



On this issue:

OFFICIAL INFORMATION

**Greetings from our
Ambassador**

Malaysian News

Mission Activities

News of PERWAKILAN

Do You Know

FURTHER INFORMATION

Emergency Contacts

OFFICIAL INFORMATION

GREETINGS FROM OUR NEW AMBASSADOR

¡Hola! My heartfelt greetings to my fellow Malaysians and Friends of Malaysia living in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. First and foremost let me introduce myself, I am Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, the newly appointed Malaysian Ambassador to Argentina concurrently accredited to Uruguay and Paraguay. I arrived in Argentina with my wife and three daughters on 21 March 2017. It is a great honour and privilege to be appointed as His Majesty DYMM SPB Yang Di-

Pertuan Agong's

representative in all these countries to promote and enhance bilateral relations in all areas of cooperation.

Before Argentina, I served at the Malaysian Embassy in Seoul, Republic of Korea and then as the Consul General of Malaysia in Karachi, Pakistan and Consul General of Malaysia in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. My last appointment was as the Undersecretary of West Asia Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Malaysia.

My vision is to continue building strong and sound partnerships with Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay to promote political relations, trade, industry and other people-to-people relations. I will try to lay new foundations which is creative and innovative in further improving the relationship between our nations.

This year marked the 50th Anniversary of Malaysia-Argentina relations which was established on 7 June 1967. To celebrate the occasion, I am planning to commemorate the event with



many programs and activities. I am relying on your support and cooperation to make our events successful and promote Malaysia as what we call as “Malaysia Truly Asia”.

Last but not least, I am extremely glad for my new assignment as the Ambassador of Malaysia to Argentina and to serve with honesty, ethically and professionally. I look forward to meet the entire Malaysian community in different events and to continue working to strengthen the bonds between both countries. Salam 1 Malaysia. *¡Espero verlos pronto, adiós!*

MALAYSIAN NEWS

2050 NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION

The 2050 National Transformation or *Transformasi Nasional* (TN50) is a new 30-year transformation plan for Malaysia. It is a new vision for Malaysia, announced by the Prime Minister of Malaysia during the 2017 Budget. TN50 aims to transform Malaysia into a nation of caliber with a new mindset. TN50 will span three decades, and the youths of all races will form the core of this new transformation plan. On 19 January 2017, the Malaysian Prime Minister, Dato’ Sri



Mohd Najib Tun Razak, launched the first series of national discourse to chart the nation’s direction on a new canvas as the 2050 National Transformation with some 500 youth leaders at Dewan Tunku Canselor, University Malaya. The general goal for TN50 is for Malaysia to become a top 20 country in the world by the year 2050. In the run up to the unveiling of TN50 in 2019, there will be a series of discussions on what the Malaysian identity

“Let TN50 bear witness; (let it) be recorded in history that we are responsible citizens and forefathers, to leave behind the best and the greatest legacy to be inherited by future generations. “From now on, TN50 is our lucky charm. Let the old legacy pass. The future of Malaysia, we will recreate,” - Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, 21

should be by 2050 – in terms of how Malaysians view themselves as diverse Malaysians. The Ministry of Youth and Sports is tasked to collect views from youths in the first few months of this year, before moving on to other groups. The year 2017 will be spent collecting views from public with 2018 the year for the Government to have more focused discussions with experts to see whether the views and suggestions are realistic. Near the end of the next year or early 2019, the Government will form a policy document on TN50 to be announced by the Prime Minister. TN50 will be the roadmap, after Vision 2020 that will transform the country’s economy, citizen well-being, environment, technology, social interaction, governance and public administration.

MALAYSIA TO HOST SEA GAMES 2017



After 16 years, Malaysia is once again hosting the SEA Games and ASEAN Para Games which will be branded as Kuala Lumpur 2017. Back then, we had just hosted a highly successful Commonwealth Games in 1998 and managed to become the overall champion at the 2001 SEA Games. Since then, Malaysian sports have seen its ups and downs. Despite that, it has never lost its vibrancy and excitement, especially among sports fans who always

support their local sporting heroes.

The year 2017 will also mark Malaysia's 60th year of independence - an important milestone in our young nation's history. I am sure that on the sporting front, the 29th chapter of the SEA Games as well as the 9th ASEAN Para Games will be a landmark occasion and a source of pride for all Malaysians in many years to come.

Source: www.kualalumpur2017.com.my/



MALAYSIA ECONOMIC OUTLOOK



The Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) has forecast a gross domestic product (GDP) growth of 4.5% for Malaysia this year against an estimated growth of 4.2% projected for 2016. The projection was based on the country's healthy trade balance in September, October and November last year, which stood at RM6.6bil, RM9.8bil and RM9bil, respectively.

The GDP growth forecast for 2017 was revised downwards to 4.5% from its previous forecast of between 4.5% and 5.5%. Malaysia's economic size was relatively small, the country would likely depend on the performance of the external environment including US president-elect Donald Trump's policies, the Brexit process and China's economic slowdown.

For 2017, domestic demand would continue to be the driver of growth but at a slower pace of 4.6% (initial forecast: 5%). Both private consumption and investment are expected to grow moderately by 5.5% and 6%, respectively, (initial forecast 5.6% and 6.6%, respectively).

The inflation rate in 2017 may be higher than the 2.1% recorded in 2016, due to high consumer spending. Bank Negara is expected to maintain the overnight policy rate at 3% this year as efforts taken by the central bank last year was sufficient.

The ringgit would remain between 4.4 and 4.5 against the US dollar this year, provided there is no significant factors that can further hurt the local note. – BERNAMA

MISSION ACTIVITIES

CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA



On April 11, 2017, Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, Ambassador paid a courtesy call to Her Excellency Ms. Susan Malcorra, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Argentina. During the call, Ambassador presented a copy of his Credential Cards and held discussion with the Minister on issues of mutual interests.

COURTESY CALL ON THE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, MFA ARGENTINA

Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak had the opportunity to present his copy of credentials to Ambassador Sergio Baur, Chief of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentina on 28 March 2017.



DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENT



Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak paid a courtesy call on the Dean of Diplomatic Corps in Buenos Aires, Argentina, HE Emil Paul Tscherrig, Ambassador of Holy Sea/ Apostolic Nuncio - Vatican Representative to Argentina.

ASEAN AMBASSADORS GROUP MEETING IN BUENOS AIRES

Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, Ambassador of Malaysia attended the First Meeting of ASEAN Group in Buenos Aires for 2017 which was held at the Embassy of Vietnam on 27 March 2017. The meeting was hosted by H.E. Nguyen Dinh Thao, Ambassador of Viet Nam and was also attended by Ambassador Amelita C. Aquino (Philippines), Ambassador Narisroj Fuangrabil (Thailand) and Ambassador Johnny Sinaga (Indonesia).



Among the main topics of the meeting were: to deliberate on the programs of activities that was undertaken in 2016, to review new programs of activities for 2017 especially the commemoration the 50th anniversary of ASEAN and handing over of the group chairmanship from Viet Nam to Thailand. Under the chairmanship of Viet Nam there were several events that been successfully undertaken last year i.e. ASEAN Day, ASEAN Festival and Bazaar. Ambassador of Viet Nam thanked all ASEAN Ambassadors for their full support and assistance to raise the profile of the ASEAN-Argentina relations and also to promote awareness of ASEAN in Argentina. The meeting was concluded by a lunch hosted by the Ambassador of Indonesia at Puerto Madero.

NETWORKING MEETING

Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak received a visit from PETRONAS E&P ARGENTINA S.A representatives on 11 April 2017 at the Embassy. It was an introductory visit and meeting as to brief the Ambassador on a new business venture by PETRONAS since 2015 in the project of Vaca Muerta in the Neuquén province of Argentina.



Visit by YB Datuk Sri Hj. Mohd Alwi Hj Che Ahmad, Kok Lanas, State of Kelantan Legislative Assembly Member.

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS AT THE MFA BUILDING

Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, Ambassador held a meeting with Director of Asia & Oceania, MFA Argentina, Mr. Estanislao Angel Zawels at the *Cancilleria* on 5 April 2017. During the meeting, the Ambassador discussed and exchanged views on various issues of mutual interests between Malaysia and Argentina.



SOCCER DIPLOMACY



Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, Ambassador received a visit from representative of Mr. Cristian Fabbiani, a well-known Argentinean professional footballer with 107 goals. Fabbiani, presently playing for Deportivo Merlo is looking for new venues for his professional career especially in the Malaysian League.

NEWS OF PERWAKILAN

PERWAKILAN BUENOS AIRES 1st MEETING

PERWAKILAN Buenos Aires held its first meeting for 2017 on 28 March 2017 at the Chancery. The meeting was chaired by YBhg. Datin Aniza Mohamad Tamil in her capacity as the new Chairman of PERWAKILAN. The meeting among others discuss on the program of activities for the year and appointment of the new committee members. Welcome Datin Aniza!!!



HBS GET-TOGETHER

Home Based Staffs and their family members had a get together at Mrs. Harjit's place in Palermo, Buenos Aires. The gathering was a good opportunity to all HBS to enjoy the home cooked dishes and get to know each other better. #sayaanakmalaysia



STUDY VISIT TO RIO TIGRE



All HBS and their families undertook a study visit to Rio Tigre, a touristic attraction located 30 kilometers from Buenos Aires. The main attraction was the "Puerto de Frutos," an open market with streets full of the colors of rustic fabric, furniture and accessories made in cane and willow. There were also delicious jam and honey, varieties of flowers, and restaurants on the river shore. Besides enjoying the natural greenery, street fruits and the local delicacies, the HBS had a picnic near the Tigre garden.

BA FAMILY

BA Family picture of all HBS, LRS and contract staffs with H.E. Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi bin Abdul Razak, the new Ambassador to Argentina, March 2017



DO YOU KNOW...?

MALASIA CALLE OR MALAYSIA STREET IN BUENOS AIRES



by Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Abdul Razak, Ambassador of Malaysia on the Malasia Calle: "Well I have just discovered that in Buenos Aires neighborhood of *Belgrano*, there is a *Malasia Calle* or a Malaysia street that stretches between *Mauré* and *Gorostiaga*. This 200 metres street combines diverse European styles mansions and villas with garden that is more than 70 years old. Until 1995, the street was originally called *Arribeños* but President Carlos Menem named the street *Malasia* due to the close distance of the Embassy of Malaysia which is just a block away at Villanueva. Proud to be Malaysian #spiritofmalaysia, 5 April 2017".

A FEW PHRASES TO CATCH UP WITH THE LOCAL CULTURE...

Conversations...

In Spanish!

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ¡Hola! | Hello! |
| Buenos (días, tardes, noches) | Good (morning, afternoon, night) |
| ¿Cómo te llamas? | What's your name? |
| ¿Cómo estás?/¿Qué tal? | How are you? |
| ¿Y tú? | And you? |
| Bien, Más o menos, Mal | Good, Okay, Terrible |
| ¿De dónde eres? | Where are you from? |
| Soy de __ pero vivo en __ | I'm from __ but I live in __ |
| ¿Cuántos años tienes (tú)? | How old are you? |
| Tengo # años. | I have __ years. |
| Adios, Hasta (mañana, luego) | Goodbye, See you (tomorrow, later) |

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

This are the phone numbers of the Staff of the Embassy to be contacted in case of emergency:

-Mr. Sanmugan Subramanian- Minister Counsellor: +54 911 5336 7184

-Mrs. Harjit Kaur Darbara Singh-Second Secretary: +54 911 7006 3968

-Mrs. Khadijah Che Nat-Personal Assistant to Ambassador : +54 911 2570 6705

Editorial Board

Patron: Dato' Mohd Khalid Abbasi Bin Abdul Razak

Editor: Mr Sanmugan Subramaniam, Head of Chancery

News Editor and Translator: Ms Antonella Cicconi



**For more information,
please contact us**

+5411 4776-0504

+5411 4776-2553

mwbuenosaires@kln.gov.my

www.kln.gov.my/perwakilan/buenosaires