

**Strong Consensus For TPPA Talks To Be Concluded Next Month, Says US Envoy-Designate**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 18 (Bernama) -- There is strong consensus for the the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) negotiations to be concluded at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meeting in Bali next month.

The US Ambassador-designate to Malaysia, Joseph Y. Yun, said it was important to try to achieve a high standard agreement despite the contentious issues and difficulties prevailing among the 12 countries involved in the talks.

"This agreement is a blueprint for trade, investment and services for the 21st century," he said at a session with the media to introduce himself as the US Ambassador-Designate to Malaysia.

Yun was nominated by President Barack Obama on July 23 and was confirmed by the full senate on Aug 1 to be the United States' Ambassador to Malaysia.

Yun said the TPPA was to create jobs and economic well-being for the 12 countries participating in the negotiations.

According to a study by an international research think-tank, Malaysia and Vietnam were the two countries that would benefit the most from the TPPA, Yun said.

"The TPPA is not about a political agenda. It's to increase trade and investment," he said.

On US-Malaysia bilateral relations, Yun said: "It's in a different spot 10 years ago. Relations are improving.

"The basic building blocks such as being an open society, multicultural and multi-ethnic society and religious tolerance have allow the relations to prosper."

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