

M'sia backs

Vietnam

on energy security

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RIO DE JANEIRO: Malaysia fully supports Vietnam's aspirations for an Asean Power Grid, an infrastructure to ensure energy security and sustainable growth.

Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said Malaysia supported potential investment in renewable energy in southern Vietnam, including the seabed cable initiatives capable of strengthening two-way energy networks.

The Prime Minister said this after receiving a courtesy visit from Vietnam's Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and looked forward to a follow-up meeting at the Asean Summit in October.

Anwar said the meeting provided an opportunity to assess the progress of cooperation between Malaysia and Vietnam across multiple fields, including trade, investment, defence, security, maritime affairs, fisheries, green energy and petroleum.

"I raised the need to strengthen cooperation in combating illegal and unregulated fishing activities. I also expressed hope that a more constructive approach can be forged to ensure the sustainability of marine resources and preserve good relations between the two countries," he said.

Anwar also met Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly, with both agreeing to further elevate bilateral ties through cooperation in various fields.

Anwar, who also met with World Trade Organisation (WTO) director-general Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, spoke about Malaysia's commitment to multilateralism and the need for the body to remain inclusive and responsive.

Malaysia, he said, fully supported full reforms for WTO as it needed a breath of fresh air to steer itself in the midst of current issues like digital trade and weather policies without affecting the rights of developing nations.