

**Joint Committee A Constructive Proposal, Says Rais
Bernama
March 8, 2012
By Ahmad Fuad Yahya**

JAKARTA, March 8 (Bernama) -- The proposal to set up a joint Malaysia-Indonesia committee to protect and build better bilateral ties between the two countries by Universiti Indonesia (UI) is a constructive suggestion, said Minister of Information, Communications and Culture Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim.

In welcoming the suggestion, he said the committee could help complete programmes to forge relations at the people level of the two countries.

The "Yayasan Ikatan Rakyat Malaysia-Indonesia"(Malaysia-Indonesia Peoples' Bonding Foundation), to be established under the auspices of the governments of the two countries, could support the joint committee's activities, he told a news conference after delivering a public lecture, on strengthening Malaysia-Indonesia people-to-people relations, at the Depok campus of Universiti Indonesia, near here.

The lecture was held in conjunction with the launching of the "Malaysia Corner", housing a collection of socio-cultural books on Malaysia, at the university.

Meanwhile, UI's Cultural Knowledge Faculty dean Dr Bambang Wibawarta, who made the proposal, said the committee which would comprise members of academia, media, non-governmental organisations as well as government representatives from both countries, could be formed soon.

In his proposal, he said the committee could create the synergy of accurate information exchange network on the two countries to protect the harmonious relations between the peoples in them.

"In this joint committee, we can sit and find solutions to assist the leaders in both countries to raise a new awareness on the various issues involving Malaysia and Indonesia," he said.

Dr Bambang believed the formation of the joint committee could set up in four months through the cooperation of Ikatan Setiakawan Wartawan Malaysia-Indonesia (Iswami).

He believed the establishment of Yayasan Ikatan Rakyat Malaysia-Indonesia could bring enormous benefits to improving relations between the people of Malaysia and Indonesia.

---BERNAMA

Copyright © 2012 BERNAMA

Source:<http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/newsindex.php?id=651022>