

OFFICIAL VISIT OF
YB DATO' SERI HISHAMMUDDIN TUN HUSSEIN
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALAYSIA
TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
1-2 APRIL 2021

YB Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dato' Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein will be undertaking an Official Visit to the People's Republic of China from 1 to 2 April 2021.

This visit is at the invitation from HE Wang Yi, State Councilor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China who had undertaken an Official Visit to Malaysia in October 2020. This will be YB Dato' Seri Hishammuddin's first official visit to the People's Republic of China since assuming office as the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia on 10 March 2020.

During the visit, YB Minister of Foreign Affairs and His Excellency Wang Yi will be co-chairing a bilateral meeting between the Malaysian and China delegations. Both sides will be discussing initiatives to further develop the mutually beneficial cooperation, focusing on the post-pandemic agenda such as facilitating cross border travels, and strengthening vaccine cooperation. Malaysia and China have developed substantial, multi-faceted and comprehensive strategic partnership. The visit is crucial to allow the redoubling of bilateral activities and connectivity.

The two foreign ministers, will also be discussing a range of regional and international issues of mutual concern. Taking stock from the 23rd ASEAN – China Summit, both sides will revisit the essence of the ASEAN-China Year of Sustainable Development Cooperation, strengthen partnership in Blue Economy, as well as deliberate on the prevailing security situation in the region.

The visit of YB Minister of Foreign Affairs will be conducted in strict compliance with the health and safety Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) set by the Ministry of Health of Malaysia and the National Health Commission of the People's Republic of China. This includes travelling in a safe bubble, restriction on movement throughout the visit, limiting the number of engagements, and observing all the health and safety requirements.

Malaysia and China are close friends and partners. Bilateral relations between the two countries have grown steadily and significantly, despite the challenges of COVID-19. In year 2020, bilateral trade between both countries expanded by 4.2%, reaching RM 329.77 billion in

total. China stood as Malaysia's largest trading partner for 12 consecutive years and accounted 18.6% of Malaysia's total trade. Exports to

China also contributed 16.2% to Malaysia's total exports in 2020.

Malaysia and China elevated their relations from "Strategic Cooperation" to "Comprehensive Strategic Partnership" in 2013, marking a new

chapter in the historic ties between Kuala Lumpur and Beijing.

PUTRAJAYA

31 MARCH 2021