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Deputy Prime Minister **Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin** presenting a mock cheque for US\$200,000 (RM751,980) to **Linda Sissons**, member of the Commonwealth of Learning board of governors in Nassau, Bahamas, on Wednesday. With them is Commonwealth secretary-general **Kamalesh Sharma**. Bernama pic

# DPM: We can share learning expertise

**AID:** Malaysia gives RM751,980 to boost quality of education for Commonwealth

NST-26/6/2015



**M**ALAYSIA is committed to helping the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) achieve its strategic goals as the country has always acknowledged the potential in experience and knowledge sharing.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said strong co-operation among member countries

should continue to ensure the success of COL.

"Malaysia looks forward to the engagement, cross-fertilisation of ideas and smart partnerships between the Commonwealth countries," he said at the ministerial meeting of the 19th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers (19CCEM) here yesterday.

To support the initiative, Muhyiddin announced Malaysia's contribution of US\$200,000 (RM751,980) to improve the quality of education and training for Commonwealth countries under COL.

COL is an inter-governmental organisation that promotes and develops open learning and distance education knowledge, resources and technologies.

Based in Vancouver, Canada, COL

has evolved into one of the world's leading distance education providers and leads the development along with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

Muhyiddin, who is also education minister, shared Malaysia's experience in developing the education sector.

"We have dedicated resources to boost the quality of education in tandem with the country's economic development and workforce needs."

As a result, he said, the gross enrolment rate of preschool children had doubled from 46 per cent in 2000 to 90.7 per cent last year, while for primary and secondary schoolchildren, it had reached 98 per cent and 90 per cent respectively last year.

"Malaysia has reached a gross higher education enrolment rate of 48 per cent in 2012, a 70 per cent increase in enrolment over the last decade."