



**Red carpet welcome:** Muhyiddin and his wife Puan Sri Noorainee Abdul Rahman arriving in Bandar Seri Begawan. - Bernama

## PM arrives in Brunei for two-day visit

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN:** Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin is in Brunei for a two-day official visit.

He was greeted by Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, upon his arrival at the Brunei International Airport here at 4pm yesterday.

Muhyiddin was accorded an official welcoming ceremony at the international airport.

Malaysia's national anthem *Negaraku* was played, followed by Brunei Darussalam's national anthem *Allah Peliharakan Sultan*.

He then inspected a guard-of-honour by the Royal Brunei Armed Forces.

Three ministers from the Brunei Cabinet were also there to receive Muhyiddin, including Home Affairs

Minister Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Awang Abu Bakar Apong.

Also present were Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Economic and Finance Minister Datuk Seri Setia Dr Awang Mohd Amin Liew Abdullah and Second Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Setia Awang Erywan Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Mohd Yusof.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein was also there to welcome Muhyiddin.

The official visit is at the invitation of Sultan of Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah.

Muhyiddin is undertaking the official visit in conjunction with the 23rd Malaysia-Brunei Darussalam Annual Leaders' Consultation.

He will have a meeting with His Majesty at Istana Nurul Iman here

before they proceed with the annual leaders' consultation at the same palace.

The annual meeting provides an opportunity for both leaders to discuss post-Covid-19 cooperation.

This, among others, will include discussions on the establishment of the Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL) arrangement, initiating cooperation in vaccine diplomacy between both countries, and closer economic cooperation.

Hishammuddin said the meeting between the two Asean leaders, with Brunei the current chair of the regional grouping, was very important in view of current developments in Myanmar.

"Surely Myanmar will be discussed by both leaders when deliberating on regional issues. It will be top of the agenda.

"The international community will follow closely the outcome of the meeting," Hishammuddin told Malaysian journalists here shortly before the arrival of the Prime Minister.

A coup took place in Myanmar two months ago when the military wrested power from democratically elected leaders.

During the annual consultation, both leaders will also witness the signing of a memorandum of understanding on Natural Disaster Management as well the Unitisation Agreement between Petronas and Brunei's National Unitisation Secretariat in the oil and gas sector.

The official visit, with a small delegation, is subject to strict Covid-19 standard operating procedure. — Bernama