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## 'Australia can help achieve Vision 2020'

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Australia can help Malaysia achieve its Vision 2020 by helping the country develop in two areas, according to Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar.

"Australia's participation will be especially meaningful in the fields of human capital development and science and technology," Syed Hamid said in his closing speech at the three-day Malaysia-Australia colloquium.

His speech was read out by his deputy Datuk Joseph Salang.

"As Malaysia strives to achieve Vision 2020, development issues will remain a high priority and Australia has the

potential to further reinforce its role."

Syed Hamid said, in contrast to the dependant relationship of the past, the one between both countries today is more of mutually enriching equals.

"After 50 years of cooperation, we can look forward to the forging of a new era in bilateral relations," he said at the colloquium organised by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) and the Australia Malaysia Institute.

Also attending the colloquium was ISIS chairman and CEO, Datuk Mohamed Jawhar Hassan and Australian High Commissioner Penny William.