



Prime Minister Seri Anwar Ibrahim (left) sharing a light moment with Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Openg (centre), Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof and other officials after the signing of a joint declaration in Putrajaya yesterday. PIC BY IZZUDDIN ABD RADZAK/PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE

MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING

PM: PETRONAS-PETROS ISSUES RESOLVED

Joint declaration lets both firms jointly undertake oil, gas activities in Sarawak

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has described the issue surrounding oil and gas operations in Sarawak as resolved following the signing of a joint declaration between the federal and state governments.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, said the declaration marked a mutual understanding between Petronas and Petroleum Sarawak Bhd (Petros) to jointly undertake oil and gas activities in accordance with federal and Sarawak laws.

He added that through the signing of this declaration, both legal provisions will be respected, and the two entities will move forward together in the interest of mutual benefit.

"Alhamdulillah, we managed to resolve the issues that arose

and the joint declaration will lead to mutual understanding and a collaborative approach with Sarawak, especially for Petronas and Petros to jointly undertake oil and gas activities for the nation's benefit.

"We will respect both legal frameworks and they will work together for the benefit of the nation and Sarawak."

He said this at a press conference with Sarawak Premier Tan Sri Abang Johari Openg during the signing of the joint declaration.

"This understanding ensures that Petronas continues its activities while Petros' role in Sarawak is recognised.

"Both will work hand in hand to elevate the nation's standing through the upstream and downstream oil and gas industry, as well as in alternative energy initiatives that are being discussed.

"As also stated in the joint declaration, our shared aspiration is to make Sarawak the launch hub for the oil and gas industry in Asean.

"To me, this is a very realistic approach. It will produce positive outcomes for the country and enhance Sarawak's economic standing."

Anwar added that the federal and Sarawak governments, in

principle, have a clear understanding of the two laws related to oil and gas activities in Sarawak, namely the Distribution of Gas Ordinance 2016 and, at the federal level, the Petroleum Development Act 1974.

"This means that the current situation requires us to acknowledge the fact that Sarawak has matured and developed greater capabilities, including the establishment of a state-owned oil company with significant potential."

Abang Johari thanked Anwar and the federal government for their continued concern and attention towards Sarawak's oil and gas industry.

"Alhamdulillah, we have resolved the issues that arose, and today, a joint declaration has been signed that brings about common ground and a shared approach between the Sarawak government (and the federal government), particularly Petronas and Petros.