



SENIOR MINISTER OF DEFENCE
MALAYSIA

PRESS STATEMENT

OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

1. Within the framework of the brotherly relations and close historical ties between the governments and peoples of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Malaysia, and upon the kind invitation from my counterpart, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; I have undertaken an Official Visit to Saudi Arabia.
2. HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and I held a series of constructive and fruitful discussions in a warm and friendly atmosphere during which we reviewed regional and international issues of common interests. We both exchanged views on the prospects and ways to further develop existing bilateral defence relations, and to intensify cooperation in trade, economic, investment, military and security areas.
3. We agreed to **elevate our defence ties** to greater heights through :-
 - A. The **formalization of a High-Level Committee (HLC)** under three (3) key pillars; namely military-to-military cooperation, defence industry collaboration, and military veterans welfare cooperation.
 - B. Increasing **military-to-military cooperation**; where three (3) key areas will be focused on which are military expertise, military medicine, and military intelligence.
4. Both HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and I also discussed on developing the **defence industries** of both Malaysia and Saudi Arabia. As a result, a **working group will be established** between the Saudi Arabia **General Authorities of Military Industries (GAMI)**, **Defence Industry Division (DID)** of the Ministry of Defence Malaysia (MINDEF), and the **Armed Forces Fund Board (LTAT)** on knowledge sharing and potential defence industry partnerships.
5. Furthermore, the **Saudi Arabian Military Industries (SAMI)** will also concretise cooperation with **LTAT** to explore potential collaboration between the two parties.
6. On **counterterrorism**, both HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and I also agreed to upgrade our cooperation in combating and curbing terror threats and extremism.



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7. During the Official Visit, I also had a meeting with **His Royal Highness Prince Khalid bin Salman**, Vice Minister of Defence to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on our strategic relations, in addition to reviewing the Malaysia-Saudi partnership and aspects of cooperation in the defence and military fields.
8. Apart from matters related to defence bilateral ties, I also took the opportunity to discuss with HRH Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on other matters relating to our bilateral relations which covers :-
 - A. **Oil and Gas**; specifically on cooperation between **Saudi Aramco** and **PETRONAS**, and other related bodies;
 - B. **Food Security**; which covers cooperation on **Halal Industries**, and **Palm Oil** exports to Saudi Arabia from Malaysia;
 - C. **Economic and Financial Cooperation** through opportunities with Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund, the **Public Investment Fund (PIF)** and the **Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul)**.
9. In my meeting with **His Royal Highness Prince Turki bin Mohammad bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz Al Saud**, Minister of the State and Member of the Cabinet for **Saudi Arabia**, we emphasized on our strong bilateral relations and aspects of cooperation in various fields.
10. I will be reporting to the Prime Minister, YAB Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri bin Yaakob and related members of the Cabinet at the soonest in order to prepare for an upcoming visit by YAB Prime Minister to Saudi Arabia. All outcomes on matters that require inter-ministerial and/or inter-agency cooperation will be conveyed in the next Cabinet meeting.

YB DATO' SERI HISHAMUDDIN TUN HUSSEIN
SENIOR MINISTER OF DEFENCE
JEDDAH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
17 JUNE 2022