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NAJIB 'PREPPED' BEFORE MEETING U.S. REP

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Meeting involved
1MDB, says US DoJ

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THE United States Department of Justice (DoJ) has revealed that former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak had been "prepped" before meeting a US official on issues concerning the 1Malaysia Development Bhd (1MDB).

The talking points on 1MDB had been prepared for Najib's meeting with the US official, identified by DoJ as US Government

Official 1 — believed to be former US secretary of state Rex Tillerson.

Online news portal Malaysiakini reported DoJ as saying the talking points were prepared by a US businessman identified as "Individual No 1", details of which were found in an email dated Aug 7 last year.

The prepared talking points for Najib, identified by

DoJ as "Malaysian Official 1", are as follows:

"1MDB message on all levels this is being handles (sic) by Saudia

Malaysian attorney-general have (sic) publicly announced no harm has been caused to any investors.

Prepared talking points for former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak

(sic) Arabia and Abu Dhabi and Malaysia.

"Malaysian attorney-general has publicly announced that no American has been harmed by any 1MDB transaction.

"The involvement of US prosecutors has caused unnecessary tension American (sic), and could cause a negative reaction among Malaysians.

"Malaysian attorney-general have (sic) publicly announced no harm has been caused to any investors.

"Finally, I will send Malaysian

attorney-general ahead of my visit to the US in September to meet (US Government Official No 2). I would like an introduction to (US Government Official 3)."

A footnote by DoJ noted that Individual No 1 claimed that his company's emails had been hacked and sent to the media, and that some emails were either tampered or fabricated.

Based on this, Individual No 1 is likely Republican fund-raiser Elliot Brody, who in May this year filed a suit claiming he was a victim of Qatari hackers.

Malaysiakini reported that the email was sent a day before Najib met with Tillerson here on Aug 8 last year.

US Government Official 2 is believed to be US President Donald

Trump, while US Government Official 3 is believed to be former US attorney-general Jeff Sessions.

Najib met Trump in September last year. However, White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders then said she was not aware if the 1MDB issue was raised during the meeting.

DoJ typically assigns numbers to individuals it does not name based on the order in which they appear in a document.

The talking points were details in a court filing by DoJ on Nov 30, in its application to seize US\$73 million linked to 1MDB businessman Low Taek Jho, or Jho Low.

Individual No 1 is said to be a recipient of funds from Low, allegedly as part of efforts to influence DoJ's 1MDB probe.