

FOREIGN EMBASSIES

Visit Malaysia 2020

This year occupies a very special place in the heart of the Malays

ENTREVISTA AL EMBAJADOR DE MALASIA

3 millones de Indonesia, 1 millón de Tailandia, 2 millones de China, este año se espera que sean 4 millones.

To know Malaysia is to love Malaysia. Multiculturalism has not only made Malaysia a gastronomic paradise, it has also made it home to hundreds of colorful festivals. No wonder they love to celebrate and socialize. As a people, the Malays are very relaxed, warm and friendly.

Geographically, Malaysia is as diverse as its culture. It is divided into 13 states and 3 Federal Territories, separated into two regions by the South China Sea: Peninsular Malaysia with 11 states and 2 federal territories (Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya) and East Malaysia with 2 states and 1 federal territory (Labuan).

One of the main attractions of the country are its extreme contrasts. The towering skyscrapers allow you to observe wooden houses built on stilts, and there are five-star hotels that are several meters away from ancient coral reefs. In the highlands there are quiet shelters that allow you to reach warm sandy beaches and lush wet mangroves.

Visit Malaysia Year 2020 - "Truly visit Asia Malaysia"

The year 2020 occupies a special place in the heart of the Malays, with VMY 2020 ready to become a year-round holiday event. With the chosen theme "Visit Truly Asia Malaysia", a lot of exciting and lively events have been organized to bring to light all the abundant offers of Malaysia in terms of art, culture, cuisine, history and natural beauty.

The multicolored logo for VMY 2020 not only represents the richness of the flora and fauna of Malaysia, but also symbolizes cultural diversity, presenting the iconic rhinoceros, the red hibiscus as our national flower and wild ferns. Meanwhile, the official theme of VMY 2020, a fusion of traditional musical elements and modern melodies, adds an optimistic feeling to the promotion of this memorable event, which we celebrate with great pride and joy.

Visit Malaysia Year (VMY) was first launched in 1990 with the theme "Fascinating Malaysia. Year of festivals". The campaign was a great success with Malaysia recording 7.4 million tourist arrivals compared to 4.8 million in 1989. To allow tourists to easily recognize Malaysia, an orangutan, an endangered species found in eastern Malaysia, was used as a pet and was called Wira. Meanwhile, the famous Kuala Lumpur monument, the Sultan Abdul Samad building, appeared as the official VMY 1990 logo. Malaysian Independence Day celebrated on August 31 of that year was the anchor of 84 important events, 14 festivals and nine vibrant exhibits.

In photos Infobae 18/02/2020- The Ambassador of Malaysia HE Mohd Khalid Abbasi Bin Abdul Razak was the winner of the Bowling Tournament of Qatar Sports Day and received the prize from the Ambassador of Qatar, H.E. Battal M. Al Dosari. The news was published by Infoebae via this link:

<https://www.infobae.com/vidriera/2020/02/18/30-fotos-de-la-celebracion-del-dia-nacional-del-deporte-del-estado-de-qatar/>

infobae

El embajador de Malasia, Mohd Khalid Abbasi Bin Abdul Razak, fue el ganador del torneo de bowling y recibió su premio de manos del embajador del Estado de Qatar, S.E. Battal M. Al Dosari /// Fotos: Gentileza embajada del Estado de Qatar en la Argentina

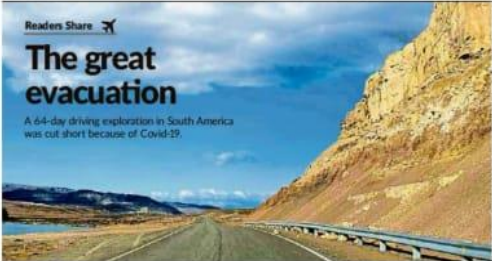
Testimony by one of the Malaysians stranded in Argentina, who could go back home with the assistance of the Embassy

Star2 Sat, 04 Apr 2020
By KENNETH FOO

The great evacuation

A 64-day driving exploration in South America was cut short because of Covid-19.

IN early March, 10 of us – all above 60 years of age – flew to Buenos Aires, Argentina for an epic two-month road trip.



the drive through Santa Cruz before lockdown began in Argentina. – photos: Felicia LEE and KENNETH FOO

Once we arrived at the airport, we picked up two cars and started on our journey to Valdes Peninsula, a Patagonian nature reserve on the coast of Argentina known for marine animals like orcas, whales, Magellanic penguins and more. It is also a Unesco World Heritage Site.

On our first day at the reserve we were greeted by herds of guanacos (a local llama) and rheas (distant relative of the ostrich), both of which are native to South America. We stopped at Punta Norte to see schools of elephant seals and sea lions, hanging out with birds. Apparently, this was their breeding ground; the orcas come here to feed too.

We also went to Punta Tombo, known for its vast colony of Magellanic penguins. We walked on trails and boardwalks woven across the terrain full of shrubs and burrows where the penguins normally rest.

More than a million of them would come to this place each year to breed. We were told that the peak visiting period is between September and mid-march, although the best time to go is

November, when the “babies” are usually born.

Just a 50-minute drive away from our city base of Puerto Madryn is Trelew, where you can find the Museum of Palaentology Egidio Feruglio, a scientific research and exhibition centre focusing on the fossil remains of Patagonian flora and fauna. We caught an exhibit on the biggest carnivore, the Giganotosaurus Carolinni, which was found near Villa el Chocon and said to be 97 million years old!

We also went to Gaiman, a riverside town colonised by Welsh settlers in the 19th century. This town is dotted with traditional tea houses serving pastries and torta negra, a local version of the traditional Welsh fruitcake.

Our next highlight was El Chalten and El Calafate at Los Glaciares National Park, the gateway to several trails surrounding the peaks of Cerro Torre and Mount Fitz Roy to the northwest, and home of the massive Perito Moreno Glacier. El Chalten is about 1,400km from Puerto Madryn so we stopped for the night at Caleta Olivia before continuing on the next morning.

When we finally arrived, we went on an easy trek up to Mirador de los Condores for a spectacular panoramic views of El Chalten, its surrounding snowcapped mountains and Viedma Lake.

The next day, we began our biggest challenge of the trip – an 18km trek (return) to the popular Laguna Cerro Torre to see the breaking of the glaciers. We started at 7am and by 11am, we had already reached the glacial lake. The weather was excellent that day and we could see the glacial mountain top of Cerro Fitz Roy and

beautiful views over the river valley to Cerro Torre, the tallest of the three peaks.

The beginning of the end

After that, we drove to El Calafate. We were looking forward to seeing the massive Perito Moreno Glacier and its spectacular icy landscape, when our nightmare began. Just 8km to the town, we came across a police roadblock. We thought it was a regular roadblock but it wasn't.

We had a lot of problems communicating with the police as they could only speak Spanish. After an hour of waiting, we were told that we had to be placed under quarantine. We would be escorted back to our hotel, but all the police officers were busy doing the same thing to many other tourists, so we had to wait for about three hours at the checkpoint.

At the hotel, we waited for an officer to turn up and take our temperature but nobody came. On Day Two of our "quarantine", the receptionist told us to check out as they had been instructed to close and all guests had to leave.

She directed us to some apartments that were approved by the authorities for foreign guests to stay in temporarily. We quickly booked to stay there for a few nights but upon checking in, we were informed that Argentina was under full lockdown and that we could only stay for two nights.

We contacted the Malaysian embassy immediately and we were advised to fly back to Kuala Lumpur as soon as possible. After much difficulty, our leader managed to book flights for all of us on Qatar Airways, departing on March 22.

Before we could fly out, though, we had to sort out so many things. We were almost 3,000km away from Buenos Aires and had to return our rented cars at the airport there. We had no choice but to drive back.

We had planned to make stops at Comodoro Rivadavia and Bahia Blanca to rest. The Malaysian embassy was very helpful and sent us an official letter stating that the 10 of us were driving to Ezeiza International Airport in Buenos Aires for our flight on March 22, which we had to show to local authorities if we were stopped.

We went to the El Calafate Hospital to get our temperatures taken and a clearance certificate to say that we were fit to fly. At the first checkpoint out of El Calafate, we showed the police our letters and certificate and were allowed to pass through.

There were numerous other checkpoints along the way; only then did we realise just how serious things had gotten. All the shops were closed and there was nobody in sight, except for police and army personnel. Thankfully, petrol stations were still opened.

Also, only certain public toilets were opened and as we got closer to the towns, we were not even allowed to step out of our cars.

After 13 hours on the road, we arrived at Comodoro Rivadavia and went to the hotel we had booked earlier. However, the police did not allow us to check in and were told that we must continue our drive, which was another 1,700km away!

The officer at the Malaysian embassy even spoke to the police, but without success. We were forced to continue our journey. Two hours later, we found a trailer site at a petrol station and thought we could call it a night there, sleeping in our cars. Within minutes of parking, however, a police car came and forced us back on to the road.

Blessings were finally upon us when we arrived at Trelew at 12.40am. The town was under curfew from midnight to 7am, therefore we were not allowed to pass through. The police directed us to an open area to park our cars until the curfew ended.

During this whole ordeal, the officer at the Malaysian embassy stayed in constant contact with our tour leader. At about 9pm, our tour leader received a call from the officer. He had managed to book us into an “approved” accommodation. It was the best news we had heard for a while! After being on the road for 35 hours, the thought of having a comfortable bed to sleep on and a place to wash up and have a hot meal (even if it was just instant noodles) was so welcoming.

The next day at the airport, we took a group photo and sent it to the Malaysian embassy in Buenos Aires, thanking them for helping us all the way. Almost immediately after sending the photo, we received a personal text from the ambassador, Datuk Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, wishing us a safe journey home. This was the first time that we’d contacted our embassy in a foreign land, and we were touched by their personal care and attention. Three cheers to our ambassador in Argentina and his team!

We’re grateful, thankful and touched by all their help. Special thanks goes to Ahmad Shazril and especially Esteban who was in contact with us throughout our drive.

All of us arrived safely home on March 25 and are now under self-quarantine and observing Malaysia’s own movement control order. We are blessed to be safe at home, and we spare a thought for those still stranded in foreign lands. The views expressed are the reader’s own.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

What is it? Avoiding large crowds + gatherings (~25+ people).

Why does it matter? It may help limit the spread of a contagious disease like COVID-19.

Have to go out? Keep 6 feet of distance between you + others whenever possible.



PERWAKILAN BA

MESYUARAT AGUNG TAHUNAN PERWAKILAN BUENOS AIRES SESI 2020/2021

Pada 23 Januari 2020, PERWAKILAN Buenos Aires telah berjaya mengadakan Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan PERWAKILAN Buenos Aires bagi Sesi 2020/2021 di Kedutaan. Mesyuarat telah dirasmikan oleh TYT. Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak selaku Penasihat PERWAKILAN BA dan seterusnya mesyuarat dipengerusikan oleh YBhg. Datin Aniza Mohamad Tamil, Pengerusi PERWAKILAN Buenos Aires. Semua ahli berpakat membawa 'potluck' bagi jamuan makan tengahari setelah mesyuarat selesai sekitar jam 12.30 tengahari.

Sekalung penghargaan dan ucapan tahniah kepada ahli jawatankuasa pelaksana Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan PERWAKILAN Buenos Aires Ke-3 di atas usaha dan kerjasama bagi menjayakan mesyuarat.



KELAS BIMBINGAN MALAYSIA KE-2 – PENDEDAHAN TENTANG SAMBUTAN TAHUN BARU CINA DAN KENALI TUMBUH-TUMBUHAN DAN BUAH-BUAHAN YANG POPULAR DI MALAYSIA

Pada 26 Januari 2020, sempena perayaan Tahun Baru Cina, PERWAKILAN Buenos Aires mengambil kesempatan kali ini dengan mengadakan Kelas Bimbingan Malaysia Bil. 2 yang telah berlangsung di kediaman En. Khoo & Puan Chong Li Chin di Canning, Buenos Aires.



Pada awalnya, kedatangan kami disambut meriah dengan dentuman bunga api dan seterusnya pihak tuan rumah menjamu kami dengan Yee Sang, Kue Tiow Goreng, Vegetarian Shark Fin Soup dan Kueh-Mueh. Kemudian, anak-anak diberi pendedahan tentang Sambutan Tahun Baru Cina dan seterusnya sesi mengenali tumbuh-tumbuhan dan buah-buahan dimulakan dengan melawat kebun sayur di sekitar kawasan kediaman.



COFFEE MORNING HOSTED BY MEMBERS OF PETRONAS IN BUENOS AIRES

On 18 February 2020, PERWAKILAN Buenos Aires was invited by members of PETRONAS in Buenos Aires to a Coffee Morning Session that was held at Mrs. Hajar's Residence. The objective is to get-together and to welcome new members of PETRONAS and family to Buenos Aires. Everybody enjoyed eating Nasi Lemak, Mee Goreng and a few types of dessert that was so delicious. At the end, we took a group photo with all members.



EMBASSY CONTACTS**Website:**

https://www.kln.gov.my/web/arg_buenos-aires

**Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/MYembassyBA/>

**Twitter:**

<https://twitter.com/myembassyba>

**Contact:**

Tel: (+5411) 4776 0504

Fax: (+5411) 4776 0604

**Email:**

mwbuenosaires@kln.gov.my