

Anwar, Trump pledge to deepen America-Asean ties

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and United States President Donald Trump have pledged to deepen economic, security and diplomatic cooperation between Washington and Southeast Asia, describing the partnerships the dawn of a new "golden age" for the region.

Speaking at the Asean-US Summit yesterday, Anwar said the partnership has immense potential to drive shared prosperity and stability across both sides of the Pacific.

"Economics in the US and Southeast Asia has the potential to create a golden age for all our nations.

"Two-way trade reached a record of US\$453 billion (RM1.912 trillion) last year, supporting jobs and businesses across both sides of the Pacific. And today, we will make the promise of making our relationship even greater."

Anwar said Asean and the US had agreed to adopt a Joint Vision Statement to promote a "stronger, safer and more prosperous future for both sides.

He said the document represents a collective commitment to turning cooperation into tangible outcomes that deliver real benefits for the region.

Anwar also lauded the signing of the Kuala Lumpur Peace Accord, a historic agreement between Cambodia and Thailand to end decades of hostility.

He commended Washington's role in mediating the accord and praised the governments of Cambodia and Thailand for their "strong political will and leadership".

On the Middle East, Anwar welcomed Trump's proposal for a comprehensive plan to end the Gaza conflict, calling it "a glimmer of hope that even in the most intractable conflicts, diplomacy and determination can prevail".

Trump thanked Anwar for hosting the



Anwar and Trump watch as Thailand's Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul and Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Manet hold up a document after the ceremonial signing of the peace agreement.

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summit, describing him as a "spectacular leader" and hailing the day's events as a milestone for Malaysia and the wider region.

"Today, the prime minister and I signed a major trade deal between the US and Malaysia. We also took part in the signing of a historic peace agreement ending the hostilities between Cambodia and Thailand. We're calling it the Kuala Lumpur Peace Accord."

Trump said the peace deal was one of eight conflicts resolved under his presidency, and described the Gaza agreement as "an everlasting peace" involving 59 countries.

He also highlighted what he called a "golden age" for the United States, citing record investment levels and ongoing trade negotiations with several Indo-Pacific partners, including Japan, South Korea and Cambodia.

"My message to the nations of Southeast Asia is that the US is with you 100%. Together we'll create incredible prosperity for the nations on both sides of the Pacific Ocean."

Trump reaffirmed America's commitment to a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific, adding that the bonds between the US and the region "will endure for generations to come".