



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (second from left) and Peruvian President Dina Ercilia Boluarte Zegarra (second from right) witnessing the exchange of a memorandum of understanding between Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz (left) and Peruvian Agricultural Development and Irrigation Minister Angel Manuel Manero Campos in Lima on Wednesday.

BERNAMA PIC

## PM: Malaysia firm in determining own policies

**LIMA:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, on his official visit to Peru for the Apec Economic Leaders Week, has reiterated Malaysia's commitment to determining its own policies in line with the people's aspirations.

He said national decisions, particularly in trade and economic relations, should not be dictated by external parties.

"We cannot bow to any party when formulating our policies. Our direction must be guided by what is best for Malaysia, shaped by the needs and aspirations of our own people," he said during a roundtable with industry leaders from Malaysia and Peru.

Anwar also emphasised the importance of strengthening ties with the Global South, calling for Malaysia to broaden its focus beyond traditional partners.

"It's crucial to shift course slightly and enhance collaboration with the Global South, tapping into the vast new potentials

and opportunities that this region presents."

The prime minister said while the United States remained Malaysia's largest investor, the country also maintained strong economic ties with China, and the future lies in diversifying partnerships.

"We are collaborating effectively with China and the US, and we will continue to expand this balanced relationship. The key is not to be dictated by anyone but to pursue what is best for our nation, as decided by our people."

He reiterated that both Malaysia and Peru shared similar challenges as multiracial societies committed to economic growth, social stability and environmental sustainability.

In his discussions with President Dina Ercilia Boluarte and other leaders, Anwar noted the shared commitment of both countries to sustainable development, governance and anti-corruption initiatives.

"Peru and Malaysia both focus on energy transition, environmental preservation and multilateralism," he said.

As part of Malaysia's commitment to renewable energy (RE), the prime minister officiated the Matarani Solar Park, a major RE initiative by Yinson Holdings Bhd, which aims to contribute significantly to Peru's clean energy transition.

Located in the Mollendo desert in the Arequipa region, the 97MWp solar project is set to generate approximately 260GWh of renewable energy annually, enough to power 62,000 homes and reduce 56,000 tonnes of carbon emissions each year.

Anwar said the solar park was a concrete example of Malaysia's efforts to support global sustainability goals.

"This project not only contributes to Peru's clean energy goals, but also showcases Malaysia's expertise in green technologies."