



# CIAO MALAYSIA

EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA, ITALY | ISSUE 1/2020



## GREETINGS FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF MALAYSIA TO THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY

Assalamualaikum dan Buongiorno to all,

It is my hope that everyone is in the best of health and safe particularly during the upcoming August summer holidays.

We are living in unprecedented time in history. The COVID-19 pandemic has altered the ways in how we live and function as individuals and as a community. For the Malaysian Embassy in Italy, this year has been challenging and at the same time fruitful especially in organization of our activities as well as for our daily operations of the Embassy which includes our important role of cultivating close, significant and mutually beneficial relations with our friends and stakeholders. Diplomacy, as we all know is very much dependent on face-to face meetings and being physically present which we are unable to at this juncture. In facing this new environment, we transformed our methods and platform for function and embarked on the new norm of delivery.

In keeping with this new norm, digitalization has become an essential part of our platform in carrying out our task, especially in engaging with Malaysians in Italy and our stakeholders. We have to be dynamic and embrace these changes to remain relevant. I am happy to say that we have adapted successfully to this new norm and continue to receive support and cooperation from all our stakeholders, Malaysians and friends of Malaysia including the ASEAN and Italian community in Italy. I would like to assure you that we are committed to continue to carry out our mandate effectively and professionally to serve all our stakeholders as well as the Malaysian community and to further enhance our close bilateral relations with Italy in all platforms particularly in post Covid-19 era.

We were achieved successful outcomes in the first half of the year, by establishing the Malaysia-Italy Business Chambers based in Padoa as well as to coordinate the successful virtual High Level Dialogue on Economic Relations between Italy and ASEAN countries to name a few, at the bilateral and multilateral level. We have also continued to engage with our Malaysian community which is an integral part of our support system in Italy. We continued to engage with our key stakeholders both at the Governmental, private sector and the Italian community which we hope to further intensify as we enter into the post Covid-19 period. The strengthening of cooperation and activities in key areas of trade and investment, tourism and culture, education, and people to people contact is important to both nations as we move forward in order to achieve greater growth and development of our nations.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Embassy, to extend our deepest appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Italy and to the Malaysians in Italy for the support and best wishes to us during this period. The support and cooperation of the Government of Malaysia and Italy led the Foreign Ministries of Italy and Malaysia was crucial in the successful repatriation of Malaysians to Malaysia.

I would like to once again to advise all of us to adhere to the important safety guidelines such as social distancing, wearing of masks and regular washing of hands. The Italian Government successful management of combating the COVID-19 pandemic through the Government's policy and decrees has seen the improvement of the situation in Italy. I would like to urge that all of us in Italy follow and respect closely these regulations as we move forward towards a community and world safe from COVID-19.

We have prepared some snippets on our activities in the first half of the year for your viewing pleasure.

Cari Saluti. Stammi Benne!  
Dato' Abdul Malik Melvin Castelino  
Ambassador

# Highlights

## ASEAN AMBASSADOR MEETING & LUNCHEON



**ROME, 23 January** – H.E. Dato' Abdul Malik Melvin, Ambassador of Malaysia hosted the ASEAN Committee in Rome (ACR) monthly meeting and luncheon at the Embassy of Malaysia. The Guest of Honour for the luncheon was H.E. Elisabetta Belloni, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The Deputy Director General, Mrs. Gabriella Biondi was also present during the luncheon.



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## MALAYSIAN GATHERING

For Chinese New Year & New Year 2020



**ROME, 26 January** - In conjunction with the Chinese New Year & New Year 2020 celebrations the Embassy hosted a gathering with Malaysians in Italy & Friends of Malaysia at Rumah Malaysia. The guests had the opportunity to toss the 'Yee Sang' & enjoy the traditional Malaysian cuisine. The Ambassador also delivered his remarks and launched the Visit Malaysia Year 2020

## LUNCHEON WITH HON. NICOLA STUMPO

Parliamentarian at the Italian Chamber of Commerce



**ROME, 28 January** – H.E. Dato' Abdul Malik hosted Hon. Nicola Stumpo and wife at the Rumah Malaysia. The working lunch was to discuss on the formation of the Italy-Malaysia Parliamentary Association which would be led by Hon. Stumpo.

## EXERCISE & GOTONG ROYONG By Embassy and PERWAKILAN LADIES

**ROME, 29 January** – Embassy of Malaysia together with Perwakilan Ladies organized an exercise session with all the officers and staff at the Embassy with their families.



## ROMA TRAVEL SHOW 30 Jan to 2 Feb 2020



The Embassy of Malaysia participated in the Rome Travel Show from 30 January 2020 till 2 February 2020. During the show, many visitors were curious about Malaysia and showed much interest to travel to Malaysia. H.E. Dato' Malik also launched the Visit Malaysia Year 2020 at the event.

## BIT MILANO

**Milan, 9-10 February 2020-** H.E. Dato' Malik participated in the annual Borse Internazionale Turismo (BIT) Milano together with Mr. Mohd Libra, Director of Tourism Malaysia, Paris and Ms. Vincenza Adreni, Tourism Malaysia representative Milan. The event was very successful and managed to garner interest from the visitor and tour operators.



## SCHOOL ADOPTION At Liceo Scientifico Democrito



**ROME, 14 Feb** – H.E Dato' Malik delivered remarks and launched the School Adoption Programme 2020 at Liceo Scientifico Democrito. The officers at the Embassy followed on by presenting on Malaysia.

# WORKING VISIT BY SECRETARY GENERAL MINISTRY OF MINISTER OF WATER, LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

YBhg. Datuk Zurinah Pawanteh



**ROME, 23 February 2020-** YBhg. Datuk Zurinah Pawanteh, Secretary General of the Ministry of Water, Air and Soil undertook a working visit to Rome to attend the . The Secretary General also visited the Embassy of Malaysia.

## TASK FORCE FOR REPATRIATION OF MALAYSIANS FROM ITALY

The Embassy of Malaysia to Italy and Embassy of Malaysia to the Holy See jointly established the task force to coordinate the repatriation exercise of Malaysian citizens from Italy. The Task Force was led by TYT Dato' Abdul Malik Melvin Castelino and TYT Ambassador Westmoreland Palon.



## REPATRIATION OF MALAYSIANS FROM ITALY

**25 March, ROME-** The Embassy of Malaysia to Italy and the Embassy of Malaysia to the Holy See organized a Joint Task Force to repatriate Malaysians in Italy back to Malaysia. Due to the COVID-19 situation in Italy, the Malaysian government repatriated 88 Malaysians and their dependants from Italy on 25 March 2020. Upon arrival in Malaysia, all 88 persons had to undergo the mandatory quarantine. The Embassy would like to thank Wisma Putra, NADMA, Air Asia and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their cooperation in this exercise.





## Malaysian Diplomatic Equipment Stockpile (MDES)

ROME,



The Ambassador of Malaysia and officers at the Embassy would like to thank the Foreign Minister of Malaysia, the Deputy Foreign Minister of Malaysia, the Secretary General and the staff of Wisma Putra for the contributions in terms of mask, gloves and hand sanitizers received.

We would also like to thank our Malaysians in Italy for their kind and gracious support in providing the above items as well for the Embassy personnels.



# Activities & WEBINARS



ITALIA-ASEAN organized a webinar session on 'Malaysia during the Covid-19 emergency' on 18 May 2020. The webinar was moderated by H.E. Enrico Letta, President of Italy-ASEAN Association and the panelist are H.E. Zuraidah Kamaruddin, Malaysian Minister of Housing and Local Government and Mr. Giovanni Andrea Toselli, President and CEO of PwC Italy.



The Embassy of Malaysia in Rome and Vatican City on Hari Raya Aidiladha.



School adoption programme continues virtually. During this session, the Embassy shared on the COVID-19 measures taken in Malaysia to manage the pandemic.

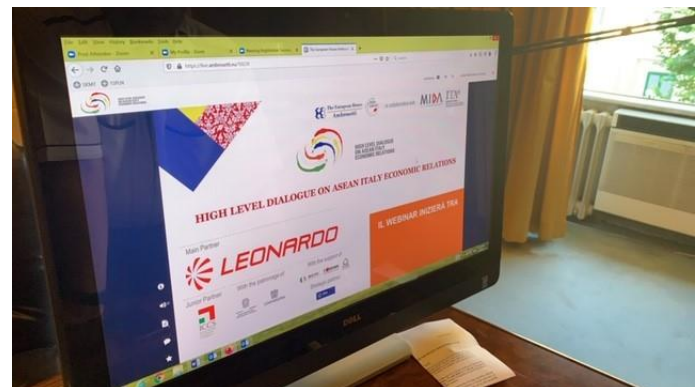


The Embassy of Malaysia bid farewell to Mr Ahmad Zamri Rabaiee, Third Secretary who completed his 3 years tenure in Italy.

We wish you all the best, Zamri!



The Ambassador participated in the Malaysia-Turin Business Forum on 15 July to promote Malaysia-Turin economic relations.



The Ambassador participated in the virtual ASEAN-Italy High Level Dialogue held on 2 July 2020, organized by MIDA and the European house-Ambrosett. The physical event is scheduled to be held in Kuala Lumpur in 2021.



The Ambassador and officers engaging with Malaysian coordinators in various regions in Italy such as Liguria, Lombardia, Lazio, Piemonte, Veneto and Tuscany to get information on their situation. All Malaysians are safe and taking the necessary precautions.



The Ambassador and officers packing mask to be distributed to all Malaysians residing in Italy.

## We're on social media!



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**@Embassvof MalaysiaRome**

embassyofmalysiarome ▾ ☰



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Official account of the Embassy of Malaysia to the Republic of Italy, Republic of Kosovo & Republic of San Marino.  
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Official Twitter for Embassy of Malaysia, Italy. The Embassy is also concurrently accredited to the Republic of Kosovo, Republic of San Marino, UN FAO & WFP

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Consulate & Embassy

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