

MH370 Tragedy Will Not Affect Malaysia And China Relationship

Bernama

2 Apr, 2014

KUALA LUMPUR, April 2 (Bernama) -- The Chinese government is grateful and appreciates the efforts made by the Malaysian government in the search operations for the missing Malaysian Airlines (MAS) Flight MH370.

Its ambassador to Malaysia Huang Huikang also described the Malaysian efforts as being "excellent."

He added that the incident would not affect the good relationship between Kuala Lumpur and Beijing, but has created a deep understanding between Malaysia and China.

It would prompt both countries to take the opportunity to further enhance cooperation in various fields, he told a press conference at the Chinese Embassy here, today.

"Malaysia and China are family, we are good partners, we are friends and we are good neighbours. Don't worry...this is just an incident which never affects our good relations," he added.

"I noticed myself, Malaysia from the beginning of the incident has played an important role in the SAR operations. Working very hard and has done many efforts to take care of the next-of-kins of passengers from China.

"We are thankful to the Malaysian people for your friendship, especially the volunteers. (In this) most difficult time (and) always side by side," he added.

Huang also ruled out speculations that the Malaysian government was trying to hide information, and stressed that the transparency could be seen through the daily media briefings by the acting Transport Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein.

"What can I say, the attitude taken by Malaysia in handling this incident is very serious. I believe the (Malaysian) government has done its best," he said.

On the closed-door technical briefing for the Chinese families today at Bangi-Putrajaya Hotel in Bangi, near here, Huang said the briefing which lasted three hours was in good order as 21 questions were raised and answered.

"The briefing helped the Chinese families understand the situation and improved mutual trust. We are satisfied with the results and appreciate the efforts by Malaysia," he said.

MAS Flight MH370, carrying 227 passengers including 152 Chinese citizens and 12 crew, went missing en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing about an hour after taking off from the KL International Airport at 12.41 am on March 8. It should have landed in Beijing at 6.30 am on the same day.

On March 24, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak announced that the flight path of the MH370 ended in the southern Indian Ocean.

He made the announcement following the never before used analysis by the UK Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB) and Inmarsat, the UK company which provided the satellite data that indicated that the MH370 flight flew along the southern corridor.

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