

Malaysia To Work Hard For UN Security Council Seat
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PUTRAJAYA, May 21 (Bernama) -- Leaving no stone unturned, Malaysia will work hard to secure a seat in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the term 2015-2016, which would enable the country to play a part in international security issues.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Anifah Aman said although he was confident that Asean member states would support Malaysia, considering it was the only Asean state contesting, the votes of other countries were equally important.

"We must not take it for granted. We have to work very hard and we have to engage and meet leaders from various countries to secure the seat, but I am quite confident that Malaysia has a very good name globally," he told reporters here Tuesday.

Anifah said the seat in UNSC would send a strong message of peace and the right to co-exist.

On another matter, he said it was also important for the ministry to clear Malaysia's name abroad, since there were quarters who tarnished and smeared the country's good image, through relentless allegations and negative tactics, especially on the recently-concluded general election.

On the 21 Malaysians detained in Singapore for staging a protest over the general election results, he said the law of the country should be respected but it was the duty of the ministry to assist if it was needed.

On the visit of United States President Barack Obama in October, Anifah said, while there were indications he was coming, it had to be re-confirmed since his schedule might be changed due to internal problems.

He said Malaysia was looking forward to enhance the country's relations with its neighbours, including Singapore, Thailand and the Philippine.

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