

**Costa Rica Committed To Enhance Bilateral Relations With Malaysia**  
**Bernama**  
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PUTRAJAYA, Aug 21 (Bernama) -- Costa Rica is committed to work closely with Malaysia to further enhance bilateral relations and expand cooperation in a number of areas including trade and investment, education, tourism and people-to-people connectivity.

Wisma Putra, in a statement, here today said the commitment was expressed by Costa Rica's President Luis Guillermo Solis Rivera to Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Anifah Aman at the sidelines of the VII Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC) Ministerial Meeting in San Jose on Thursday.

According to the statement, during the meeting Solis also noted that Malaysia was a thriving nation and a success story as well as an influential player in South East Asia.

The president also highlighted that Anifah's presence in San Jose was a testimony of the importance that Malaysia places in enhancing ties between the two regions.

Meanwhile, Anifah thanked Costa Rica for supporting Malaysia's bid for a Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the term 2015-2016 and also conveyed the government's invitation for Solis to visit Malaysia.

He said that there should be greater emphasis placed on Kuala Lumpur-San Jose bilateral relations and noted that Costa Rica was Malaysia's largest trading partner in Latin America in 2014.

Anifah also encouraged greater involvement from the private sectors to explore business opportunities in the two countries as well as the possibility of establishing a political bilateral mechanism at the senior officials' level.

"The two ministers also agreed for more high level exchange of visits to take place between the two sides," said the statement.

Wisma Putra added Malaysia also offered more courses in the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme as well as training at the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations for Costa Rican officials and diplomats.

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