

KL, RIYADH PLEDGE ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Both nations commit to intensify efforts at preserving stability and security globally

RIYADH

SAUDI Arabia and Malaysia have reaffirmed their commitment to bolster coordination and intensify efforts aimed at preserving international peace, stability and security.

This was expressed in a joint statement that was released following Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's visit to the kingdom on Saturday.

The statement, issued yesterday by Saudi Arabia, highlighted many accomplishments resulting from the meeting between Anwar and Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman.

Both parties also reached an agreement to strengthen cooperation in defence and security and to coordinate on matters of mutual interest, including combating various forms of crime. This collaborative effort aimed to enhance security and stability in the two brotherly nations.

On the current conflict in the Gaza Strip, both sides emphasised the international commu-

nity's crucial role in exerting pressure on Israel to halt its plans to invade Gaza.

They also strongly cautioned against the forced displacement of Palestinians and the severe consequences it would entail.

The importance of intensifying efforts to achieve a comprehensive and equitable resolution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict was underscored.

This included pursuing a genuine path for substantive and effective negotiations that aligned with the principles of the two-state solution, relevant international legitimacy resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative.

These negotiations should guarantee the Palestinian people's right to establish their independent state, with East Jerusalem as its capital, based on the 1967 borders.

The discussion also touched upon security, stability and the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, as well as the Yemeni crisis and Saudi Arabia's role in facilitating dialogue among Yemeni parties, along with its economic support for Yemen.

The statement applauded Malaysia's positive reception of the resumption of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran, acknowledging its potential contribution to regional security and stability.

Both parties stressed the importance of activating the Saudi-

Malaysian Coordination Council and its sub-committees to align with the aspirations of their respective leaderships, fostering an enhanced and developed partnership in areas of mutual interest.

The statement also highlighted Prince Mohammed's appreciation for Malaysia's support for Riyadh's bids to host the World Expo 2030, World Cup 2034 and the Asian Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions 2027.

Additionally, it noted Malaysia's gratitude for the kingdom's efforts in servicing the two holy mosques and their visitors, encompassing pilgrims, umrah performers and other visitors.

In the realms of economics, trade and investment, both sides expressed their determination to bolster investments and invite Malaysian companies to explore the investment opportunities presented by the kingdom's Vision 2030 programmes and projects.

The parties also expressed their intent to enhance cooperation in Islamic financing by providing syariah-compliant financing products and services, particularly in the realm of Islamic murabahah.

Furthermore, both sides have agreed to intensify cooperation in various domains, including renewable energy and its technologies, environmental initiatives, digital economy, tourism, higher education, healthcare, agriculture and food industries. **Bernama**