



*PRESS*  
**RELEASE**  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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**TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN HONOURABLE DATO' SRI ISMAIL SABRI  
BIN YAAKOB, SENIOR MINISTER OF DEFENCE MALAYSIA AND SENATOR THE  
HONORABLE LINDA REYNOLDS, MINISTER FOR DEFENCE AUSTRALIA**

**18 JANUARY 2021  
Kuala Lumpur**

The Honourable Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob, Minister of Defence Malaysia received a telephone call from his Australian counterpart, Senator the Honourable Linda Reynolds on 18 January 2021.

During the discussion, both Ministers emphasised the strength and importance of the bilateral defence relations under the Malaysia-Australia Joint Defence Program. The two Ministers expressed their shared commitments to the Five Power Defence Arrangements (FPDA) and looked forward to the 50th Anniversary events that Malaysia will host in 2021. They also touched on regional and international security challenges of mutual interest and common concern.

The two Ministers also updated each other on the role of their respective defence establishments in addressing the COVID-19 situation. In this regard, the Minister of Defence Malaysia extended his sincere appreciation to Australia for the contribution of COVID-19 related support to the Malaysian Armed Forces Health Services Division in developing its capacity to combat COVID-19.

**“PERTAHANAN NEGARA TANGGUNGJAWAB BERSAMA”**

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**Ministry Of Defence Malaysia  
18 January 2021**