



Embassy of Malaysia, Warsaw, Poland E-Newsletter

April - Jun 2020

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Message from Ambassador

My sincere wishes and greetings of Salam Aidil Fitri to all Muslim Malaysians in Poland and other Malaysians including the Home Based Staff and their family members, colleagues, and friends in Malaysia and abroad, celebrating Hari Raya Aidil Fitri during the lockdown. All of us felt the silent sadness within each and every one whom could not travel home to see their parents and other family members to rejoice the usual celebrations. Malawakil Warsaw hosted a humble celebration in a smaller scale among a few students and a small group of Malaysians in Warsaw. Despite the lockdown, Malawakil Warsaw kept the tradition during the month of Ramadhan, in contributing to the needy during the fasting month. However, this year was the first time that Iftar was postponed due to the restriction under lockdown.

Quarter 2/2020 continued to test us in better managing the outbreak of the Covid-19 crisis. Since the pandemic outbreak and lockdown in early March 2020, Malawakil Warsaw has been actively assisting Malaysians in Poland and Lithuania to return home safely to Malaysia. Malawakil while functioning remotely had also continued to render assistance to the Malaysian community, providing advice, issued verification letters to ease the border crossing to Germany, London and Doha for all Malaysians, facilitated on additional assistance for those facing travel difficulties, consular services and provided regular updates on latest developments, policies and regulations related to COVID-19 in Malaysia.

Malawakil Warsaw had participated in meetings organized virtually by the foreign ministries of Poland and Lithuania besides being actively involved in engaging with its counterparts to promote and further enhance Malaysia's visibility in the host country by participating in trade and economic related discussions with representatives from Ministries and local businesses interested in procuring gloves, face masks and medical devices besides other goods from Malaysia.

Poland had also witnessed an interesting development in its political scene with the Presidential elections which was held on 28 June 2020, to elect a new president for the term 2020-2025. It was reported that the voter turnout for the first round of the election was the highest level ever recorded in the history of Poland's presidential elections.

The Embassy had resumed normal operation with temporary reduced working hours and strict operating guidelines since 6 May 2020. It is our hope that life will be back to normal in the near future.

Lastly, I wish everyone to stay safe and healthy.

Chitra Devi Ramiah

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ONLINE SEMINAR TITLES “PALM OIL IN THE POST PANDEMIC MARKET”

On 1 June 2020, the Embassy of Malaysia in Warsaw had posted an announcement on its website about the invitation to join an online seminar hosted by the Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) entitled ‘Palm Oil in the Post Pandemic Market’. The Seminar was successfully held on 11 June 2020 with Y.Bhg. Datuk Dr. Kalyana Sundram, CEO of MPOC acting as moderator.

Malawakil Warsaw have been actively promoting palm oil products in Poland. In 2019, Malaysia’s exports of palm oil and palm oil products to Poland was valued at RM 9.69 million, expanding by 46.5% from 2018, accounting for 0.5% of overall exports for the period. Palm oil and palm oil products is the 14th largest export sector from Malaysia to Poland in 2019. For period Jan - May 2020, Malaysia’s total exports of palm oil and palm oil products to Poland was valued at RM5.54 billion, expanding by 23.2% from the same period in 2019, accounting for 0.7% of overall exports for the period. Palm oil and palm oil products is the 12th largest export sector from Malaysia to Poland for period Jan - May 2020.

MPOC Webinar Series

Palm Oil in the Post Pandemic Market

THU, 11 JUNE 2020 | 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM (GMT +8:00)

Register: tinyurl.com/MPOCWEBINAR

Upon registration, a Zoom link will be sent to your email.
You can participate in Live Q&A via Zoom.

MPOC HQ | thev@m poc.org.my | +603-7806 4097

MODERATOR

Datuk Dr. Kalyana Sundram,
CEO, MPOC

PANELLISTS

Sudhakar Desai,
President, IVPA

Ooi Liang Hin,
Business Director,
KLK Berhad

José Angel Olivero Garcia,
Sales Director,
Lipidos Santiga, S.A. (LIPSA)

HIGH TEA AND ICE CREAM WITH WOMEN AMBASSADORS, 18 JUNE 2020

The Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Republic of Poland, H.E. Daphne Bergsma invited all Women Ambassadors in Warsaw to a high tea and ice cream session at her residence on 18 June 2020.

H.E. Amb. Chitra Devi Ramiah attended the get together with all the Women Ambassadors in Warsaw. It was the first face to face meeting between all Women Ambassadors in Warsaw after being apart for almost more than 3 months since the outbreak of Coronavirus and lockdown in Poland in early March 2020.

During the meeting, H.E. Amb. Chitra Devi Ramiah took the opportunity to share and also learn from the other Ambassadors about the practice to contain the spread of the Coronavirus by each of their governments. The Ambassadors assured to continue to adhere to local rules and regulations imposed by the Government of Poland during the lockdown.



SELAMAT HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI MAAF ZAHIR BATIN, 24 MEI 2020



Pejabat Kedutaan Besar Malaysia di Warsaw telah ditutup pada 24 dan 25 Mei 2020 sempena sambutan Hari Raya Aidilfitri 2020. Di kesempatan ini, PYT Duta Besar Puan Chitra Devi Ramiah dan pegawai-pegawai HBS di Pejabat Kedutaan mengucapkan Selamat Hari Raya kepada semua yang menyambutnya. Perjumpaan sempena sambutan Aidilfitri pada tahun ini telah dianjurkan secara sederhana di kalangan sekumpulan kecil pelajar dan rakyat Malaysia di Kedutaan.

PROGRAM KHATAM AL-QURAN DAN TADARUS BERAMAI-RAMAI BAGI RAMADHAN 1441H

Pada 20 Mei 2020, Cik Nur Atikah Anuar, Setiausaha Kedua di Pejabat Kedutaan Malaysia di Warsaw telah menghadirkan diri untuk program khatam Al- Quran dan tadarus yang diadakan secara atas talian (Skype). Program tersebut diadakan oleh sebahagian daripada pelajar-pelajar Muslim Malaysia di Poland untuk menghidupkan lagi amalan pada bulan Ramadhan pada tahun ini di samping bertujuan mendampingi pelajar-pelajar Malaysia.



IFTAR PROGRAM 2020 WITH FUNDACJA SAKINAH EUROPE, 16 MAY 2020



In collaboration with Fundacja Sakinah Europe, the Embassy of Malaysia had delivered 50 packages of iftar for distribution to the needy on 16 May 2020. The main meal was prepared by Perwakilan Warsaw. The Iftar pack contained yellow rice, salad, chicken soup with potato and grilled chicken, bread pudding with caramel sauce, apple, snacks, biscuit and milk.

The iftar pack was presented by HE Ambassador Chitra Devi Ramiah to Mr Usman Iffikhar, the founder of Fundacja Sakinah Europe. The humble contribution to the poor and needy Muslims was carried out to lessen the burden of Fundacja Sakinah Europe in this challenging time.

During the session, Mr. Usman Iffikhar briefed about the organisation and took the Embassy's personnel on a guided tour of the Foundation's club house. Currently, the Foundation manages the operation of the club house in close partnership with Muslim Care Malaysia.

MAJLIS SUMBANGAN ZAKAT BAGI PIHAK DYTM TUANKU SYED FAIZUDDIN PUTRA IBNI TUANKU SYED SIRAJUDDIN JAMALULLAIL, RAJA MUDA PERLIS KEPADA PELAJAR-PELAJAR MALAYSIA YANG BERAGAMA ISLAM DI POLAND, 21 MEI 2020

Pada 21 Mei 2020, PYT Duta Besar Puan Chitra Devi Ramiah, bagi pihak Duli Yang Teramat Mulia (DYTM), Tuanku Syed Faizuddin Putra Ibni Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Jamalullail, Raja Muda Perlis telah menyampaikan sumbangan zakat kepada sembilan (9) orang pelajar Malaysia yang beragama Islam di Poland.

Sebagai tanda ingatan kepada pelajar-pelajar, pihak Kedutaan turut berbesar hati memberikan pulut kuning bersama ayam rendang kepada pelajar-pelajar ini. Sumbangan ini telah disediakan dengan kerjasama ahli-ahli Perwakilan Warsaw.

Bagi pelajar-pelajar yang tidak dapat hadir ke Pejabat Kedutaan, Ketua Canseri telah menyerahkan wang sumbangan secara online banking kepada sembilan (9) orang pelajar yang lain yang telah memilih untuk menerima sumbangan melalui kaedah ini pada 20 Mei 2020.





PEMBERIAN SUMBANGAN ZAKAT MAJLIS AGAMA ISLAM NEGERI PERLIS KEPADA PELAJAR MUSLIM MALAYSIA DI PEJABAT KEDUTAAN MALAYSIA DI WARSAW, 17 APRIL 2020

Semasa lawatan Duli Yang Teramat Mulia (DYTM), Tuanku Syed Faizuddin Putra Ibni Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Jamalullail, Raja Muda Perlis pada tahun 2018, baginda telah mengamanahkan sejumlah wang zakat Majlis Agama Islam Negeri Perlis kepada Pejabat Kedutaan Besar Malaysia di Warsaw.

Mengambil kira kekangan dan kesulitan yang dihadapi oleh para pelajar Malaysia yang beragama Islam di Poland, pihak Kedutaan dengan perkenan Duli Yang Teramat Mulia (DYTM), Tuanku Syed Faizuddin Putra Ibni Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Jamalullail, Raja Muda Perlis bersetuju agar wang zakat ini disumbangkan kepada para pelajar Malaysia yang beragama Islam di Poland bagi membantu mereka untuk membeli barangan bagi kegunaan peribadi atau membeli stok makanan sebagai persediaan untuk menjalani ibadah puasa di bulan Ramadhan yang akan tiba dalam masa dua (2) minggu lagi.

Pada 17 April 2020 (Jumaat), PYT Duta Besar Chitra Devi Ramiah telah berbesar hati menyampaikan sumbangan zakat kepada sembilan (9) orang pelajar Malaysia yang beragama Islam di Poland yang hadir ke Pejabat Kedutaan untuk menerima sendiri sumbangan tersebut manakala lapan (8) orang lagi telah memilih untuk menerima sumbangan secara online banking kerana tidak dapat hadir sendiri ke pejabat Kedutaan.

Majlis ringkas yang diadakan bermula jam 12.00 tengah hari tersebut dimulai dengan kata-kata aluan yang disampaikan oleh PYT Duta Besar yang berharap agar para pelajar terus mengikuti kelas secara atas talian seperti biasa dan menjaga diri masing-masing. Beliau turut memberikan kata-kata semangat supaya mereka terus kekal di tempat masing-masing dan menjaga kesihatan serta sentiasa kerap berhubung dengan pihak Kedutaan. PYT Duta Besar turut mengingatkan semua penerima sumbangan zakat ini agar menggunakan wang tersebut dengan sebaik mungkin. Sebelum bersurai, para Pelajar turut diberikan bekalan makanan tengah hari khas yang disediakan atas sumbangan ikhlas ahli-ahli Perwakilan Malawakil Warsaw.



MEETING WITH THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS POLAND ON, 29 JUNE 2020

Mr. Paweł Jabłoński, the Undersecretary of State for Economic and Development Cooperation, Africa and the Middle East from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Poland had a meeting with H.E. Amb. Chitra Devi Ramiah to discuss on the potentials for Polish food product exports and dairy product investments in Malaysia. The meeting was held on 29 June 2020 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Poland.

On the Embassy's side, H.E. Ambassador was joined by Ms. Nur Atikah Anuar, Second Secretary at the Embassy of Malaysia and Mr. Jude Bryan S. Dass, Trade Commissioner at MATRADE office. On the Ministry's side, Undersecretary of State was accompanied by H.E. Ambassador Zenon Kosiniak-Kamysz, Minister Counsellor of the Department of Economic Cooperation, Mr. Krzysztof Dobrowolski, the Director of the Asia Pacific Department and Mr. Konrad Pawlid, Deputy Director of the Department of Economic Cooperation.

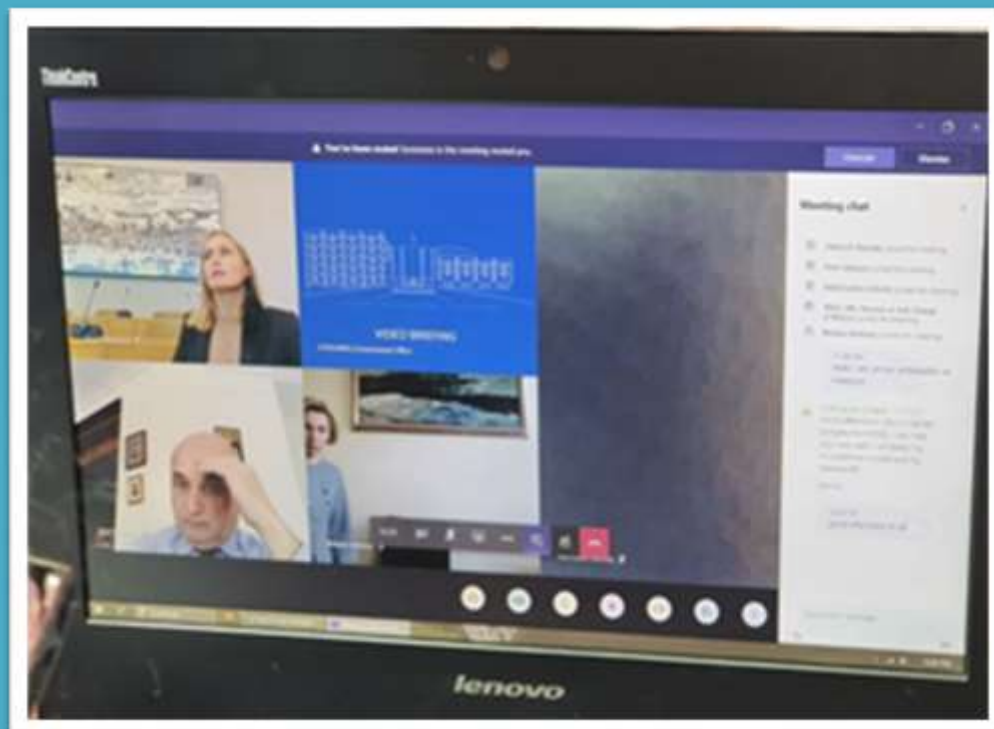


VIDEO CONFERENCING ON COVID-19 RESPONSE MEASURES IN LITHUANIA, 21 MAY 2020

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Lithuania had organized a Video Conferencing (VC) session on 21 May 2020 with all diplomatic missions and international organizations accredited to the Republic of Lithuania. H.E. Ambassador Chitra Devi Ramiah participated in the VC along with 87 diplomatic missions and international organizations.

The VC was a video briefing “On Covid-19 Response Measures in Lithuania” with the participation of H.E. Mr Linas Linkevičius, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, Mr Aurelijus Veryga, Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania, Aurelijus Veryga and Mr Lukas Savickas, First Deputy Chancellor of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

The objective of the VC was to share Lithuania's Strategy for COVID-19 response while assuring the diplomatic missions and international organizations the effective and timely measures planned by the Lithuanian Government to ease the lockdown in stages.



TRAINING BY WARSAW AIRPORT AUTHORITIES, 23-24 JUNE 2020

The Polish - Warsaw Chopin Airport authorities had conducted a compulsory security training which was held for two days on 23 and 24 June 2020. The objective of the training was to give an overall briefing of the management of safety and security procedures, exposure on risk management, procedural and administrative requirement by diplomatic and consular officers before they are entitled to receive airport security pass. Towards the end of the 2-day training, an assessment test was held for the participants which they had to pass in order to receive the security pass.

FAREWELL DINNER HOSTED BY OUTGOING VIETNAM AMBASSADOR, 18 JUNE 2020

H.E. Vu Dang Dzung, the outgoing Ambassador of Vietnam to the Republic of Poland and his spouse Madam Vu Thi Hien graciously hosted ASEAN Ambassadors and other Ambassadors from several countries for dinner at their residence on 18 June 2020. The dinner was hosted to officially bid farewell to everyone. On the side-line, the Ambassadors in attendance took the opportunity to share about the latest updates on Coronavirus in Poland and on the progress made by the country they represent. H.E. Amb. Chitra Devi Ramiah and her spouse attended the dinner.



VIDEO CONFERENCE WITH POLISH COUNTERPART SOURCING FOR RUBBER GLOVES FROM MALAYSIA, 8 MAY 2020

On 8 May 2020, H.E. Ambassador Chitra Devi Ramiah and Mr Jude Bryan S. Dass, the trade commissioner from MATRADE Warsaw were engaged in a video conference with representatives from Polish institutions on the immediate purchase of personal protective equipment for medical use, in particular, nitrile gloves. The one-hour discussion was held in a cordial manner and each party agreed to follow up on agreed matters.



DISCUSSION WITH MR. KRZYSZTOF STEIMAN, ACCOUNT MANAGER OF QATAR AIRWAYS POLAND ON FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS FOR STRANDED MALAYSIANS

The Government of Poland had decided to suspend all international flights operation since 15 March. The only available option to fly to Malaysia is via Germany. Malaysians who wish to return to Malaysia immediately were advised to travel via road to cross the Poland-Germany border and to board flights from either Berlin or Frankfurt airports in Germany to Malaysia. The Embassy had facilitated those wanting to travel by road to Germany by issuing reference letters to ease their movements at the border and airports.

H.E. Ambassador Chitra Devi Ramiah had engaged closely with Mr. Krzysztof Steiman of Qatar Airways in Poland to facilitate Malaysians travelling back.

REMOTE DISCUSSION AND SHARING OF INFORMATION ON THE NEW REGULATIONS FOR SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES, 17 APRIL 2020

On 17 April 2020, H.E. Ambassador Chitra Devi Ramiah engaged with a few Ambassadors in Poland and discussed about the recent announcement made by the Polish government regarding extension of school and universities closure in Poland until 24 May 2020. All Ambassadors involved in the discussion were vigilant as they foresee that most of the students from their country of origin would like to return home during the university holidays that begins in June and ends in September.

ASEAN

ASEAN WORKING GROUP COMMITTEE FAREWELL LUNCH FOR OUTGOING VIETNAM AMBASSADOR, 12 JUNE 2020

Ambassador of Indonesia to the Republic of Poland, H.E. Siti Nugraha Mauludiah as the current chair of the ASEAN Working Group Committee (AWC), hosted the farewell lunch for H.E. Vu Dang Dzung, Ambassador of Vietnam to the Republic of Poland at the Sambal Restaurant on 12 June 2020.

All five (5) ASEAN Ambassadors attended the working group lunch with their spouses including H.E. Amb. Chitra Devi Ramiah and spouse. The working lunch was to bid farewell and thank the outgoing Vietnam Ambassador for his cooperation on all AWC activities during his tenure in Warsaw.

H.E. Amb. Vu will retire after serving more than 40 years as a career diplomat. H.E. Amb. Vu has a wide experience and knowledge on ASEAN issues as he had served at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta for more than 6 years. H.E. Amb. Vu was retiring at post and was leaving Poland to begin a new chapter of his life. All the ASEAN Ambassadors wished him and spouse Madam Vo Thi Hien a happy and fruitful retirement.



PERWAKILAN

Sambutan Hari Raya Aidilfitri 2020

Ahli Perwakilan telah bersama-sama menyambut Hari Raya Aidilfitri 2020 dengan sederhana memandangkan Kerajaan Poland masih tidak membenarkan perhimpunan besar-besaran pada bulan Mei 2020. Sambutan ini telah diadakan di Rumah Malaysia dan aktiviti gotong royong diadakan untuk memasak juadah raya.



CONSULAR



FACE MASKS CONTRIBUTED BY MALAYSIA'S DIPLOMATIC EQUIPMENT STOCKPILE (MDES) RECEIVED BY MALAWAKIL WARSAW FROM WISMA PUTRA

On 17 April 2020, the Embassy of Malaysia in Warsaw received a shipment of face masks, hand gloves and sanitizers from Wisma Putra for the use of all the embassy's front liners contributed by Malaysia's Diplomatic Equipment Stockpile (MDES). The Embassy of Malaysia in Warsaw wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank MDES and Wisma Putra for their valuable contribution and continued support to the embassy's front liners in Poland.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) FROM MDES, WISMA PUTRA, 28 MAY 2020

On 27 May 2020, the Embassy of Malaysia in Warsaw received another shipment of PPE from Wisma Putra for the use of all the embassy's front liners which was contributed by Malaysia's Diplomatic Equipment Stockpile (MDES). This is the second shipment received from Malaysia. The Embassy of Malaysia in Warsaw wishes to take this opportunity to sincerely thank MDES and Wisma Putra for their valuable contribution and continued support of the embassy's front liners in Poland.

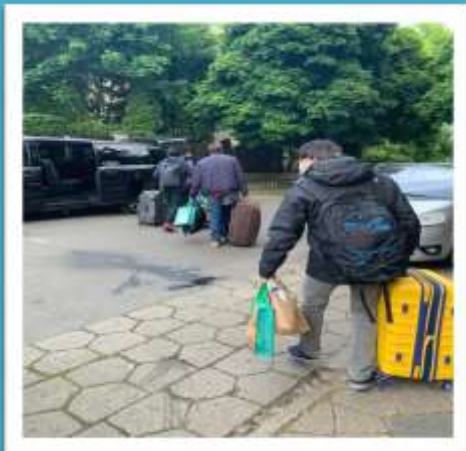
MAJLIS FLAG OFF EMPAT (4) ORANG RAKYAT MALAYSIA PULANG KE MALAYSIA MELALUI LAPANGAN TERBANG ANTARABANGSA FRANKFURT, JERMAN, 27 MEI 2020

Memandangkan ruang udara Poland telah ditutup sejak 15 Mac 2020 sehingga suatu tarikh yang akan dimaklumkan oleh Kerajaan Poland, Kedutaan Besar Malaysia di Warsaw telah membantu seramai empat (4) orang rakyat Malaysia yang terkandas di beberapa lokasi pulang ke Malaysia dengan selamatnya.

Mereka telah bertolak dari Warsaw pada 27 Mei 2020 untuk pulang ke Malaysia dari Frankfurt, Jerman menggunakan penerbangan Qatar Airways, QR068 yang telah bertolak pada jam 15:20 PM, 28 Mei 2020. Kesemua mereka telah mengambil keputusan untuk berkumpul di Pejabat Kedutaan Besar Malaysia di Warsaw sebelum pulang ke Malaysia melalui jalan darat yang bersempadan dengan negara Jerman.

Kedutaan Besar Malaysia di Warsaw telah bekerjasama dengan Pejabat Konsulat Jeneral Malaysia di Frankfurt dan Pejabat Kedutaan Besar Malaysia di Doha bagi memudahcara kepulangan mereka.

Kesemua mereka telah selamat tiba di Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur pada jam 8.15 malam pada 29 Mei 2020.



STRANDED MALAYSIANS RETURNED HOME TO MALAYSIA

The COVID-19 task force of Malawakil Warsaw facilitated the return of one stranded Malaysian business traveller and two Malaysian students on 1 April 2020 and five Malaysian students on 4 April 2020.

Among the seven students, one of them was an exchange programme student who had planned to be in Poland for 3 months for the American Field Service (AFS) Intercultural Programs. She was in Poland under the sponsorship of this program for secondary school students. However, she became stranded in Warsaw as the programme was cancelled in the middle of March 2020 due to COVID19. The Embassy after contacting her sponsors in Malaysia had successfully coordinated her return flight to Malaysia on 1 April 2020.

The other six students were Malaysian students studying in Warsaw Medical University who decided to return to their family in Malaysia temporarily and will return to Poland at a later date to continue their studies in Warsaw once the lockdown period for COVID-19 is over.

Malawakil task force led by H.E. Ambassador Chitra Devi Ramiah, Ms. Nur Atikah, Mr. Jude Bryan, Ms. Ismida and all other locally recruited staff members had personally extended care and facilitated the safe journey of all Malaysians in Poland.

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR LATEST UPDATE FOR RETURNING MALAYSIANS, 9 JUNE 2020

On 9 June 2020, the Embassy of Malaysia in Warsaw shared the new directive from the Government of Malaysia pertaining to home quarantine for returning Malaysians. With the new introduction of 14-days self-quarantine at home, all returning Malaysians were no longer required to send completed Letter of Undertaking to the nearest Malaysian Missions abroad.

ANNOUNCEMENT ON COVID-19 TEST, 30 JUNE 2020

On 30 June 2020, the Embassy of Malaysia in Warsaw shared announcement made in Wisma Putra's Official Facebook page about the need to undertake the COVID-19 screening tests at the Malaysian point of entry for returning Malaysians and non-Malaysians passengers who fail to produce a valid COVID-19 test to be undertaken prior to arrival.



WISMA PUTRA

THE COVID-19 SCREENING TEST WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL ENTRY POINT (PMA) IF PASSENGERS FAIL TO PRODUCE A VALID COVID-19 TEST UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO ARRIVAL IN MALAYSIA

COVID-19 Test	Malaysian Citizen	Foreigner
Polimerase chain reaction (PCR)	RM150	RM250
Rapid test kit for antigen	RM60	RM120
Rapid test kit for antibody	RM30	RM60

Source: Ministry of Health, Malaysia
Effective 29 June 2020

Division of Communication & Public Diplomacy



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