



LA VOIX

PERMANENT MISSION OF MALAYSIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

ISSUE 1 / 2017

JANUARY - JUNE 2017

Yang di-Pertuan Agong XV

Background Information

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 Lon-
don.

Hobbies:

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



His Majesty Yang di-Pertuan Agong XV

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 itself 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 resides at the *Istana Negara* in Kuala Lumpur. In his own home state, a regent will be appointed to oversee state ceremonial matters.

Sultan Muhammad V is the 15th 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.

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

Message from the Permanent Representative

Dear Readers,

On behalf of the Permanent Mission of Malaysia in Geneva, I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to you.

I hope you, especially the Malaysian community in Geneva and elsewhere in Switzerland, as well as friends of Malaysia, find this issue of LA VOIX useful.

This issue contains information from Malaysia and those related to events organized by the Mis-

sion over the last six months.

In addition to fulfilling its core functions as Malaysia's representation to one of the main multilateral diplomacy centres (i.e. International Geneva), this Mission will continue to reach out to you to strengthen our friendship, including through this LA VOIX.

- TYT Dato' Amran Mohamed Zin
Ambassador and Permanent
Representative



Minister of Health at 2017 World Health Assembly



YB Minister had a meeting with Dr. Tedros and discussed several issues such as cost and access to diagnostics and medicine, the role of WHO leadership and capacity building through short-term attachment programmes

YB Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam, Minister of Health of Malaysia led the Malaysian delegation to the 70th World Health Assembly (WHA) held in Geneva from 22 to 31 May 2017. During the WHA Plenary Meeting, YB Minister underlined that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was a stimulus and an opportunity to build better systems for health and well-being. He further illustrated that universal health coverage can be achieved by recognizing that health is linked to productivity in other sectors such as agriculture, education, employment, energy, environment and the economy.

Among the main highlight of the 70th WHA was the election of the new Director General of WHO. Member States of WHO elected Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus as the new Director General of

WHO, on 23 May.

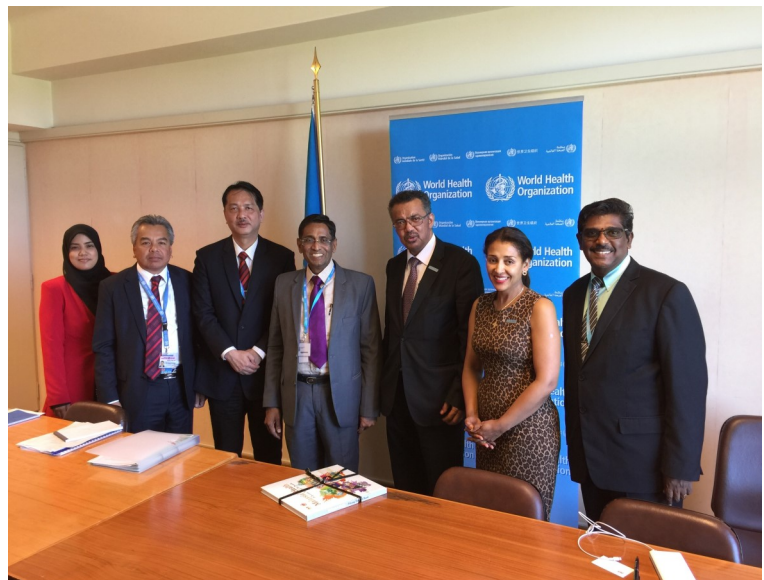
Dr Tedros, nominated by the Government of Ethiopia, began his five-year term on 1 July 2017. Prior to his election as WHO's Director-General, Dr Tedros served as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ethiopia from 2012-2016 and as Minister of Health, Ethiopia from 2005-2012.

YB Minister had a meeting with Dr Tedros and discussed several issues such as cost and access to diagnostics and medicine, the role of WHO leadership as the normative-setting body, and the opportunity for capacity building of technical officers from Malaysia to WHO through short-term attachment programmes.

YB Minister had bilateral meetings with his counterparts from Singapore and Maldives to discuss matters of mutual in-

terest. YB Minister also met with the representatives from Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), Drug for Neglected Disease Initiative (DNDi) and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). In addition, YB Minister participated in the press conference for the launching of the first EAT Asia-Pacific Food Forum during the WHA. The Forum will be hosted in Jakarta from 30-31 October 2017.

YB Minister had earlier attended the Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting (CHMM) on 21 May 2017. The annual meeting offered the opportunity to explore and discuss Commonwealth priorities in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals and the targets to achieve universal health coverage (UHC), share perspectives in relation to health security and access to UHC. During the meeting, YB Minister made a courtesy call on Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland QC, Commonwealth Secretary-General and chaired the Ministerial Roundtable on Sustainable Health Financing.



Visit of Human Resources Minister for International Labour Conference



YB Dato' Sri Richard Riot Anak Jaem, Minister of Human Resources, attended the 106th Session of the International Labour Conference, which was held in Geneva from 5 to 16 June 2017.

In his intervention delivered during the Plenary session held on 13th June 2017, YB Labor Minister's statement focused on the importance of creating environmentally friendly green jobs to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

On the same morning, an ASEAN Labour Ministers' Breakfast Meeting was also held, during which a compilation video was screen on ASEAN's achievements on decent work. Also in attendance was special guest Mr. Guy Ryder, Director General of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). YB Minister also held a bilateral meeting with his Chinese counterpart.



Promoting Road Safety at a Geneva Forum



Addressing the ITC Minister Meeting on 21 February, YB Deputy Transport Minister underscored the importance of connectivity for economic growth and development for the ultimate well-being of the people. He highlighted Malaysia's initiatives for a seamless transportation system under the 11th Malaysia Plan 2016-2020. YB Deputy Minister also congratulated the ITC for its achievements over the past 70

years, and reiterated Malaysia's readiness to engage continuously with the ITC.

YB Deputy Minister also met with Mr. Jean Todt, UN Special Envoy for Road Safety, during which they exchanged views on efforts to increase road safety and reduce accidents, especially through education and enforcement. The Special Envoy also registered his appreciation for Malaysia's efforts towards this end.

Malaysia's submission "The Suitable and Right Helmet" won the award for best film in the Safe Motorcycle Riding category at the Global Safety Film Festival on 21 February 2017. The short film was a joint effort of the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS), Ministry of Education (MOE) and the Road Safety Department (JKJR). YB Datuk Aziz Kaprawi, Deputy Minister of Transport, who was in Geneva for the commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC), received the award.



The Malaysian team garnered 12 gold medals, 5 silver and two bronze medals for their inventions.

Malaysian Inventors Excelled at Geneva International Exhibition of Inventions



Seventeen Malaysian Inventions were on display at the 45th Geneva International Exhibition of Inventions held from 29 March to 2 April 2017 at Palexpo Geneva. Fifteen Malaysian innovators from research institutions, universities, colleges and the private sector participated under the banner of the Malaysian Association of Research Scientists (MARS)

Projects developing bone scaffolding using rapid prototyping system, a smartphone application to locate parking, organic grease trap, hygienic bottle caps, accurate measur-

ing device and a smart brick layering system were among the Malaysian inventions on display.

The Malaysian team managed to

garner 12 gold, five silver and two bronze medals for the inventions. Additionally, Mr. Mohd Yazid Bajuri from UKM also won the Korean Invention Promotion Association (KIPA) prize for his project.

Overall, the exhibition saw the participation of 725 exhibitors and over a thousand inventions on display, marked by a high proportion of inventions in the area of health, medicine and the security sector.

The Malaysian exhibitors were also hosted to tea by Dato' PR at the Permanent Mission.



Malaysia at top three of upper middle income economies

- Global Innovation Index 2017

Malaysia is ranked third among upper-middle income economies, eighth in Southeast Asia and Oceania and 37th worldwide in the Global Innovation Index (GII) 2017 report released by Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intel-

lectual Property Organisation (WIPO) on 15 June 2017 in Geneva.

The report said Malaysia also had the best cluster development and information and communications technology use, and had maintained its strengths

in high-technology imports and exports and creative goods exports, among other indicators.

Switzerland continues to lead the rankings for the seventh consecutive year, followed by Sweden and the Netherlands.

Cornell SC Johnson College of Business

INSEAD The Business School for the World

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization

The Global Innovation Index 2017
Innovation Feeding the World

TENTH EDITION



CFI

strategic

BICCI

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TWO AWARDS FOR MALAYSIA AT WSIS FORUM 2017

Malaysia won two awards from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in conjunction with the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) held from 12 to 16 June 2017 in Geneva.

Cybersecurity Malaysia won one award for its 'Information Sharing Analysis of Malware Threats in Organization of Islamic Cooperation' project under the Local and Regional Cooperation Category. The second prize went to Multimedia University's project on the detection of protein in latex gloves

under the ICT Applications and Sciences Category.

YBhg. Dato' Dr Mohd Ali Mohamad Nor, Deputy Secretary General (Operation), Ministry of Communications and Multimedia Malaysia represented YB Minister of Communications and Multimedia Malaysia to WSIS 2017.

WSIS Forum 2017 was attended by more than 2,000 stakeholders from 163 countries. Participants came together to share experiences, knowledge and perspectives and to announce new tools and initiatives

to use ICTs to advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in such critical areas as ICT-centric innovation, accessibility, gender equality, youth empowerment, e-health and cyber security among many others.



Malaysia's Candidature to Human Rights Council 2018-2020

The Permanent Mission of Malaysia continues its lobbying efforts to secure membership in the Human Rights Council for 2018-2020.

Malaysia seeks to contribute more actively to the work of the Council in the promotion and protection of human rights.

Malaysia is a founding member of the Council, and had previously served as a member for the 2006-2009 and 2010-2013 terms.

The United Nations General Assembly is scheduled to elect members to the Council in September 2017.



ASEAN Film Festival 2017



The ASEAN Film Festival 2017 was held from 27 March to 7 April 2017 at the Palais des Nations.

Malaysia's contribution "Redha" was screened on 3 April 2017. Directed by YM Tunku Mona Riza, "Redha" is a reflection of the realities of life for autistic children and their families as they go through coping with this misunderstood condition. As the screening coincided with World Autism Awareness Day, Malaysia also took the opportunity to promote awareness of this disease.

The other movies screened throughout the two weeks were Yasmine (Brunei), Vanished (Cambodia), "Cahaya dari Timur: Beta Maluku" (Indonesia), Only Love (Laos), Adam Eve Datsa (Myanmar), "Boses" (Philippines), My Magic (Singapore), Best of Times (Thailand) and Yellow Flowers in Green Grass (Viet Nam).



Launching of Negaraku Expression Programme



NEGARAKU

On 18 March 2017, Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Najib Tun Abdul Razak launched the "Ekspresi Negaraku" (Negaraku Expression) programme at Dataran Putrajaya. The programme, aimed at showcasing Malaysia's multiracial, multiethnic and multi-religious unity will allow Malaysians to demonstrate their feelings and expression for the country.

Among the initiatives under the Negaraku programme include a national arts competition, contribution of story, poster competition, art exhibition and using Negaraku logo in all the official government correspondence. If you have an interesting and patriotic story to share, about a Malaysian experience, encounter or interaction, you can share at <http://www.negaraku.com>.

"Patriotism is the foundation and main element for a strong identity which we need to foster if we want to be a nation that is peaceful, harmonious and united" - Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak

MAG's Lunar New Year Gathering

On 12 February 2017, the Malaysian Association of Geneva (MAG) organized a New Year lunch to mark the beginning of the Lunar New Year. The event was attended by Y.Bhg. Dato' Amran Mohamed Zin, Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the UN in Geneva, officers from the Permanent Mission, as well as the Malaysian community in Geneva.

In his opening remarks, YBhg. Dato' PR wished all attendees a happy and prosperous Lunar New Year. He encouraged MAG to continue playing its important role of bringing the Malaysian community together through various social and cultural events. He also urged Malaysians nationals who had yet to do so to register with the Malaysian Mission in case of emergency.



Iftar Gathering Hosted at Malaysian Residence

Y.Bhg. Dato' Amran Mohamed Zin, Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the UN in Geneva, hosted an iftar gathering at the Residence on 17 June 2017. The breaking of fast was attended by staff of the Permanent Mission, the Malaysian Embassy in Berne as well as their family members.



Excursions and other Social Activities by Permanent Mission



Venetian Festival at Annecy, France, 11 March 2017



Morgues Tulip Festival, 30 April 2017



ASEAN Bowling Tournament 2017, 21 May 2017

Perwakilan Geneva AGM



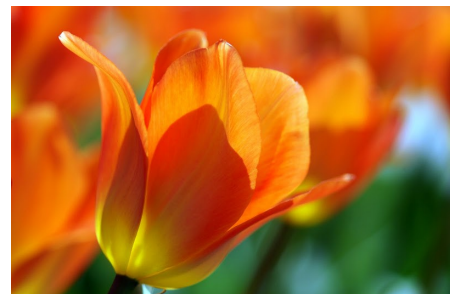
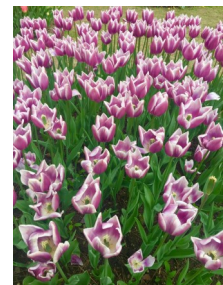
Venetian Festival in Annecy, France



Geneva Book Festival at PALEXPO



Morges Tulip Festival on Lake Lemman





Visit Pahang Year 2017

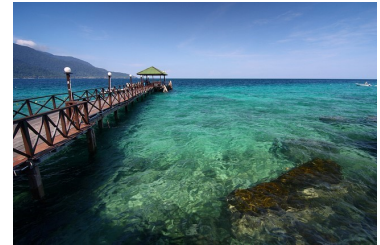


This year the Pahang state government has launched Visit Pahang Year 2017 and has lined up events and festivals galore.

Some of Malaysia's famous highlands, recreational places, beaches and islands are located in Pahang. The Cameron Highlands, Genting Highlands, Bukit Tinggi and Fraser's Hill are for people who just love to be one with nature; Gunung Tahan which rises 2,187 meters above sea level; Taman Negara with activities such as rapid shooting, canopy walk and cave exploration; Kuala Gandah Elephant Sanctuary where you can

interact with elephants; Cherating and Teluk Cempedak are among the popular beach resort area; while Tioman island, has been dubbed as 'one of the 10 most famous islands in the world'.

Pahang's uniquely eclectic mix of Malay, Chinese, Indian and Indigenous Peoples makes it an even bigger draw for foreign tourists. For more information regarding travel info, destination, things to do and calendar of events, go to www.visitpahang.com or www.pahangtourism.org.my.



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The Permanent Mission of Malaysia in Geneva can be contacted for the following services:

- Malaysian visa application
- Report lost/stolen Malaysian passport
- Birth, marriage and death registration
- Letter of Good Conduct application

Malaysians residing in Geneva are advised to register or update their registration information with the consular section of the Permanent Mission. Registration would facilitate communications in the event of an emergency and information on the Mission's activities.