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9TH XIANG SHAN FORUM
BEIJING, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The Deputy Minister of Defence, Liew Chin Tong led the Malaysian delegation to the 9th Xiang Shan Forum in Beijing held on 21-22 October 2019. Together with him was the Director of Military Intelligence, Lieutenant General Dato' Sheikh Mokshin bin Sheikh Hassan, the Malaysian Ambassador to China, Yang Mulia Raja Dato Nushirwan bin Zainal Abidin, as well as the Malaysian Defence Attaché, the First Admiral Ahmad Asri bin Yaacob. The 9th Xiang Shan Forum is a high level forum organised by the Chinese Association of Military Sciences and is attended by defence ministers and military officials from around the world. Last year, Minister YB Mohamed bin Sabu attended the same forum and spoke about global counterterrorism.

During this trip, Liew delivered an address in the Plenary Session entitled "Security Risk Management in Asia Pacific". In his speech, Liew stressed that Asian countries must not be entrapped by the binary of great powers competition, but forge ahead together with one collective Asian identity and claim our agency as nations, whether big or small. He urged Asian countries to give more space to possibility of cooperation and acknowledge the roles Asian powers of all sizes can play.

Liew also held bilateral meetings with the Vice Minister of Defence of the Republic of Korea, Park Jae-Min and the Deputy Chief of the Joint Staff Department of the People's Republic of China's Central Military Commission, Lieutenant General Shao Yuanming at the sidelines of the forum. The bilateral meetings reaffirmed the strong relations Malaysia has with the Republic of Korea and the People's Republic of China and raised several positive suggestions on furthering our defence cooperation. Malaysia looks forward to enhancing our ties with these two countries.

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"PERTAHANAN NEGARA TANGGUNGJAWAB BERSAMA"