

Rais honoured by nomination for C'wealth sec-gen post

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LONDON: Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim, who has been nominated by the Government for the Commonwealth secretary-general post, is grateful for the trust and confidence placed in him.

"I'm proud and deeply honoured, and appreciate the Government's trust in me though it is only as a candidate," he told Malaysian journalists when reacting to the Foreign Ministry's announcement on Friday that Malaysia had nominated him for the post based on his vast experience and involvement in the international arena.

The term of the current Commonwealth Secretary-General Don McKinnon of New Zealand ends on March 31 next year. It is Asia's turn to hold the post in the 53-member grouping.

The election for the new secretary-general will be held at the three-day Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kampala, Uganda, beginning Nov 23.

Rais said that, if elected, he

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DATUK SERI DR RAIS YATIM

would discharge his duties and responsibilities to the best of his ability to boost Malaysia's image internationally.

Rais has wide experience in the legal field, including in international law. — Bernama