



PRESS STATEMENT

MALAYSIA CONTINUES TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AS UN-HABITAT PRESIDENCY DECISION NEARS

NAIROBI, KENYA (29 May 2025) – Malaysia persist to strengthen international relations before the official announcement of the next President of the UN-Habitat General Assembly, tomorrow.

Malaysia stands at a pivotal moment in its bid to lead global efforts on sustainable urbanisation for the 2026–2029 term.

Led by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, YB Nga Kor Ming, the Malaysian delegation has intensified high-level diplomatic engagements, including productive bilateral meetings with China, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Mexico, Azerbaijan and Iran aimed at strengthening support for Malaysia's candidacy during the ongoing UN-Habitat Assembly in Nairobi.

In discussions with the Chinese delegation led by Honourable Jiangou Dong, Vice Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, both sides reviewed upcoming joint events including the ASEAN Real Estate Conference (AREC) from 23–26 July in Kuala Lumpur, the ASEAN-China Ministerial Roundtable on Construction and Housing (ACMROCH) from 14–16 September in Guilin, China, and the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD) from 5–7 October in Penang.

During the bilateral meeting, China also endorsed Malaysia as a well-deserving candidate for the President of the UN-Habitat Assembly for its global vision for public welfare.

Meanwhile, the meeting with His Excellency Mohammed Ibrahim Al Mansoori, Director General of the Sheikh Zayed Housing Programme (UAE), focused on aligning shared priorities for the co-presidency period and executive board membership for the 2025–2029 term.

“Both parties agreed to uphold the principles of collaboration—remaining within UN-Habitat’s mandate while ensuring projects are mutually beneficial and cost-neutral,” said Nga.

Nga also held discussions with Her Excellency Ms Ana Claudia Rossbach, Executive Director of UN-Habitat, following up on earlier exchanges at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in April. Malaysia expressed its full support for the Quito +10 High-Level Meeting on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA), scheduled for next year.

“We reaffirmed our commitment to continue supporting UN-Habitat’s work in Malaysia, including the implementation of the New Urban agenda, Global Public Space Guidelines. We also extended an invitation to Her Excellency to attend the ASEAN Mayors Forum in Kuala Lumpur (10–15 August) and the APMCHUD in Penang (5–7 October),” Nga added.

The Malaysian delegation also includes Datuk Wira M Noor, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, and His Excellency Ruzaimi Mohamad, High Commissioner of Malaysia to the Republic of Kenya.

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