

PM MEETS EXECUTIVES OF TOP ITALIAN FIRMS

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Follow-up action needed to realise investment commitments, says Anwar

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DATUK Seri Anwar Ibrahim began the second day of his official visit to Italy by holding direct engagement sessions with the country's key business leaders.

The prime minister said he met executives from two Italian defence industry giants, Fincantieri SpA and Leonardo SpA, which had participated in this year's Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace exhibition.

He said the meetings had strengthened the prospects for long-term relationships between Malaysia and Italy.

The meeting with Fincantieri was with its chief executive officer, Pierroberto Folgiero, and Leonardo was represented by its senior vice-president (marketing and strategic campaigns), Tommaso Pani.

"I stressed on the importance of a government-to-government ap-

proach to strengthen Malaysia's position as a hub for maintenance, repair and overhaul operations in Southeast Asia," said Anwar.

The prime minister and Petronas president and CEO Tan Sri Tengku Muhammad Taufik also met the CEO of Italian energy company ENI SpA, Claudio Descalzi.

They discussed existing cooperation and explored new investment opportunities that could be mutually beneficial.

"I took advantage of this session to affirm that Malaysia remains a stable, progressive and reliable investment destination," said Anwar.

He said he wanted all investment commitments to be followed up with concrete action so that they could be realised on schedule.

The Malaysian delegation included officials from relevant ministries and agencies in order to strengthen bilateral ties and attract investments from Italy.