



PRESS
RELEASE

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION UNIT
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

MOD.100/2/1/2 JLD 3 () 06/10

**WORKING VISIT OF YB HAJI MOHAMAD BIN SABU, MINISTER OF DEFENCE
MALAYSIA TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, 23-26 OCTOBER 2018**

China – YB Tuan Haji Mohamad bin Sabu, the Defence Minister of Malaysia, will be in the People's Republic of China (PRC) from the 23rd until the 26th of October 2018 for a four-day work visit.

During the trip, the Defence Minister will attend the Keel Laying Ceremony for Littoral Mission Ship 1 (LMS 1) and the First Steel Cutting ceremony for LMS 2 that will be held at the Wuhan Shipyard, China. Malaysia's cooperation with China involves the construction of four LMS's for the Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN), two of which are being built in China and the remainder of which will be built in Malaysia; the program will also involve technology transfers between the two countries. The entire is an effort by the RMN to procure equipment from China in line with the 15-to-5 Naval Transformation Program.

The Defence Minister is also scheduled to attend the 8th Beijing Xiangshan Forum. The YB's attendance to the forum is intended to be a gesture of good will to the People's Republic of China, as well as a sign of appreciation for the good relations between the Ministry of Defence Malaysia and the Ministry of National Defence of the PRC. In reciprocation, the forum hosts have granted the YB the honour of presenting the opening speech during the second plenary session, titled "Terrorism Threats and Countermeasures," on the 25th of October 2018.

The Defence Minister will also meet with HE Xu Qiliang, the Vice-Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the PRC, and General Wei Fenghe, the Minister of National Defence of the PRC. The meeting will give YB an opportunity to interact more openly with the highest leaders of the PRC in an effort to strengthen cooperation between Malaysia and the PRC.

This visit should be seen as an important platform as well as a commitment by both nations to strengthen the channels for cooperation through defence diplomacy in order to preserve national sovereignty and regional stability.

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"PERTAHANAN NEGARA TANGGUNGJAWAB BERSAMA"

Strategic Communication Unit
Ministry of Defence
23rd October 2018