

ANWAR MEETS TOP UAE BUSINESSES

These include Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, one of the world's largest sovereign wealth funds



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ABU DHABI

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday held one-on-one business meetings with leaders from the United Arab Emirates' largest sovereign wealth fund companies as part of his three-day visit to Abu Dhabi.

Anwar, who arrived in the UAE on Sunday, met Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, managing director of Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA).

ADIA, one of the world's largest sovereign wealth funds, manages the emirate's massive oil reserves.

Its subsidiary is part of the Khazanah Nasional Bhd-led consortium, which includes the Employees Provident Fund and Global Infrastructure Partners, seeking to take Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (MAHB) private.

Anwar engaged in a discussion with Khaldoon Al Mubarak, managing director and chief executive officer of state-owned Mubadala Investment Company.

Its subsidiary, Mubadala Petroleum, has been present in Malaysia since 2010 and is the operator of Block SK 320 offshore Sarawak, with a 55 per cent interest. In 2022, it commenced its first gas production from the Pegaga gas field.

Anwar also had a meeting with Mohamed Jameel Al Ramahi, chief executive officer of UAE energy giant Abu Dhabi Future Energy Co PJSC (Masdar), a subsidiary of Mubadala.

Masdar had, in 2023, picked Citaglobal Bhd and Cypark Re-



Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim

sources Bhd to undertake massive renewable energy projects as part of its US\$8 billion investments in Malaysia.

Last year, Masdar and Sarawak Energy signed a memorandum of understanding to study the feasibility of installing a floating solar photovoltaic project at the Murum dam in Belaga, projected to generate 1,000 megawatts (MW) of electricity.

When completed, it will be the biggest floating solar project in the world, beating the floating solar project in China that generates 680MW.

After the meetings, Anwar had an audience with UAE Vice-President and Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum who is also ruler of Dubai.

The meeting was held at the Za'abeel Palace in Dubai, about 150km from Abu Dhabi.

The discussion was expected to focus on bolstering bilateral ties and exploring opportunities in renewable energy, food and energy security, artificial intelligence and data centres, as well as regional and global issues of mutual concern.

Anwar is in Abu Dhabi at the invitation of the Dubai ruler. He is accompanied by Home Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail, Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz and Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir.

This marks Anwar's first trip abroad since Malaysia assumed the 2025 Asean chair on Jan 1.

Today, he is expected to have an audience with UAE President and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Anwar will also join 12 other heads of state and governments at the Abu Dhabi Sustainability

Week 2025, where he will participate in a plenary session and engage in a dialogue titled "Asean Interconnected Future: Linking Energy, Trade & Prosperity".

He will witness the signing of the Malaysia-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and attend the Zayed Sustainability Prize awards ceremony.

Abu Dhabi is the first stop of the prime minister's four-country tour.

The tour will see him travelling to the United Kingdom and Belgium before culminating at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Meanwhile, Tengku Zafrul said ADIA has expressed a keen interest in further exploring investment opportunities in Malaysia.

He said this was conveyed to him and Anwar at their meeting here.

He said besides Zayed Al Nahyan, other management figures at the discussion were Khalil Foulathi and Mohamed Al Ameri.

Tengku Zafrul said ADIA had assets valued at more than US\$1 trillion.

He said the meeting opened the door for the strengthening of investment cooperation between Malaysia and the UAE.

ADIA, he said, played a key role in sectors such as infrastructure, healthcare and energy and globally.

Its international investments include airports in the UK and France, the Khalifa Port in the UAE, logistics facilities and infrastructure projects in India and energy in the United States.

"In Malaysia, its commitment is exemplified via investments in line with the New Industrial Master Plan 2030 and Madani Economy framework.

"Among its key contributions are its cooperation with GIP to privatise MAHB, plus other major infrastructure projects that support national development."

He said during the discussion, ADIA gave its commitment to elevate and focus on creating greater value to ensure the success of its investments in Malaysia, including MAHB's transformation.

This, said Tengku Zafrul, demonstrated confidence in the government's policies that are investor-friendly and can benefit the people in the long term.