PRESS STATEMENT

MALAYSIA ELEVATES GLOBAL COLLABORATION: FORTIFYING TIES WITH THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN – A SPECTACLE OF GLOBAL CAPACITY BUILDING

NEW YORK, 26TH FEBRUARY 2024 – Today marks a significant moment in the collaborative journey of Malaysia and Uzbekistan. The formal sealing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of Malaysia and Uzbekistan has elevated their bilateral partnership to new heights. This historic event was successfully held on the 26th of February 2024 at the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations in New York, in conjunction with the 55th United Nations Statistical Commission (UN55SC), which is currently taking place from 27 February to 1 March 2024. UN55SC is a summit convening chief statisticians worldwide.

The agreement was signed by YBhg. Dato' Sri Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician of the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), representing the Government of Malaysia, and Mr. Bakhodir Begalov, Director of the Statistics Agency under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Statistics Agency), representing the Government of Uzbekistan. The ceremony was witnessed by His Excellency Dato' Dr. Ahmad Faisal Bin Muhamad, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malaysia to the United Nations (UN), along with His Excellency Mr. Ulugbek Lapasov, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the United Nations.

This MoU marks a significant step towards collaboration between DOSM and the Statistics Agency. This partnership main aims to strengthen statistical practices and facilitate cooperation in areas of mutual interest. Through this MoU, both parties have committed to advancing the field of statistics and enhancing the capacity of their respective National Statistics Systems (NSS). The five-year agreement will focus on strengthening statistical capabilities by exchanging knowledge, best practices, and technical expertise in statistical methodologies through joint training programs and activities. The ultimate goal of this strategic collaboration is to create a community of skilled statisticians who can navigate the complexities of today's data-driven world. Accurate and reliable statistics play a critical role in shaping informed policies and fostering sustainable development and this partnership underscores the shared commitment towards this objective.

Dr. Uzir said, "With the joint commitment of DOSM and the Statistics Agency, we are confident that this partnership will be fruitful and lead to initiatives aligning with the overarching goal of socio-economic development. We look forward to the positive outcomes that this MoU will bring to both agencies and their respective countries".

Both parties acknowledge the importance of international collaboration in enhancing statistical capabilities and contributing to the global statistical community. The MoU reflects a shared vision to promote the development and dissemination of high-quality statistical information, thereby supporting evidence-based decision-making at national and international levels.

Dr. Uzir expressed optimism about the collaboration, stating, "This MoU signifies a commitment to excellence in statistical practices. By pooling our knowledge and expertise, DOSM and the Statistics Agency aim to contribute significantly to the advancement of statistical capabilities in our respective nations and globally."

Mr. Bakhodir Begalov echoed the sentiment, stating, "The Statistics Agency is excited about the opportunities this collaboration presents. We believe that by working together, we can leverage our strengths and contribute meaningfully to the enhancement of statistical systems, promoting a culture of data-driven decision-making."

This partnership signifies the start of a productive and long-lasting collaboration between DOSM and the Statistics Agency, aiming to improve statistical practices for the betterment of their respective nations and the global statistical community. The Chief Statistician encourages the global community to embrace and share this initiative for a more adaptive and responsive National Statistics System.

This event was further enhanced by the presence of the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), which supports bilateral cooperation between two Islamic countries and fosters constructive efforts for the development of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) statistical system. SESRIC's active engagement exemplifies their commitment to advancing collaborative initiatives that positively contribute to the ongoing development and improvement of the statistical landscape within OIC member countries.

Released by:
THE OFFICE OF CHIEF STATISTICIAN MALAYSIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS MALAYSIA
27 FEBRUARY 2024