

**VOTE OF THANKS**  
**YB DATO' SERI HISHAMMUDDIN TUN HUSSEIN**  
**MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
**HANDOVER CEREMONY OF COVID-19 MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF**  
**MALAYSIA FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**  
**WISMA PUTRA, 28 MARCH 2020**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Today is indeed very special for Malaysia and China, although we have been friends and our ties go back over 45 years – as the Chinese saying goes “*We really truly know our friends in times of crisis*”. And why I say today is special for bilateral relations between Malaysia and China is because as we face very difficult times, China has once again come forward to work closely with Malaysia.
2. In Wisma Putra it all started with a phone call I had with my counterpart and dear friend, His Excellency Wang Yi, Minister of Foreign Affairs for the People's Republic of China. It was followed by a letter from me to him seeking for closer cooperation and coordination with regards to the response to Covid-19.
3. In the days following my request, we've had multiple donations from China received from various provincial governments, NGOs, business community and individuals from China. On behalf of the Government and the people of Malaysia, we couldn't be more thankful.
4. To His Excellency Mr Bai Tian, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Malaysia, I must personally thank you for going the extra mile, especially in ensuring the smooth coordination and delivery of all the donations.
5. Today, I am proud to announce the extraordinary donation that the Government of China will be donating:-
  - 100,000 units of n-Cov PCR test kits;
  - 100,000 pieces of N95 Medical Protective Face Masks;
  - 500,000 pieces of 3-ply surgical masks;
  - 50,000 sets of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); and
  - 200 units of ventilators
6. This is an extraordinary contribution by a country to Malaysia showing the close friendship, solidarity and consideration both Malaysia and China share. As His Excellency indicated just now – more is to come with regards to closer cooperation in looking ahead against the threat of Covid-19.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

7. To China, it is my promise that Malaysia will make full use of these items and they will be immediately handed over to the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA) so that our frontliners who have worked tirelessly will be prioritized in the distribution. Thank you also to the Ministry of Health (KKM) for being Malaysia's shield in the battle against Covid-19, I hope today's contribution will be of much benefit in the war against our invisible enemy. With our friends like China, I am sure this will also give them more spirit and energy to fight on.
8. Finally, like I said – it's not about material donations and support. China and Malaysia holds a very strong and special relationship, especially people to people. In Malaysia right now, the Malaysian people are facing hardship. We will do the same for China, we have proven it in the past. As the Chinese saying goes – In times of crisis, there is a blessing. The blessing of Covid-

19 as far as bilaterals with Malaysia and China, it has bonded us and made us closer together.

9. *Bukit sama didaki, lurah sama dituruni. Wo men dou shi yi jia ren*, we are one family.
10. I would also like to applaud China's successful "*whole-of-government*" approach in reducing the number of COVID-19 cases. I hope both China and Malaysia can continue to work together to find new ways and work collectively in overcoming this global pandemic.

Thank you.