

VESSEL BY DESAN SHIPYARD

TURKISH MULTI-PURPOSE MISSION SHIP FOR MMEA

Procurement among 11 MoUs signed in ceremony witnessed by PM and Erdogan

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MALAYSIA will procure a multi-purpose mission ship from Turkiye for the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA).

The memorandum of understanding (MoU) for the procurement of the vessel, which will be built by Desan Shipyard, was signed yesterday.

It was among 11 MoUs signed between Malaysia and Turkiye during Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's official visit to the country.

Erdogan and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim wit-

nessed the signing of the MoU.

It is understood that the Turkish design for the multi-purpose mission ship was chosen after the one from German shipbuilder Fassmer was rejected.

Fassmer's design for a 40m patrol craft was chosen for MMEA's Bagan Datuk-class new generation patrol craft.

MMEA received the KM *Bagan Datuk* in 2017. It was built by Destini Shipbuilding & Engineering Sdn Bhd under licence from Fassmer. The vessel is a heavily modified version of Fassmer's design.

Last year, it was reported that Malaysia was procuring littoral mission ships from Turkiye for the Royal Malaysian Navy. The Ada-class corvettes are being built by Turkish defence firm Savunma Teknolojileri Muhendislik.

The MoUs signed yesterday also covered cooperation in energy transition, disaster and emergency management, diplomatic training, research in the Arctic and Antarctic, communications and smart cities.

Other MoUs related to the procurement of defence products and cooperation in consumer protection, media services and information.

On Monday, Erdogan highlighted the cooperation between Malaysia and Turkish defence companies, including the building of the second batch of littoral mission ships and Anka unmanned aerial vehicles.

Later, Anwar hosted a luncheon for Erdogan at Seri Perdana.

Anwar welcomed Erdogan and his delegation at the prime minister's residence at 2.30pm.

Present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan and Defence Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin.

Earlier, Erdogan was accorded an official welcome at the Perdana Putra Complex. It was followed by a meeting with Anwar.

Total trade between Malaysia and Turkiye reached RM24.13 billion in 2024, a 18.7 per cent increase from 2023.