



# E-Bulletin Malaysia

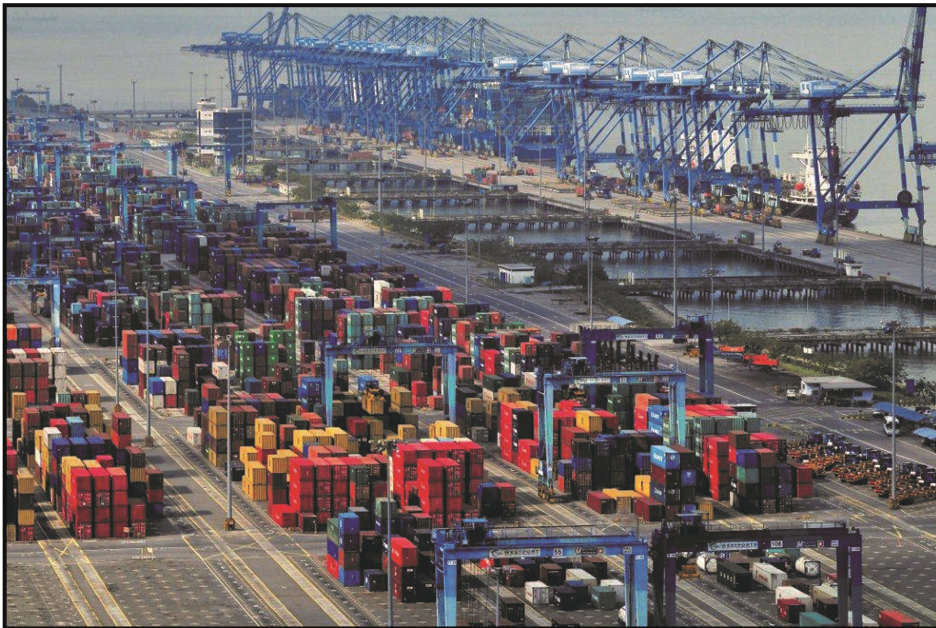


A quarterly newsletter issued by the Embassy of Malaysia, Zagreb

April — June 2017

## Malaysia Trade: Strong Performance in January 2017

## DO YOU KNOW?



### Malaysia Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP)

*MTCP shares Malaysia's development experiences and expertise with other developing countries. MTCP offers training for participants from various governmental institutions in areas which are essential for a country's development such as public administration, health services, education, sustainable development, agriculture, investment promotion, ICT and banking.*

*More than 50 Croatians benefited from the various short-term specialised courses offered under the MTCP since 1996.*

*Apart from the educational benefits, the participants are offered first-hand experience of Malaysia through cultural programmes and activities.*

Malaysia's trade in January 2017 recorded a remarkable growth of 14.8% to reach a value of RM135.77 billion as compared to RM118.31 billion in January 2016. Expansion in trade were seen with China, ASEAN, Japan, the United States of America (USA), Taiwan, Australia and the European Union (EU).

Exports posted a double digit growth of 13.6% to RM70.24 billion, the highest monthly export value ever recorded for the month of January, surpassing RM64.05 billion registered in January 2014. Imports expanded by 16.1% to RM65.53 billion.

A trade balance of RM4.71 billion was recorded in January 2017 making it the 231st consecutive month of trade surpluses since November 1997.

Major exports in January 2017 were: E&E products, valued at RM24.89 billion and constituted 35.4% of total exports, increased by 11.4% from January 2016.

MITI, Weekly Bulletin, Vol. 425, 7 March 2017

## INVESTMENT



The Pengerang Integrated Petroleum Complex (PIPC) is one big step in creating value to the downstream oil and gas value chain in southern state of Johor. Sited in Pengerang, it is one of the largest pieces of investments in Pengerang district and located on a single plot measuring about 20,000 acres. The project will house oil refineries, naphtha crackers, petrochemical plants as well as a liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal and a regasification plant.

As of January 2013, two major catalytic projects have been committed within the PIPC area. The RM5 billion Pengerang Independent Deepwater Petroleum Terminal (PIDPT) is a joint-venture between DIALOG Group of Malaysia, Royal Vopak of Netherlands and Johor State Secretary Incorporated (SSI). Construction of Phase 1 of the project was completed and Phase 2 land reclamation is in progress. The total storage capacity available at PIDPT is planned for five million cubic metres by the year 2020.

The second mega-project within PIPC is PETRONAS' RM60 billion Refinery and Petrochemical Integrated Development (RAPID) Project. The RAPID project site preparation is in progress and is expected to be commissioned by 2018. RAPID will have a 300,000 bbl. per day refining capacity while additional petrochemical plants will generate value to petroleum products produced in RAPID.

## About IDFR



*The Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, also known as IDFR, was established on 1 July 1991 under the Prime Minister's Department following a Cabinet decision dated 6 March 1991. It was officially launched that same year on 12 August by the then Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad.*

*As the Ministry's training arm, IDFR conducts training programmes for Malaysian diplomatic officers as well as officers from other government ministries and agencies. Apart from the main diplomatic training courses, IDFR provides mid-career and follow up professional skills training to help enhance the professionalism of serving officers.*

Datuk Mohamad Sadik Kethergany

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## INFRASTRUCTURE

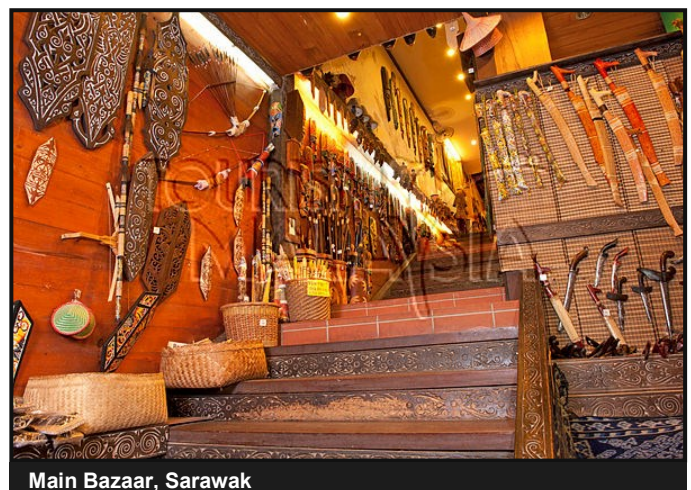
### Malaysia to Build High-Speed Rail



The Kuala Lumpur–Singapore High Speed Rail (HSR) project was announced by the Malaysian Prime Minister Najib in September 2010 to connect Kuala Lumpur and Johor Bahru with Singapore.

On 19 February 2013, Singapore and Malaysia officially agreed to build a high-speed rail link between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore by 2020 at a meeting between Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak in Singapore.

The construction of the highspeed railway was expected to start in 2017, with targeted completion in 2026. The proposed high-speed rail (HSR) may likely cost RM65 billion.



Main Bazaar, Sarawak

## A Homestay Programme in Malaysia

## TOURISM



Malaysian game *Gasing* and traditional crafts

With the Malaysian homestay programme, tourists will experience life in a *kampung* or traditional village. The *kampungs* involved in the homestay programme are committed to ensure that visitors experience village-style living first hand. All *kampungs* taking part in the homestay programme are carefully selected and comply with strict guidelines from the Ministry of Tourism in order to bring out the best of Malaysia.

The activities the tourist engages in are all authentically Malaysian, including preparation of food using traditional methods, going to the orchard to harvest fruits or feeding livestock in the farm. Spend time with the host's children after they return from school and indulge in games that are still popular in *kampungs*, like kite flying, top spinning and congkak.

Alternatively, one can explore the natural surroundings. In the evening, join cultural dances, musical performances or even a mock wedding. Service providers are taken through the certification process by Tourism Malaysia, preserving the experience of traditional Malaysian charm ensuring the spirit of Malaysian hospitality is kept alive.

<http://www.tourism.gov.my/niche/homestay>

**Are you MTCP Alum-  
nus/a!? If you are,  
please contact us at the  
Embassy.**

**Email:  
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## Islamic Finance

### SOCIAL, ETHICAL & IMPACT INVESTING & ISLAMIC FINANCE

*Incorporating ESG & SRI Strategies with Islamic Asset Management  
12th April 2017, InterContinental,  
Kuala Lumpur*

*Awareness in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and Sustainable Responsible Investing (SRI) has intensified significantly in the past two years. As ethical investing becomes more commonplace, especially among large institutional investors, and media coverage of the sector's activity proliferates, ESG and SR investing is set to grow in importance.*

*Recent research has indicated that younger investors are more likely to invest in sustainable investments than otherwise. As such, asset managers and financial institutions anticipate that global demand for socially responsible investment products will soar in coming years.*

*Through its structure and nature, Shariah-compliant finance and investment is supremely well-positioned to take advantage of the growth of ethical and sustainable investing.*

#### *Panel Speakers:*

*Ariff Sultan, Regional director, Asia Pacific Ideal Ratings*

*Stuart Hutton, Chief Investment Officer, Simply Ethical*

*Cindy Rose, Head of Responsible Investing & Co-Head of Stewardship Aberdeen Asset Management*

*For registration please visit: <http://redmoneyevents.com/main/event.asp?IFN=ESGSRI2017>*

## CROATIA CORNER

### Introducing *Drmeš*—Croatian popular Dance



*Drmeš—Croatian Folk Dance*

*Drmeš* is a traditional and most popular folk dance of the central and eastern parts of Croatia which in its present form dates back to the late 19th century. *Drmeš* can be performed by a couple and by a group in a circle and it has two main forms, at the beginning dancers vertically jolt (Croatian "drmati" after which the dance got its name) at the same place, while later they spin around the place at great speed.

Although the main form of the dance is the same there are variations in terms of speed, holding and leg lifting among different areas. *Drmeš* is a dance for entertainment performed at various outdoor special occasions such as weddings, religious celebrations and in the past after the harvests.

## “Malaysia Truly Asia” Workshop

On 17 March 2017, the Embassy of Malaysia, Zagreb in cooperation with Tourism Malaysia, Milan and Qatar Airways organized a workshop for prominent Croatian tourism agencies showcasing latest Malaysia’s travel and tourism packages. Around forty travel agents participated in the event. Qatar Airways has ten regular flights from Zagreb to Doha and Kuala Lumpur per week.

The seminar was greatly welcomed by the agents who were from Croatia and Slovenia which provided them with the opportunity to directly interact with Tourism Malaysia and Embassy of Malaysia regarding the tourist attractions and tourism in Malaysia in general.



“Malaysia Truly Asia” Workshop



Visit to HS Produkt

## Ambassador Hassan Visited HS Produkt

Ambassador Hassan together with the Embassy staff visited HS Produkt, Croatian arms production company on 20 March 2017. The purpose of the visit was to learn about HS Produkt which is one of the leading pistol and rifle producers in the world whereby it has proved itself in the US market.

Ambassador Hassan was briefed about the history, products and future plans of the company by the General Manger of HS Produkt Mr. Željko Pavlin. The visit concluded with the tour to production facilities and weapons testing at the shooting range.

## The International Quran Recital Competition



Tilawatul Quran Competition at PWTC

Tilawatul Quran is the international Quran recital event that is held annually since 1961 in Malaysia. Tunku Abdul Rahman (first Malaysian Prime Minister) was the founder of the International Quran Recital Competition. The program started on 9 March 1961 at Stadium Merdeka, Kuala Lumpur. Since 1985 the competition has been held in the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC), Kuala Lumpur.

So far, Croatia has sent 15 reciters to the competition since 1999. This year in May, two more reciters will be participating in the competition. They are Mr. Ismet Ibiši and Ms. Lamia Farhat.

### Qari and Qariah from Croatia, MTQ 2017



Mr. Ismet Ibiši



Ms. Lamia Farhat

## Longest Serving LRS



**Mr. Senad Begović**

*Accounts Clerk*

*Employed in the Embassy of  
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