

**Defence Ministry committed to bring in Syrian refugees to Malaysia**  
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The Ministry of Defence (Mindef) is prepared to give its full commitment to the effort to bring in 3,000 Syrian refugees into the country.

Its minister, Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein, said this was in line with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak's aspiration which he conveyed in his speech at the 70th United Nations General Assembly in New York last Thursday.

"This is because such an effort is in accordance with the universal human rights which will put Malaysia on par with other countries involved in helping the Syrian refugees," Hishammuddin said after launching the Malaysians United Run 2015 today.

Najib, in his speech, said Malaysia would open its doors to 3,000 Syrian migrants over the next three years to help alleviate the refugee crisis, which was causing social and economic stresses in Europe.

Hishammuddin, however, said the form of assistance and aid for these migrants would be determined by the Home Ministry.

On the Malaysians United Run 2015, Hishammuddin said the programme, which is the first in its series, was organised by the Onn Jaafar Institute with the aim to inculcate the spirit of unity and love for the country among the young generation.

When asked whether the haze situation had been taken into account, he said the cutoff air pollutant index (API) for the programme would be decided later.

He said a total of 15,000 students aged between 18 and 24 from 27 local institutions of higher education (IPT) would be involved in the programme, hence expected to make it to the Malaysia Book Of Records as the running event with the largest participation of IPT students.

Hishammuddin will also participate in the four-kilometre run, which will be held in Padang Merbok, Kuala Lumpur, on November 1, from 6.30 am to 10 am. – Bernama, October 6, 2015.

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