

Malaysia, Singapore To Boost Youth Engagement, Exchange
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SINGAPORE, May 22 (Bernama) -- Singapore Minister for Culture, Community and Youth Lawrence Wong is to attend the Putrajaya Youth Festival 2014 tomorrow and on Saturday at the invitation of Malaysian Minister of Youth and Sports Khairy Jamaluddin.

During his visit to Malaysia, Wong will meet with Khairy to discuss ways to boost youth engagement and exchange between Singapore and Malaysia.

A joint statement by the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) and the National Youth Council (NYC) said he will also meet with academics from think-tanks to discuss public policy issues and developments in the region.

Wong is also expected to meet students from Singapore, China, Japan, South Korea, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, India and Russia during the Malaysia International Youth Exchange visit.

The exchange will celebrate cultural diversity, friendship and regional cooperation through cultural performances, sports, traditional activities, concerts and documentaries.

Five Singaporean youths will also present a performance that will highlight Singapore's unique and diverse cultural heritage at the event.

Over the years, Singapore and Malaysia have deepened and broadened their strong bilateral relationship and cooperation.

The inaugural Singapore-Malaysia Youth Leadership Exchange Programme (SMYLEP), which will be held later this year, is one such outcome of the collaborative efforts between the two countries.

During the five-day programme, 40 young leaders from Singapore and Malaysia, aged 19 to 35, will participate in learning journeys to key institutions and organisations, and engage with political and industry leaders.

The programme will be jointly led by the MCCY, NYC and the Malaysian Ministry of Youth and Sports.

Singapore will host the first leg of the programme in 2014, with Malaysia hosting the second leg in 2015.

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