

# EMBASSY OF MALAYSIA, BERLIN

## e-Newsletter

VOLUME 4, Q1 2016

### AMBASSADOR OF MALAYSIA ON ASEAN, CHINA'S ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AT ASIAN BUSINESS INSIGHTS



***"Despite the current slowdown in China, Malaysia's trade with the country for the first 9 months of 2015 remained resilient. Exports rose by 9.7% to US\$18.14 billion while imports increased 11.3% to US\$23.01 billion, bringing total trade to US\$41.15 billion, a 10.6% increase. Trade between both countries has been on a healthy path".***

**Düsseldorf, 29 January** - H.E. Dato' Zulkifli Adnan, Ambassador of Malaysia to the Federal Republic of Germany was among the featured speakers at the "Asian Business Insights" conference, held on 29 January 2016. Held at Hyatt Regency Düsseldorf, the Conference was organized by Handelsblatt, a leading German business publication, in collaboration

((More on page 2))



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- Malaysia @ ITB 2016
- Celebration of Malaysian Culture at the Embassy
- MCB kick-started 2016 with a New Year get-together
- Cook *Nasi Lemak* at home
- And more



## AMBASSADOR OF MALAYSIA AT “ASIAN BUSINESS INSIGHTS CONFERENCE”

(From front page)

with HSBC

Around 300 participants comprising company owners, managers, business consultants and corporate law firms representatives attended the Conference, which mainly focused on economic growth in Asia. Specific topics discussed include opportunities and challenges in Asia’s business climate, e-commerce, human resource development and intellectual properties.

During the “Ambassador Powertalk: Asia’s Growth Model” Dato’ Zulkifli spoke about some of the major developments that are taking place in Malaysia and the Asia-Pacific

region. The session, moderated by Nicole Bastian, Handelsblatt’s foreign editor, touched on issues such as Malaysia’s economic outlook, impact of China’s economic slowdown to Malaysia’s economic growth, opportunities of the ASEAN Economic Community and implications of the oil price fluctuation to the regional economy. Also extensively discussed was how Malaysia perceives the outlook of regional and international trade vis-à-vis liberal trade regimes such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.



Above: Dato’ Zulkifli Adnan interviewed by Nicole Bastian during “Ambassador Power Talk”

Right: The Conference was featured in Handelsblatt on 27 January 2016

### Die Lichtblicke der Weltwirtschaft

Die süd- und südostasiatischen Staaten blicken optimistisch und gemeinschaftlich nach vorne.

I. Karabasz, M. Peer, F. Spohr, Düsseldorf, Bangkok

**N**ein, zu besorgt sei er nicht, sagt Dato’ Zulkifli Adnan und lächelt. Natürlich sei man stark von China abhängig, weil das Land der größte Handelspartner Malaysias sei, erklärt der Botschafter der asiatischen Staaten, aber die Exporte dorthin seien sogar gestiegen.

Am Dienstagvormittag war auf der Bühne der Jahrestagung der deutsch-asiatischen Wirtschaft, die das Handelsblatt gemeinsam mit der Investitionsbank HSBC veranstaltete, bereits viel vom Sorgenkind der Weltwirtschaft, China, zu hören. Denn viele befürchten, dass sich Chinas derzeitige Schwäche auf die asiatischen Nachbarstaaten überträgt.

Auch der Internationale Währungsfonds (IWF) prognostiziert mit Blick auf Süd- und Südostasien: „Indien und die meisten restlichen asiatischen Schwellenländer werden weiter ein robustes Wachstum haben.“ Die Regionen seien die „Lichtblicke der Weltwirtschaft“. Teilweise dürften die Staaten sogar von den globalen Wachstumssorgen profitieren - durch das billige Erdöl, das viele von ihnen importieren.

Insbesondere bei Indien sind die Ökonomen optimistisch: 7,3 Prozent soll die Wirtschaft dieses Jahr wachsen und 2017 sogar 7,5 Prozent - keine andere große Volkswirtschaft weist derzeit so hohe Zuwachsraten auf. Grund genug für

Panelteilnehmer Mohan Murti, Europa-Repräsentant von Reliance Industries, dem laut eigener Aussage größten privatwirtschaftlichen Unternehmen Indiens, zu sagen: „Ich glaube, dieses Jahr könnte der Start eines indischen Jahrzehnts werden.“ (Siehe Interview auf Seite 11.) Das liege unter anderem auch daran, dass die steigende inländische Nachfrage die Wirtschaft antreibe.

Malaysias Botschafter Dato’ Zulkifli Adnan erklärte, die Regierung arbeite ebenfalls stark mit dem privaten Sektor zusammen. Der Präsident der neuen Asiatischen Infrastrukturinvestmentbank AIB, Jin Liqun, sagte vor wenigen Tagen in Davos: „Es gibt eine starke Verbindung zwischen In-

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## INTERNATIONAL CONTACT GROUP FOR AFGHANISTAN MEETS IN BERLIN AHEAD OF WARSAW AND BRUSSELS SUMMIT

**Berlin, 3 February** - Germany hosted a Meeting of the International Contact Group (ICG) for Afghanistan at the German Federal Foreign Office. The ICG Meeting was attended by some 50 delegations comprising the Group's member countries and international organizations, including Malaysia. H.E. Dato' Zulkifli Adnan, Ambassador of Malaysia to the Federal Republic of Germany, represented Malaysia at the Meeting.

The ICG was established in 2009 as a political forum for coordination and consensus-building among the international community in addressing various integral issues and challenges concerning Afghanistan. Important themes discussed by the ICG include capacity-building of the Afghan National Security Forces, peace process in Afghanistan, improving livelihood of the Afghan people and migration of Afghans out of the country. The ICG Meeting in Berlin took stock of the achievements made by both the Afghan Government and the international community as well as discussed future strategies in light of the upcoming NATO Summit in Warsaw (July 2016) and the International Conference on Afghanistan in Brussels (October 2016).

During the ICG, Malaysia delivered a statement which touches on the issue of the international resolute support mission in Afghanistan, Afghanistan's commitments to self-reliance and improving the livelihood of the Afghan people.





## MALAYSIA AT INTERNATIONALE TOURISMUS BÖRSE

The Honourable Dato' Seri Mohamed Nazri bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Tourism and Culture of Malaysia led the Malaysian Delegation at the 50<sup>th</sup> Internationale Tourismus Börse (ITB), which took place at Messe Berlin from 8-12 March 2016. The attendance marked Malaysia's 42<sup>nd</sup> participation at the the biggest travel trade show in the world since it began in 1966.

The ITB week for the Malaysian delegation began on 8 March 2016 with a briefing session at the Embassy of Malaysia. The briefing was given by Datuk Seri Mirza Mohammad Taiyab, Director General of Tourism Malaysia and Mr. José Ramirez-Santoyo, Marketing Manager at Tourism Malaysia Frankfurt.

The Malaysian pavilion at the 50th ITB was officially opened the next day by the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Culture. The Malaysian pavilion, located at Hall 26 of Messe Berlin, featured some 49 agencies and institutions comprising federal and state tourism agencies, hoteliers, tour operators and other industry players. Joining the opening of the Malaysian pavilion was the Governing Mayor of Berlin Mr. Michael Müller. Chief Minister of Malacca Datuk Seri Ir. Haji



Dato' Seri Nazri officiating the Malaysian Taxi Wrap

Idris Haron and Chief Minister of Perak Dato' Seri DiRaja Dr. Zambry bin Abd Kadir, who led their respective state's tourism promotion mission at ITB 2016, were also present in Berlin throughout the week.

A number of Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) were signed by Malaysian parties throughout the week. Among others, Tourism Malaysia penned a deal with Singapore Airlines in an effort to enhance Malaysia's connectivity with European market. The Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents

# 2016



(MATTA) concluded an MoU with the European Travel Agents' and Tour Operator's (ECTTA), while Smart Malaysia Tourist Apps Sdn.Bhd. inked a deal with Flite Lite (HK) Ltd.

Malaysia also took the lead in launching ASEAN@50 - A visit ASEAN campaign to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the association in 1967. Dato' Seri Nazri Aziz, together with heads of ASEAN Member State's ITB delegation and diplomatic representation in Germany were together at the launch of the campaign.

(Also see page 8 for coverage on Malaysian Cultural Morning)



Above left: Dato' Seri Nazri presenting a memento to Ambassador

Above centre: Datuk Seri Mirza briefing the Malaysian delegation

Above right: Ambassador with Consul-General of Malaysia in Frankfurt, Ms. Adina Kamarudin (L) and President of Malaysia Club Deutschland Ms. Rosita Rahman-Heilek (R)

Left: Dato' Seri Nazri officiating Malaysia's pavilion with Mr. Michael Müller, Governing Mayor of Berlin



Above: Exhibitors from the Rungus ethnic group

Left: Dato' Seri Nazri with representatives from ASEAN Member States during the launching of ASEAN@50 campaign



Photos courtesy of Mr. Uwe Fischer, Malaysia Insights

## EMBASSY ENGAGES GERMAN INVESTORS

**Berlin, Nauen, 23 February** - H.E. Dato' Zulkifli Adnan, Ambassador of Malaysia to Germany, visited the office of Atotech Deutschland GmbH in Berlin and PacTech – Packaging Technologies GmbH in Nauen. The 2 companies are amongst German companies investing in Malaysia in the chemical, semiconductor and related industries. H.E. Dato' Zulkifli was accompanied by Investment Consul Mr. S. Siva as well as officials from the Embassy of Malaysia and the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) Frankfurt.

At both companies, H.E. Ambassador and delegation members met respective company's top management to get an impression on their experience doing business in Malaysia. Other issues discussed include the prospect of the companies' future expansion in Malaysia and the region as well as training and career opportunities for Malaysian student in Germany.



Left: Delegation after conducting a site tour at Atotech  
Above: Group photo with management of PacTech

## MSEAM DELEGATION VISITED BERLIN TO GAIN INSIGHTS ON GERMAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

**Berlin, 23 February** - A group of 22 members of the Malaysian Society for Educational Administrator and Management (MSEAM) undertook a 4-day working visit to Germany to learn more about the development of the education sector in the country. The group, led by Deputy Vice Chancellor of the INTI International University Professor Emeritus Dato' Dr. Ibrahim Ahmad Bajunid, visited a number of public and private agencies and institutions of learning in Hessen and Berlin to get first-hand experience on how German education policy is applied at grassroots level.

While in Berlin, the group made a stopover at the Embassy of Malaysia. A dialogue session between the group and members of the Embassy was held to discuss issues such as the role of Malaysian Embassies abroad and strengthening linkages between Malaysia and Germany in the education sector.





## ASEAN AMBASSADORS MEET GERMAN PARLIAMENTARIANS



**Berlin, 18 February** - The Ambassador of Malaysia to Germany, H.E. Dato' Zulkifli Adnan, in his capacity as the Chairman of the Berlin ASEAN Committee (BAC), led the ASEAN Ambassadors to a meeting with H.E. Dr. Thomas Gambke, Chairman of the ASEAN Friendship Group at the

German *Bundestag* and 7 other German Parliamentarians. The meeting is part of the initiative to forge closer relations between ASEAN and Germany.

During the meeting, both sides exchanged information on developments that are taking place in both Southeast Asia and Europe. Other topics discussed include the then recently concluded ASEAN-US Leaders' Summit in Sunnylands USA, South China Sea, climate change and renewable energy.

## BAC DISCUSS TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION WITH BMZ



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**Berlin, 8 March** - A meeting between ASEAN Ambassadors and Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) Mr. Hans-Joachim Fuchtel took place at the Ministry's Berlin headquarters. During the meeting, Mr. Fuchtel, who is also Germany's Governor of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), took the opportunity of the occasion to promote the upcoming 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the ADB.

The main theme of discussion at the meeting however, is technical vocational education training (TVET). TVET is among the areas in which ASEAN Member States have great interest to pursue further cooperation with Germany. Both sides shared their concerns on specific areas of interest related to TVET and how such interest can be translated to tangible actions. The meeting also noted the success story of collaboration between Porsche and Manila's Don Bosco Institute of Technology in the TVET sector.

## A CELEBRATION OF MALAYSIAN CULTURE AT THE EMBASSY

**Berlin, 11 March** - The Ladies' Association of the Embassy of Malaysia in Berlin (PERWAKILAN) organized a Malaysian Cultural Morning at the Embassy on 11 March 2016. Held in conjunction with the on-going Internationale Tourismus Börse (ITB), the event gave guests the perfect opportunity to sample Malaysian culture. The event was very well-received. Most of the attendees are members of the diplomatic spouses' association *Willkommen in Berlin* who are curious to learn more about Malaysia, friends of Malaysia as well as members of the Malaysia Club Berlin.

Throughout the event, guests were entertained by a medley of performances by a dance troupe from *Istana Budaya* and musicians from *Briged Seni Melaka*. At the end of the event, guests were invited on the stage for a fun-filled session of *Joget lambak*. There was something for the tastebuds too! A feast of Malaysian festive staples such as *satay*, *nasi impit* and *rendang* was served during the event.





## MCB'S NEW YEAR GET-TOGETHER



**Berlin, 9 January** - To welcome the new year, the Malaysia Club Berlin (MCB), in collaboration with the Embassy of Malaysia, organized a New Year get-together at the Embassy of Malaysia. Having just returned from the long Christmas / Winter holiday, the get-together provided an opportunity for club members to catch up. Some new faces were also spotted at the event. Joining the celebration was the patron of the club, H.E. Dato' Zulkifli Adnan and wife, Datin Siti Hawa Othman.

Members of the club gathered for an evening of fun and company, away from the freezing Berlin winter. Some also took the floor to show off their singing talents during the karaoke session.

While the event was for most part a casual event, MCB took the opportunity of its members' attendance to hand out membership cards to its newer members.

(More MCB activities on next page)



## MALAYSIA CLUB BERLIN IN BRIEF

**13 February** - The Malaysia Club of Berlin (MCB) organized a Chinese New Year get-together dinner at Ming Dynastie Restaurant in Friedrichshain to welcome the Year of Monkey. More than 50 members, mostly clad in red, attended the occasion. To begin the dinner, Yee Sang was tossed, symbolizing prosperity, good luck and success in the upcoming year.



**27 February** - MCB, in association with the Embassy of Malaysia, organized a live cooking demonstration at the Embassy. Led by Mrs. Mary Evers and Mrs. Wendy Rohrbacher, the session featured a number of classic Indian-Malaysian dishes, namely dhosai, chicken curry and dhal. Guests took the opportunity to sample the delicious Malaysian staples and take home the recipes to try out by themselves.

## A MALAYSIAN DISH TO TRY AT HOME!

Ask a Malaysian to name a typical Malaysian dish and chances are, *Nasi Lemak* will be a popular response. The TIME Magazine recently published an article entitled "10 Healthy International Breakfast", where the Malaysians staple made the cut. A surprising fact given *Nasi Lemak's* reputation as a rich, calorie-laden dish, but a pleasant acknowledgement nonetheless! Although it is usually associated with breakfast, it is eaten at any time of the day, even past midnight! A basic *Nasi Lemak* is eaten with hard-boiled egg, fried anchovies, fried peanuts, cucumber slices and sweet-spicy *sambal*. A more "premium" offering of *Nasi Lemak* however, is loaded with additional side dishes like *Rendang*, fried chicken, squid *sambal* and many other goodies.

Read the TIME article at <http://time.com/4254125/healthy-international-breakfast/>

### INGREDIENTS

(Serves 3-4, cooking time approx. 1 hour)

#### Rice

- 2 cups of rice
- 3 pandan leaves (tied into knots)
- 1 cup coconut milk
- 3cm ginger (sliced)
- 3 cups water

#### Anchovy Sambal

- 1/2 onion
- 1/2 onion (sliced into rings)
- 1 cup dried anchovies
- 1 clove garlic,
- 4 shallots
- 10 dried chilies (de-seeded, cut and soaked in hot water)



- 1 tsp. of *belacan* (prawn paste)
- 1 tbsp. Tamarind paste
- Salt and sugar to taste

#### Condiments

- Anchovies (fried till crispy)
- Peanuts (roasted or fried)
- Cucumber (sliced thinly)
- Hard-boiled egg

### STEPS

- Rinse rice and drain. Add coconut milk, a pinch of salt, and some water. Add *pandan* knots and ginger into the rice and cook like normal white rice, stirring occasionally.
- Rinse dried anchovies and fry until crispy. Set aside.
- Blend / Pound *belacan*, onion, shallots, garlic and dried chilies to a paste.
- Heat oil in a pan and fry the paste until fragrant. Add onion rings and fried anchovies. Stir well.
- Add tamarind paste. Simmer on low heat until the gravy thickens. Add sugar and salt to taste, and set aside.
- Serve rice with *sambal* and condiments. For more aroma (and authentic touch), serve the rice on a sheet of banana leaf.

# UPCOMING PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

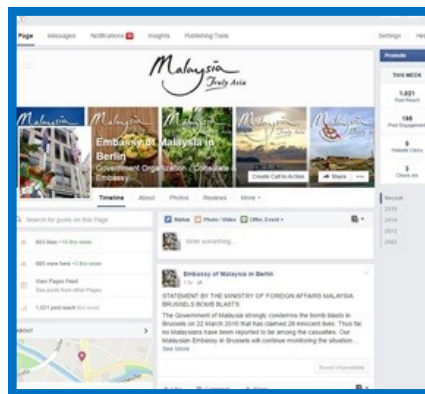
Holiday	Date
Labour Day	1 May
Ascension Day	5 May
Whit Monday	16 May
Birthday of HM Yang di-Pertuan Agong	4 June
Eidul-Fitri*	6 & 7 July
National Day	31 August
Eidul-Adha*	12 September
Malaysia Day	16 September
Awwal Muharram	2 October
German Day of Unity	3 October
Maulidurrasul	12 December
Christmas	25 December

\* Date subject to change

Note: Should a public holiday fall on Sunday, the following working day shall be observed as a holiday



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