

PM's Brazil visit aimed at strengthening bilateral ties

Anwar in largest South American country at invitation of Brazilian president and to attend G20 Summit

RIO DE JANEIRO: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim arrived in Brazil yesterday from Lima, Peru, for an official visit and to attend the Group of 20 (G20) Summit 2024, at which Malaysia is a guest country.

Sixteen other countries, including Chile, Qatar, Egypt, Singapore, Spain, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam, are also guest countries at the summit.

The G20 consists of 19 countries and two unions, namely Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom, United States, European Union and the African Union.

Anwar is here on the invitation of Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. His special flight touched down at the Rio De Janeiro Galeao Air Force Base at 9.24am Malaysian time.

He was received on arrival by Lt-Col Buch Itamaraty, a representative of Galeao Air Force deputy commander and Councillor Orlando Timponi, a representative of the Brazil foreign affairs ministry.

Other officials present included Malaysia's Ambassador to Brazil Gloria Tiwet, the Malaysian embassy first secretary Muhamad Muhaimin Azmi and



Anwar with US President Joe Biden, Vietnam President Luong Cuong (top right) and South Korea President Yoon Suk Yeol during a photo session at the summit. - **REUTERSPIC**

its third secretary Anwar Umar Ruzaman.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, is being accompanied by Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan and investment, Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Zafrul Abdul Aziz.

The Malaysian delegation also includes Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability Deputy Minister Datuk Seri Huang Tiong Sii, Energy Transition and Water Transformation Deputy Minister Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir and other senior Malaysian government officials.

At the summit, Anwar will deliver statements at the "Fight Against Hunger and Poverty" and "Reform of Global Governance Institutions" sessions.

He is also scheduled to meet leaders of G20 countries to discuss bilateral and multilateral issues of mutual concern, Bernama reported.

Anwar will meet Lula da Silva to discuss bilateral cooperation, including in areas of trade and investment as well as the semiconductor industry, and to renew friendship ties between the two countries.

Rio de Janeiro is a vibrant coastal city in Brazil, renowned for its iconic beaches such as Copacabana and Ipanema, the towering 38m Christ the Redeemer statue atop Mount Corcovado and the stunning Sugarloaf Mountain, accessible by cable car.

In 2023, Brazil was Malaysia's 20th largest trading partner, 29th largest export destination and 17th largest import source.

Brazil is South America's largest country, and Malaysia's second-largest trading partner, second-largest export destination and largest import source.