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Najib and Berdimuhamedov with their respective delegations during bilateral talks in Perdana Putra, Putrajaya, yesterday.

## Turkmenistan keen to learn from us *The Sun - 9/11/2016*

**PUTRAJAYA:** The Turkmenistan government is keen to study Malaysia's economic model, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak.

He said this was expressed by Turkmenistan President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov at a bilateral meeting with him at Perdana Putra here yesterday.

"We welcome Turkmenistan to send a technical team for a more in-depth study of our experience in Malaysia," he told a joint press conference with Berdimuhamedov, who arrived on Monday for a two-day official visit.

Najib said both leaders agreed the two countries and two regions of Central Asia and Asean should collaborate even closer, in the light of the uncertain global economic situation, Bernama reported.

"(This is) so that we can overcome the strong economic headwinds," he said, adding Malaysia and Turkmenistan had agreed to enhance cooperation in the fields of culture and sports.

The prime minister also confirmed Malaysia's participation in the forthcoming 5th Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games, which will be held in Turkmenistan in 2017.

Earlier, both leaders witnessed a signing ceremony of a protocol amending the Agreement on Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation as well as a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of sports.

The agreement was signed by Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Anifah Aman and his Turkmenistan counterpart, Rashid Meredov, while the MoU was signed between Youth and Sports Minister Khairy Jamaluddin and Turkmenistan's Chairman of State Committee for Sport, Toyly Komekov.