



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto at a joint press conference in Jakarta on Friday. PIC BY FATH RIZAL/PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

GLOBAL CHALLENGES

ASEAN UNITY IS KEY, SAY KL AND JAKARTA

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Nations reaffirm commitment to regional stability during Anwar's visit

KUALA LUMPUR

MALAYSIA and Indonesia agree that a united and stable Asean is crucial to addressing global challenges, whether economic, political, or security-related.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said the matter was agreed to during his meeting with Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto in Jakarta on Friday, as part of his one-day official visit to the republic.

"As two founding members of Asean, Malaysia and Indonesia reaffirmed their commitment to preserving regional unity and maintaining Asean's stability.

"Hence, the close Malaysia-Indonesia ties will continue to serve as a model and catalyst for

greater Asean unity, for the well-being of the people of both countries and the region," Anwar said in a Facebook post.

He added that in the spirit of mutual trust, Malaysia and Indonesia were also determined to resolve outstanding border issues without delay.

He said resolving border issues, including long-standing maritime disputes, was a shared priority to preserve the strong ties between the two nations.

"This win-win solution is expected to boost the confidence and trust between the two nations.

"The alignment reflects the close friendship and strong strategic relations between the two countries," he said.

Meanwhile, Anwar, speaking at a joint press conference with Prabowo at Istana Merdeka, said both leaders shared a common aspiration.

They hoped to see peace not only between Israel and Iran, but also throughout the Middle East.

Expressing relief over the temporary ceasefire between Israel and Iran, Anwar nevertheless stressed that Malaysia and In-

donesia condemn Israel's atrocities, which have resulted in genocide in Gaza.

He emphasised that Malaysia has voiced strong opposition to Israel's aggression and violations against Iran, while supporting the country's right to defend its sovereignty and dignity.

"But importantly, as President Prabowo mentioned, we share a common desire for peace, not just between Iran and Israel, but in the Middle East."

He expressed hope that Palestine would one day become an independent and sovereign state.

Prabowo said Malaysia and Indonesia would continue to advocate for a peaceful resolution by all parties and welcomed the ceasefire between Israel and Iran.

"We hope this process can move forward towards lasting peace. Only a two-state solution can bring an end to this conflict.

"Indonesia and Malaysia believe a global collective effort is essential to promote a peaceful resolution to the conflict," he said, adding that Indonesia would continue to support Palestinian independence.