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E Newsletter  
3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (September – December 2016)



*Foreword from  
Ambassador of Malaysia to  
Bosnia and Herzegovina*



In this edition:

1. Foreword by H.E Datuk Anuar Kasman Ambassador of Malaysia to BiH
2. Installation of new King of Malaysia
3. Farewell of former Secretary-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia
4. Appointment of new Secretary-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia
5. Malaysia National Day Golf Tournament
6. Malaysian Palm Oil Council Visit to BiH
7. Networking Dinner by Malaysian Palm Oil Council
8. Visit of President of The Senate, Malaysia
9. National Sports Day of Malaysia
10. Visit of Chief Minister of Kedah to BiH
11. Johore Delegation Visit to BiH
12. MTCP Corner – MTCP Hajj Workshop on Best Practices
13. Consular Information
14. Upcoming events

Dear Readers,

As another year passes and we begin to move into 2017, it is with great pleasure that I convey greetings to each of you on behalf of the Malaysian Embassy in Sarajevo and myself.

I would like to thank you for being with us throughout the Embassy's 2016 Newsletter Issue and we hope to serve you better in 2017.

I also would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families wellbeing, happiness and prosperity. I hope in 2017 bilateral relations between Malaysia and Bosnia Herzegovina will be even more productive and the contacts between our nations will increase at all levels.

**Datuk Anuar Kasman**



***Farewell Reception of Tan Sri Othman Hashim,  
Outgoing Secretary General, Ministry Of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia***

On 7 December 2016, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia held a farewell reception in honour of Tan Sri Othman Hashim, Secretary General of the Ministry. Tan Sri Othman Hashim served as the Secretary General from 2013 until December 2016.

The farewell reception was graced by Y.B. Dato Sri Anifah Aman, Minister of Foreign Affairs Malaysia.



Y.Bhg Tan Sri Othman Hashim delivering farewell remarks



Receiving Memento from YB Dato' Sri Anifah Aman, Foreign Minister of Malaysia

## NEW KING FOR MALAYSIA



**SULTAN MUHAMMAD V**

### About Sultan Muhammad V:

Date of birth: 6 October 1969

#### Education:

Sultan Ismail School (76-81)

Alice Smith School (83)

Oakham School UK (89)

Oxford University (89-91)

Courses at Huron University College, Deutsche Stiftung Internationale Entwicklung, European Business School London

#### Hobbies:

Horse-riding, reading, golfing, shooting, badminton, bowling, football, 4WD expeditions

### **Installation of Malaysia's 15<sup>th</sup> Yang di-Pertuan Agong**

The new *Yang di-Pertuan Agong* (King) of Malaysia, Sultan Muhammad V, took his oath of office on 13 December 2016 in a simple yet highly symbolic ceremony at the *Istana Negara* (National Palace).

Also in attendance were the Conference of Rulers or their representatives, i.e. the Sultans and the Yang di-Pertua Negeri (rulers) of the other states in Malaysia. The ceremony was chaired by the Sultan of Selangor, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah.

Malaysia practices a constitutional monarchy system, with the post of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong rotated among the nine Sultans in Malaysia. The decision of which of the nine will be the Yang di-Pertuan Agong is made by the Conference of Rulers, taking into account a number of factors including the principle of geographical rotation.

Once appointed, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong presides over all federal ceremonies involving the monarchy, and is resides at the National Palace in Kuala Lumpur. In his own home state, a regent will be appointed to oversee state ceremonial matters.

Sultan Muhammad V becomes the 15<sup>th</sup> Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia, corresponding with 60 years of Malaysia's independence. The last time a Sultan of Kelantan was the Yang di-Pertuan Agong was in 1975, in the form of Sultan Muhammad V's grandfather.



Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah

The Sultan of Perak, Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah was officially appointed as the Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong at the same ceremony.

## **Appointment of the new Secretary-General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia**



**Dato' Ramlan Ibrahim**

Dato' Ramlan Ibrahim received the letter of appointment as the Foreign Ministry's secretary-general from Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa on 5 January 2017. He assumed the post effective Jan 1, 2017 taking over from Tan Sri Othman Hashim whose contract of service had expired.

Dato' Ramlan who was the Permanent Representative at the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations began his career as a Malaysian Administrative and Diplomatic officer in 1983 and had been posted to the Republic of Indonesia, the Netherlands, Croatia and Singapore.

Dato' Ramlan's first ambassadorial post was as Malaysia's ambassador to Bosnia Herzegovina from 2004 to 2006. He then returned to the headquarters to serve as Undersecretary of the Americas Division and subsequently as Undersecretary of the Southeast-Asia Division.

Dato' Ramlan then served as ambassador to the Republic of Korea from 2009 to 2013. He then once again returned to headquarters to serve as Deputy Secretary- General for Bilateral Affairs from 2013 to 2015.

In April 2015, Dato' Ramlan was appointed as the Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations in New York.

His tenure as Malaysia's Permanent Representative to the UN culminated with the successful adoption of Security Council Resolution 2334 (2016) on Dec 23, on the situation in the Middle East including the Palestinian question which was a significant step towards progress in the Middle East.

The resolution was put forward by Malaysia and three other non-permanent member countries

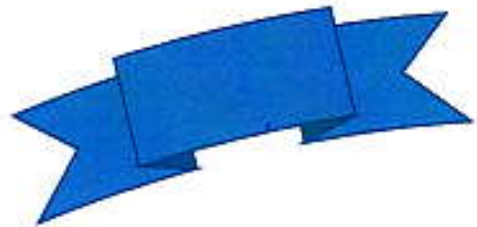
## **Malaysia National Day Golf Tournament**



*Datuk Anuar Kasman receiving his trophy from Director (Marketing & Market Development), Malaysian Palm Oil Council*

The Embassy of Malaysia with the support of the Malaysian Palm Oil Council organized a Golf Tournament on 4 September in conjunction with Malaysia's National Day that was observed on 31<sup>st</sup> August. There were 32 participants taking part in the tournament.

The attendees comprising mainly Bosnian captains of industry were captivated with Malaysia's cultural performance that featured traditional dances from various states in Malaysia during lunch and prize giving ceremony.





## Malaysian Palm Oil Council Visit to BiH



*MPOC meeting with the Halal Association of BiH*

Delegation from the Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC), and palm oil and fats industry in Malaysia undertook a trade mission to BiH from 1 to 7 September to promote the use of palm oil in Bosnia.

The eight-member delegation was led by Dr. Kalyana Sundram, Deputy Chief Operating Officer. In Bosnia the delegation had a series of meetings and activities – meetings with trade chambers and halal association, company visit, Merdeka Golf Tournament, networking dinner with business community in Bosnia and a Food Truck event (palm oil cooking demonstrations) focusing on the Bosnian consumers organized by MPOC with the support of the Embassy of Malaysia in Sarajevo. The visit has allowed MPOC to explore the market potential of oils and fats industry in Bosnia with a view of increasing the palm oil market share in this country through collaboration between the two sides.

According to Dr. Sundram, currently, total consumption of oils and fats for BiH was registered at 53,000 MT with sunflower oil being the most consumed at 37,000 MT or 73 per cent of total consumption in 2015. While, palm oil market share stood at 5,300 MT or 9 per cent of total consumption and this, he said, is an encouraging situation as compared to 2001 when palm oil market share was less than 1 per cent.

The latest data indicates a changing preference and better acceptance towards palm oil in BiH and Malaysian palm oil companies want to capitalize on their opportunity, Dr Sundram said.

### **Networking Dinner by the Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC)**

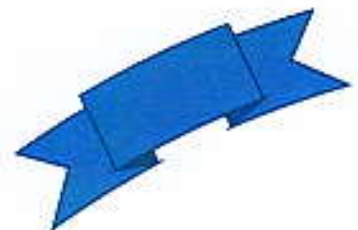


*Dr Kalyana Sundram, Deputy CEO of MPOC at the Networking Dinner, Sarajevo*

The MPOC concluded its trade promotion tour to Bosnia and Herzegovina with a networking dinner organized by the Embassy of Malaysia on 6<sup>th</sup> September. About 161 people from the government, diplomatic, business, academic institutions and the media attended the dinner. Notable attendees included presidents of the Foreign Trade Chamber of BiH, Chamber of Economy of the Federation of BiH and Association of Halal Industry of BiH.

During the event, MPOC highlighted that Bosnia and Herzegovina has become an important halal hub in the region which allow the country to plan significant role in promoting palm oil and fats industry in the Balkan region.

The event highlights were the welcoming remarks by Ambassador, opening remarks by Deputy CEO of MPOC, presentations on the use and benefits of palm oil and a video presentation on palm oil and fats industries in Malaysia and the world.



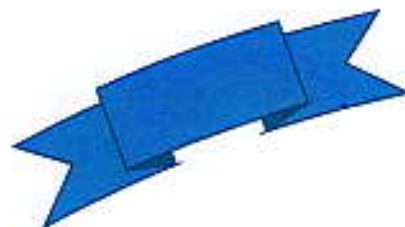
***Visit by President of The Senate, Parliament of Malaysia***



***Dato' Sri SA Vigneswaran and Safet Softic, Speaker of the House of Peoples, BiH***

The working visit of Dato' Sri SA. Vigneswaran, President of The Senate, Parliament of Malaysia to Bosnia and Herzegovina took place from 24 to 27 September. The President led a 14-member delegation that include five senators of various component parties in Malaysia. The visit aimed to further strengthen the existing friendly relations between Malaysia and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

During the visit, the delegation had meetings with members of the Join Collegium of both Houses of the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH as well as separate courtesy calls on the head of state and head of government.



**National Sports Day/Hari Sukan Negara**



**Datin Maryani, Datuk Anuar, Mrs Julia and Mr Loh with winners of the bowling tournament**

The Embassy of Malaysia celebrated 2016 National Sports Day by organizing a Bowling Tournament on 8 October in Ilidza, about 10.2 km from Sarajevo.

There were 20 participants comprising Malaysians living in BiH, Home-Based Staff and Locally Recruited Staff and their family members. The tournament was divided into women and men categories.

The tournament commenced after a short remarks by Ambassador Datuk Anuar Kasman on the background and objectives of the sports day. The winners took away hampers donated by the Malaysian Palm Oil Council.



**Visit by Chief Minister of Kedah**



***Datuk Seri Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah (second from right),  
Datuk Anuar Kasman and delegation at the High Tea hosted in honour of  
the delegation***

Datuk Seri Ahmad Bashah Md Hanipah, Chief Minister of Kedah led a 40 member delegation visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina from 20-23 October 2016.

Besides Sarajevo, the delegation visited Mostar (heritage city) and leather factory in Visoko. Ambassador Datuk Anuar Kasman and Bank Bosna International d.o.o hosted high tea reception in honour of the Chief Minister and his delegation in Sarajevo.



## **Public Lecture by Ambassador Datuk Anuar Kasman**



**Datuk Anuar Kasman delivering his lecture**

Ambassador Datuk Anuar Kasman delivered a lecture entitled "Malaysia – Truly Asia" on 23 November in Sarajevo organized by the Association of the Bosnian-Asian Friendship (ABACUS). ABACUS is a platform formed by a group of diplomats, scholars, media experts and cultural workers from Asia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). The lecture is part of the ASEAN lecture series organized by ABACUS.

The one and the half hour event was followed by a cocktail reception which include popular Malaysian desserts such as *Apam Pisang*, *Bingka Labu*, *Karipap*, *Labu*, *Seri Muka Labu*, *Kek Gula Hangus*, and *Sandwich Telur* prepared by PERWAKILAN Sarajevo.

About 70 people comprising diplomatic representatives in BiH, former Ambassadors who served in Asia, representatives of the academic community, businessmen, university students, students of the Second Grammar School in Sarajevo and staff of the Malaysian Embassy and their family members were in attendance.

The lecture was divided into four parts – Malaysia in Profile, Bilateral Malaysia-BiH, Malaysia and ASEAN, and Malaysia and Western Balkans. The 40-minute lecture was followed by questions and answers session which lasted for 20 minutes. The questions raised by participants included study opportunities in Malaysia, business opportunities and Malaysia's decision not to continue hosting Formula One race.



## Johore Delegation Visit



**Representatives of the Johore State Government, Embassy of Malaysia and MBI Development d.o.o. posed group photo in front of MBI Development newly launched apartment project in Ilidza**

A 21-member delegation from the Johore State Government undertook a two-day (22-23 December 2016) working visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The visit was part of their visit to Germany and other Western Balkan countries.

The visit was headed by Dato' Ismail Karim, State Secretary of Johore State Government. The visit was arranged by MBI Development d.o.o., a Malaysia-Bosnia joint venture company. In Sarajevo, the delegation visited MBI development newly launched apartment projects and hear briefing on the company's current and future developments. Also in attendance, Charge D'Affaires Mr. Loh Seck Tiong, Embassy Malaysia in Sarajevo.

## MTCP CORNER



**Mirnes Lemeš**

### **MTCP Hajj Workshop on Best Practicess**

I was selected by the Embassy of Malaysia in Sarajevo to represent the Islamic Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the "MTCP Workshop on Best Practices" in Malaysia which was held from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The workshop was conducted under the framework of Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia.

The entire workshop was held in a great atmosphere with a lot of dynamics, interactivity, and the opportunity to learn particularly on the organization of the Hajj. In addition, the hospitality provided to participants which include accommodation is exceptional.

Thanks to the excellent presenters and speakers, the practice of *Tabung Haji* was successfully conveyed to all participants, and it is incumbent upon all of us to try to apply the knowledge in our respective organizations as much as possible.

As part of the program, there was a visit to *Tabung Haji* subsidiary in Malacca where the organizer presented the organization's activities related to Hajj. I personally believe the knowledge acquired from *Tabung Haji* at the workshop, can easily be applicable to other countries. The knowledge gained from *Tabung Haji* will help all future pilgrims during their stay and worship in the holy places. The host put a lot of efforts and they made our visit to Malacca very interesting where we learned about the rich cultural heritage of this beautiful historic city.

We also had the opportunity to visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, during which they presented the work of MTCP, its history and its significance in promoting the sharing of best practices among developing countries under the south-south cooperation.

Overall, the entire program is very useful and particularly the practice carried out by *Tabung Haji* when it comes to the organization of Hajj. I sincerely hope the experience and knowledge gained from the workshop will help me to apply to the Hajj organization of the Islamic Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Finally, on behalf of the Islamic Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Embassy of Malaysia in Sarajevo for the invitation and I hope the Islamic Community will be offered similar opportunity in the future.

**Mirnes Lemeš**  
MTCP Participant



## *CONSULAR INFORMATION*

### **APPLYING FOR MALAYSIAN VISA**

Holder of a Bosnia and Herzegovina passport does not require a visa to enter Malaysia for tourism purposes for a stay up to three (3) months, provided your passport is valid for more than six (6) months upon arrival.

For other nationalities, the necessary information can be found at [www.imi.gov.my](http://www.imi.gov.my).

Visa application can be submitted at:

- The Embassy of Malaysia Bosnia & Herzegovina  
Sarajevo  
Radnicka 4A  
71000 Sarajevo  
Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Submission Time: 9.30am – 12.00 pm  
(Monday – Friday)
- Delivery Time : 9.30am – 4.30 pm  
(Monday – Friday)

\*Application of a Malaysian Visa would take a maximum of three (3) working days to process.

## **Announcements and Upcoming Events**

- 1. Chinese New Year – 28 and 29 January**
- 2. Thaipusam - 9 February**
- 3. Independence Day of BiH – 1 March**

*Embassy of Malaysia in Bosnia and Herzegovina*  
**SARAJEVO**

*January 2017*