

'EXPLORE COLLABORATIONS'

# 'SHIFT AWAY FROM TRADITIONAL THINKING'

**PM calls for greater cooperation in education, research, development with Brazil**

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**P**RIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has stressed Malaysia's commitment to strengthening strategic cooperation with Brazil, particularly in research, development and education, in line with current global needs.

He expressed this intention while attending the "first oil" celebration of Yinson Holdings Bhd Malaysia's floating, production, storage and offloading (FPSO) unit Maria Quiteria.

"We need to shift away from traditional thinking that is overly reliant on specific countries and universities. It is time for the relevant ministries, including higher education, to explore collaborations between universities and joint research initiatives."

He said Yinson's FPSO success



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in Brazil was proof of Malaysia's global competitiveness.

"This achievement is something Malaysians can be proud of, and it strengthens the friendship between Malaysia and Brazil."

Anwar said Yinson's success not only showcased Malaysia's corporate capabilities but also served as a stepping stone for closer relations between the two countries.

In an earlier meeting with Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, Anwar said Lula expressed full support for expanding bilateral relations, particularly in investment and trade sectors.

"Lula assured that his administration will continue to support these efforts and expressed interest in visiting Malaysia for the Asean Heads of Government meeting next year.

"This will be an opportunity to

boost industrial cooperation between our two countries."

Anwar urged Brazilian investors to explore opportunities in Malaysia, especially in renewable energy and green technology.

"Malaysia is aggressively implementing its energy transition roadmap.

"I am confident that with Brazil's expertise, we can collaborate in this area," he said.

Anwar expressed admiration for Lula's administration, particularly its emphasis on global equality, support for the Global South and efforts to eradicate poverty.

"Brazil's commitment to these issues aligns with Malaysia's vision to strengthen global cooperation."

He said both countries also agreed to deepen cooperation in critical sectors like semiconductors.

Anwar recognised Brazil's potential to offer opportunities that Malaysia could leverage, and vice versa.

"While our trade is performing well, there is still much room for both countries to provide added value to one another."

Malaysia also plans to invite Brazil to join international platforms such as Asean, alongside other partners like India, China,



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva at the Group of 20 Summit 2024 in Rio De Janeiro on Sunday. BERNAMA PIC

Japan and the European Union.

"Lula's participation in these forums will open new dimensions for Asean-Latin America cooperation," Anwar said.

He emphasised Malaysia's support for South-South cooperation and global governance, noting that this policy enabled Malaysia to collaborate closely with all nations, including Brazil, to address global challenges.

During a roundtable meeting with Brazilian industry leaders, Anwar highlighted the vast potential for collaboration between Malaysia and Brazil.

Despite the geographical distance, he sees significant opportunities to boost economic and trade relations.

Anwar said Brazil was a key player in the Latin American economy and played an important role in the region's economic recovery.

"Brazil is one of the most important economies in Latin America and contributes to the region's economic recovery," Anwar said during the meeting, which was attended by 34 industry leaders from 20 leading Brazilian companies and busi-

ness associations.

The meeting was held on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Anwar also said Malaysia was being increasingly recognised globally as a semiconductor hub and a key destination for data centres and artificial intelligence (AI).

While Brazil has yet to match Malaysia's semiconductor export trade volume, Anwar highlighted Brazil's success in certain areas that could benefit both countries.

"Although Brazil's semiconductor export trade volume is smaller compared with Malaysia, you have excelled in several areas that could offer advantages to both nations."

He said cooperation with Global South countries like Brazil could open more opportunities for Malaysian companies to access knowledge, research and expertise in high-tech fields, particularly in semiconductors and AI.

"I am confident that closer ties between Malaysia and Brazil will bring significant benefits to both nations, especially in technology and international trade."