

CHINA FOREIGN MINISTER'S OFFICIAL VISIT
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MALAYSIA ON PRIORITY LIST FOR CHINA VACCINE

Chinese enterprises to cooperate with Malaysian partners in vaccine R&D, says Hishammuddin

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CHINA has listed Malaysia as a priority recipient for any vaccine the East Asian giant produces.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein said this was one of the things his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, had agreed to in a meeting during the latter's official visit yesterday.

"We also welcome China's agreement to encourage Chinese enterprises to establish all-round cooperation with Malaysian partners in vaccine research and development and distribution," he said in a press statement on the bilateral meeting.

The meeting also discussed an early conclusion to the negotiation on a bilateral memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the post-Covid-19 era.

Hishammuddin said the MoU provided a broad framework for pragmatic cooperation between the two countries in the post-pandemic period.

He said he expected to sign the MoU once he could pay a return visit to Beijing.

"We also agreed to establish a high-level committee on post-Covid-19 cooperation, which will

be co-chaired by both ministers of foreign affairs.

"The high-level committee will oversee the implementation of all understandings concluded within the framework of the MoU."

Besides that, Malaysia and China are also looking at cross-border movement for business and official travel between the two countries through the Reciprocal Green Lane (RGL) initiative.

Hishammuddin said both countries would jointly launch the RGL once the situation permits.

Following the meeting, he said China had committed to purchasing 1.7 million tonnes of palm oil until 2023.

The agreement led to discussions on opportunities in trilateral cooperation using Malaysian palm oil and palm oil-based products to address food security in



Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein and his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, posing for a picture before the bilateral meeting in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

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third world countries.

Hishammuddin said Malaysia had been working with like-minded countries, pooling resources to build capacities at key points of the global supply chain to safeguard food security strategically.

"I am proud to announce that China supports our vision and agenda on this, to transform vul-

nerability into collective resilience amongst our countries."

Other matters that were discussed include the Belt and Road Initiative, the South China Sea, Asean, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership deal, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation issues and United States-China relations.