

Malaysia, Saudi Arabia Sign MoU on Defence Collaboration

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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 29 (Bernama) -- Malaysia and Saudi Arabia have inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) which aims to strengthen defence collaboration specifically in the fields of science, technology and industry.

Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein and Saudi Arabia's Deputy Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman, who is also the Saudi Defence Minister, did the honours for their respective countries.

The event took place on Wednesday in conjunction with Hishammuddin's working visit to the Middle East kingdom.

In a statement released here today, Hishammuddin said he and his counterparts from Indonesia and Brunei were also granted an audience with the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman Abdulaziz Al Saud on Wednesday.

He said they discussed challenges such as the threat posed by the terror group Daesh not only on the security and safety of countries but also on the true values of Islam.

"We also discussed the rising tide of Islamophobia, its effects on Muslim communities worldwide and what we can do to combat this phenomenon," Hishammuddin said.

Present at the audience held at the Al-Yamama Palace in Riyadh were Indonesian Defence Minister Gen (Ret) Ryamizard Ryacudu and Brunei's Deputy Defence Minister and First Admiral Datuk Seri Abdul Aziz Muhammad Tamit, who also represented Sultan Hassanah Bolkiah.

The statement said Hishammuddin also met Qatar's Minister of State for Defence Affairs Maj Gen Hamad Ali Al-Attiyah during which they exchanged views on security and defence issues of common interest.

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