



IDFR

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



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IDFR Annual Report 2025

Published by:

Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia

Level 8 & 18, Menara Aras Raya

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ISSN 1394-4479

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MESSAGE
**From the Secretary-General,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Malaysia**



Tan Sri Amran Mohamed Zin

I congratulate IDFR for yet another eventful year in 2025. The year saw IDFR's training benefits more than 6,000 participants over 136 programmes, including a number of training programmes conducted abroad. This reflects IDFR's continued progress, strong institutional delivery, as well as continued commitment and capability in strengthening Malaysia's foreign service capacity.

The year 2025 was also eventful as Malaysia shouldered the role of ASEAN Chair. It was mammoth task of delivering a Chairmanship that is memorable, substantive, and above all, projects Malaysia's credibility as a regional and global player. IDFR too contributed significantly to this national project, embodying the "Whole-of-Nation" and "Whole-of-Government" spirit and

approach, in line with the call by Malaysia's leadership. Beyond conducting a series of ASEAN-focused training for officers and functionaries, IDFR contributed to capacity-building efforts for Timor Leste, ahead of the country's historic entry as the 11th ASEAN Member State in October 2025.

Looking ahead, IDFR should continue to strengthen its institutional positioning by benchmarking its works against established diplomatic academies and foreign service institutes. There is room to further enhance programme quality through deeper engagement with senior practitioners, policymakers and international experts. IDFR should continue to position itself as a world class platform for high-quality, policy-relevant discourse on international affairs.

I end by putting on record my appreciation to all colleagues at IDFR for their commitment, dedication and professionalism. I am confident that IDFR will continue to contribute to Malaysia's public service excellence and to ensuring Malaysia's diplomats are well prepared to meet demands of increasingly complex international environment.

FOREWORD
by the Director-General,
Institute of Diplomacy and
Foreign Relations (IDFR)



Dato' Zainol Rahim Zainuddin

I am pleased to present the IDFR Annual Report 2025, encapsulating a year of programmes, initiatives, and achievements throughout the year 2025. IDFR remained dedicated and committed to delivering high quality, forward-looking programmes that equip diplomats and public officials with skills, knowledge, and perspectives required to navigate an increasingly complex global environment.

In April 2025, IDFR relocated to a temporary premises to facilitate major upgrading works at its permanent complex. Despite operating in a new environment, the unwavering dedication and professionalism of IDFR's officers and staff saw through the execution of 136 activities and programmes, engaging about 6,000 local and international participants. Crucially, IDFR

championed robust intellectual discourse on pressing global issues, convening distinguished thought leaders and experts to explore contemporary pressing issues including Gaza and the Middle East, the role of AI in diplomacy, and the critical nexus of economics and geopolitics.

In support of Malaysia's 2025 ASEAN Chairmanship, IDFR hosted the 16th Annual Meeting of Deans and Directors of Diplomatic Training Institutions of ASEAN Plus Three and a dedicated Forum on ASEAN entitled *Shaping a More Inclusive and Sustainable Future*. We also launched our landmark publication, *ASEAN 2025: Fostering Resilient and Equitable Futures Through Inclusivity and Sustainability*. We were also honoured to execute the programme *Kampung Angkat MADANI* and *Sekolah Angkat MADANI* in Rembau, Negeri Sembilan, bridging our national mandate with vital community development.

Looking ahead, IDFR will continue to enhance the quality, inclusivity, and impact of our core pillars: training, research, and publications while expanding our strategic partnerships. Our achievements this year are a proud reflection of the profound dedication and professionalism of our officers and staff, alongside the invaluable support of our strategic partners.



OVERVIEW



The Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR), established in July 1991, is the training arm of Malaysia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Institute plays a pivotal role in advancing Malaysia's diplomatic capacity by developing skilled, knowledgeable, and globally attuned diplomats and public officials.

As a centre of excellence in diplomatic training, IDFR designs and delivers a comprehensive range of programmes covering diplomacy, international relations, negotiation, strategic analysis, and public policy. Its training initiatives cater to Malaysian diplomats, government officers, and international participants, reflecting the Institute's commitment to both national capacity-building and international cooperation.

IDFR's flagship programmes include:

Diploma In Diplomacy

A six-month programme for junior Malaysian diplomats, covering bilateral and multilateral relations, ASEAN, protocol, negotiations, public diplomacy, foreign languages, as well as administrative and financial management.

Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP)

A series of training courses for international participants focusing on diplomatic practice, strategic analysis, and crisis management.

Pre-Posting Orientation Course

This course is designed for officers and spouses preparing for overseas assignments under the Malaysian Government Administrative System (SPKM).



The Institute also organises lectures, seminars, and forums on contemporary global issues, providing opportunities to engage with distinguished scholars and national and international leaders.

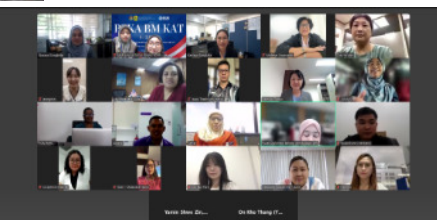
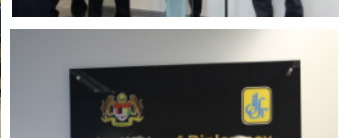
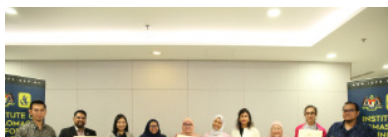
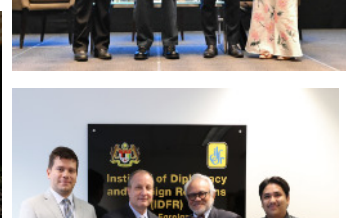
Guided by the strategic priorities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IDFR continues to strengthen its role as a key institution in shaping Malaysia's diplomatic community. Through its training, research, and engagement activities, the Institute contributes to enhancing Malaysia's global standing and advancing its interests on the international stage.



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

TOTAL PROGRAMMES	136
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	6950
TOTAL PUBLICATIONS	4

2025 PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS





OUR TEAM

DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE



DIRECTOR-GENERAL

**Dato' Zainol
Rahim Zainuddin**

(From May 2025)

Not in the picture

**Dato' Syed Mohamad Bakri
Syed Abdul Rahman**

(Until April 2025)



Ms Nik Latifah Mohd Zaki
Office Secretary

CENTRE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES AND ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY (PSED)



Ms Maslina Ngah Mamud

Director



Dr Murni Wan Mohd Nor

Senior Principal Assistant Director



Mr Harvinder Singh Ramday

Principal Assistant Director



**Ms Jasmine Mohamed
Jawhar**

Principal Assistant Director



**Ms Intan Marzueani Dato'
Mohamad Nor**

Principal Assistant Director



Dr Muhammad Faiz Ramli

Principal Assistant Director



**Mr Ahmad Khairul Ridhwan
Mohamed Hanif**

Principal Assistant Director



Ms Aida Yasmin Azhar

Assistant Director



Ms Hanun Insyirah Ishak

Assistant Director



**Mr Ahmad Muziru Idham
Adnan**
Assistant Director



Ms Nurul Farhah Ab Aziz
Assistant Director



Ms Munirah Mahmud
Personel MySTEP



**Mr Muhammad Afiq Danial
Mohd Jefri**
Personel MySTEP



Mr Iman Syah Mochamat Yusof
Personel MySTEP
(Until February 2025)



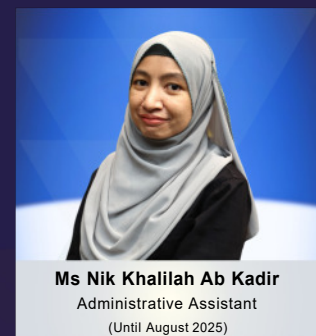
Ms Nurin Nabilah Asraf
Personel MySTEP
(Until March 2025)



Ms Filza Syahida Md Jamal
Administrative Assistant



Ms Hafizan Ahmad Zaini
Administrative Assistant



Ms Nik Khalilah Ab Kadir
Administrative Assistant
(Until August 2025)



Mr Haslil Hadi Amir Hasan
Administrative Assistant



**Ms Nik Nurmaizatul Ikhwani
Nik Zamzuri**
Assistant Office Secretary

CENTRE FOR LEADERSHIP, NEGOTIATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY



**Dato' Dr Mohamad Rameez
Yahaya**
Director
(From October 2025)



Ms Farah Dhiba Ahmed @ Salleh
Senior Principal Assistant Director



Ms Norlela Samad
Principal Assistant Director



**Ms Aadela Melati Ahmad
Termizi**
Principal Assistant Director



Ms Manishahz Sangkar
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Ms Irfazrina Ismail
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Shamsol Kamar**
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Mr Muhamad Azim Sulaiman
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(Until February 2025)



Mr Roslan Kamarudin
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Ms Nurfarhana Abdul Manan
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Ms Faridah Mohd Arip
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Ms Siti Noor 'Aini Hassan
Office Secretary

CENTRE FOR COMPETENCY ENHANCEMENT (CEC)



Dato Westmoreland Palon

Director



Ms Nurul Adni Zainul Ariff

Principal Assistant Director



**Mr Ahmad Faizal Hilmi
Mohamad Shahrul Hashri**

Assistant Director



**Ms Nurfarhah Nayli
Sharil Azman**

Personel MySTEP



**Mr Muhammad Amir Hamzah
Ahmad Nirman Fariz**

Personel MySTEP



**Mr Muhammad Al
Hadiuddin Rahmat**

Personel MySTEP
(Until February 2025)



Mr Ahmad Khidir Lemin

Administrative Assistant



Ms Jamnatul Ain Sarani

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**Mr Khairul Kamal
Abdul Rahman**

Office Secretary

CENTRE FOR LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY



Ambassador Gloria Tiwet

Director
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Ms Sithira Devi Govindan

Principal Assistant Director
(Until March 2025)



Ms Afida Ibrahim

Principal Assistant Director



Mr Haris Syarwani Razali

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Mr Ismariwan Shamsudin

Principal Assistant Director



Dr Raihan Dato' Dr. Marzuki

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Mr Muslim Hanafi Mohd Jalis

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Assistant Director
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**Ms Noor Bethrisya
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Assistant Director



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Ms Dayang Jariah Johari
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Ms Hasnah Mohd Sharif
Administrative Assistant



Ms Norliza Juri
Administrative Assistant



Mr Mohd Sha'arie Amran
Administrative Assistant

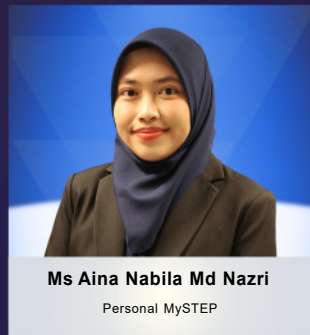


Ms Noraziah Omar
Office Secretary

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION



ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCE SECTION





Ms Puteri Intan Natasha Ab Aziz
Personal MySTEP



Ms Nora Tukirin
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Administrative Assistant
(Until July 2025)



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Mr Azrul Nizam Abdul Rahim
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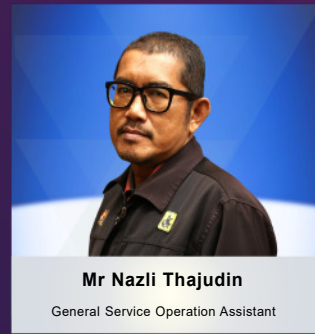
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Mr Rozaidi Abdul Razak
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Mr Nazli Thajudin
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Mr Erdee Azreen Abdul Malik
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Mr Mohd Syukri Harun
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Mr Rashid Taib
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Mr Muhamad Ridzuan Basarudin
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Mr Mohd Zul Aiman Zainal Abidin
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Mr Muhamad Syukri Fauzi
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Ms Siti Nur Aisyah Eman
Administrative Assistant

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Meor Ahmad Hazri**
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Accountant Assistant



Ms Nurnadia Abu Kassim
Accountant Assistant



Ms Nor Asikin Zahari
Accountant Assistant



Ms Siti Haira Jaafar
Accountant Assistant



**Mr Muhammad Hazrul
Nazran Abdul Hadi**
Accountant Assistant



Ms Amirah Nurulain Suhaimi
Accountant Assistant

**CENTRE FOR POLITICAL
STUDIES AND ECONOMIC
DIPLOMACY
(PSED)**

CENTRE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES AND ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY (PSED)

The Centre for Political Studies and Economic Diplomacy (PSED) leads training and research initiatives that encompass the multifaceted domains of diplomacy, international relations, and security, alongside bilateral, multilateral, political, economic, and trade affairs. The Centre also undertakes programmes under the *Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP)* and organises specialised bilateral training courses tailored to partner countries. In addition, PSED promotes intellectual discourse on pertinent global and regional issues through the IDFR Distinguished Lecture Series, public lectures, roundtable discussions, and forums.

Beyond its training initiatives, the Centre oversees the publication of the *Journal of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (JDFR)*, a peer-reviewed scholarly journal dedicated to foreign affairs. The Journal provides a platform for scholars, diplomats, and policymakers to share perspectives and analyses on contemporary developments in international studies, diplomacy, strategic and security affairs, as well as development studies. In addition, the Centre also publishes books related to diplomacy and international affairs. For example, the Centre produced an edited book published by IDFR titled, *ASEAN 2025: Fostering Resilient and Equitable Futures through Inclusivity and Sustainability* in conjunction with Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship this year.

IDFR Book Launch:
From Hate to Hope - A Holistic Approach to Address Hate Speech



On 17 January 2025, the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR), in collaboration with the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI), organised the launch of the book titled, *From Hate to Hope – A Holistic Approach to Address Hate Speech* at the Treaty Room, IDFR. The event gathered scholars, policymakers, and thought leaders, with YAM Tunku Zain Al-‘Abidin ibni Tuanku Muhriz attending as the guest of honour.

The programme began with welcoming remarks by Mr Harvinder Singh Ramday, Acting Director of the Centre for Political Studies and Economic Diplomacy (PSED), followed by opening remarks from Mr Danial Abdul Rahman, Chief Executive Officer of ASLI. The forum was moderated by Mr Gerard Ratnam of Bernama TV and featured panellists Dr Murni Wan Mohd Nor, Expert Researcher at IDFR and author of the book, and Associate Professor Dr Sabariah Mohamed Salleh from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

Dr Murni shared the personal experiences that shaped her commitment to addressing hate speech. Having faced hate speech while growing up in the United States and later during her studies in Malaysia.

she explained how these experiences informed her research and writing. Drawing on more than 13 years of expertise, the book offers both academic insights and practical approaches to countering hate speech.

The discussion focused on the risks posed by hate speech, the role of diplomacy in promoting inclusivity, and practical strategies to reduce polarisation. Participants actively engaged during the Q&A session, contributing to a constructive exchange of views.

The event concluded with the official launch of the book, followed by a networking session. The complete e-book is available for download on the official IDFR website at https://www.idfr.gov.my/my/images/pdf_folder/IDFR_Book-From_Hate_to_HOPE.pdf.

Economic Diplomacy Course



The Economic Diplomacy Course was held from 28 to 30 April 2025 at the Mercure Kuala Lumpur Trion Hotel with the objective of enhancing participants' understanding of Malaysia's economic diplomacy and strengthening strategic and analytical capabilities in addressing contemporary global economic challenges, including trade tensions and tariff-related issues.

The programme was attended by 23 officers from Grades 9 to 12 representing various ministries, agencies, and State Secretary Offices from Johor, Kedah, Kelantan, and Sarawak. Participants took part in lectures and practical sessions delivered by senior officials and subject-matter experts from government, think tanks, and industry.

The course covered key areas such as Malaysia's international trade promotion and nation-branding strategies, developments within the ASEAN Economic Community and preparations for Malaysia's ASEAN 2025 Chairmanship, bilateral economic diplomacy, global trade conflicts, and investment assessment tools, including Return on Investment (ROI) and strategic investment analysis.

Overall, the programme provided participants with updated insights and practical knowledge on Malaysia's trade positioning, investment strategies, and economic diplomacy, supporting capacity-building efforts in navigating an increasingly complex global economic environment.

MTCP: Diplomatic Course for International Participants



The Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP): Diplomatic Training Course for International Participants was conducted from 24 May to 4 June 2025 in Kuala Lumpur. The programme brought together 13 diplomatic officers from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Cuba, Egypt, India, Kenya, Laos, Morocco, Nepal, Senegal, Tajikistan, and Timor-Leste.

The course aimed to enhance participants' understanding of Malaysia's diplomatic practices while strengthening practical competencies relevant to contemporary diplomacy. Key modules covered Malaysia's foreign policy framework, bilateral and multilateral diplomacy, ASEAN engagement, public diplomacy, strategic leadership, media and communication, international negotiations, protocol practices and diplomatic etiquette as well as food diplomacy sessions with Dato' Chef Ismail, Malaysian food ambassador. All sessions were delivered by experienced practitioners and subject-matter experts. To complement the classroom-based training, participants undertook study visits to key administrative centres and national landmarks in Putrajaya and Kuala Lumpur.

The programme also featured a study visit to the Historical City of Malacca hosted by the Malacca State Secretary Office where participants received briefings and visited UNESCO heritage sites and national landmarks.

Participants demonstrated a high level of engagement throughout the programme and provided positive feedback on its content and organisation. The course concluded with a certificate presentation ceremony attended by heads of mission and diplomatic representatives, marking the successful completion of the training and reaffirming Malaysia's continued commitment to capacity-building under the MTCP.

Strategic and Security Analysis Course



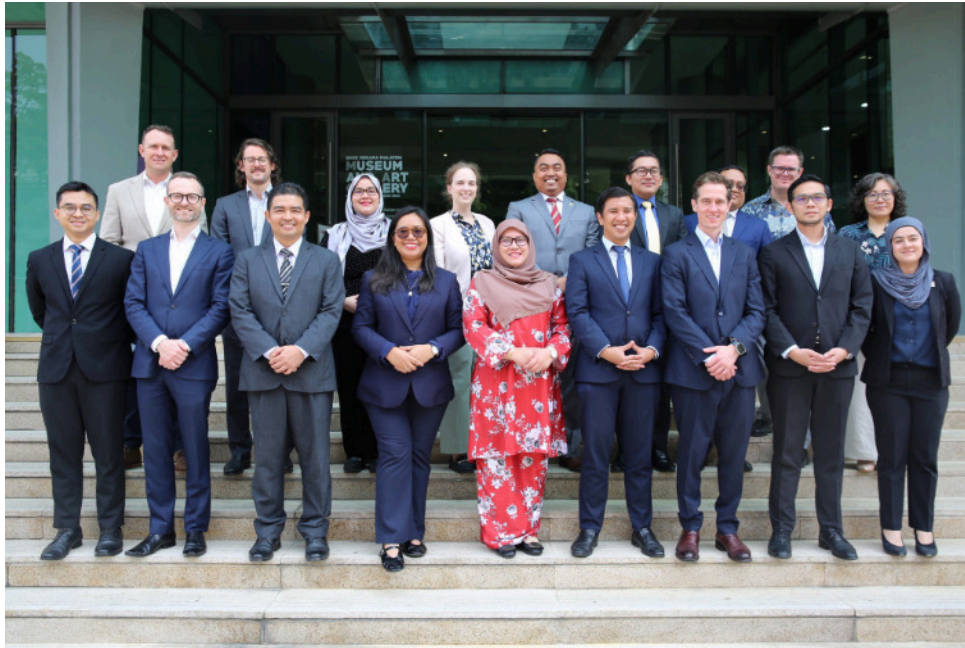
The Strategic and Security Analysis Course took place in Kuala Lumpur from 30 June to 2 July 2025, involving 20 officers at grades 9 to 12 drawn from various ministries, government agencies, and state secretary offices. Designed to strengthen analytical capacity among government officers, the course focused on developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills in national, foreign, and defence policy domains, with the objective of supporting sound and effective decision-making in an increasingly complex global environment.

The programme featured a series of expert-led modules addressing key strategic and security issues. These included *Malaysia's Foreign Policy and Strategic Interests* by Dato Westmoreland Palon (IDFR); *Malaysia's National Defence Policy and Strategy* by Lt. Gen. Dato' Seri Haji Muhammad Huzaimi Sabri (MiDAS); *Tools for Strategic Analysis in Decision-Making* by Mr Wan Fadzil Adlan, Senior Consultant; *Malaysia's Strategic Goals for Artificial Intelligence* by Ms Noor Azwa Azreen (CyberSecurity Malaysia); *Economic Security and Trade Wars* by Dr Muhammed Abdul Khalid (IKMAS, UKM); and *Strategic Communication in the Age of AI* by Mr Tillandran Achuthan, Senior Consultant.

Participants demonstrated strong engagement through lectures, group discussions, and interactive sessions, which facilitated the exchange of views on contemporary policy challenges. The course also provided exposure to emerging issues related to artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, highlighting the increasing importance of digital technologies in governance and policy formulation. These sessions enhanced participants' understanding of current geopolitical and economic uncertainties while strengthening practical communication and decision-making skills.

The course concluded with a certificate presentation ceremony officiated by Ms Maslina Mamud, Director of PSED, marking the participants' successful completion of the programme.

7th Malaysia-Australia Mid-Career Diplomats Roundtable



The Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) successfully organised the 7th Malaysia–Australia Mid-Career Roundtable Discussion in Kuala Lumpur from 22 to 24 July 2025. The programme, held on a rotational basis between Malaysia and Australia since 2009, aims to strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries. The 2025 edition was particularly significant as it coincided with the 70th anniversary of Malaysia–Australia diplomatic relations.

A total of 18 government officials from various ministries and agencies in both countries participated in in-depth discussions on key regional and global issues. Topics included ASEAN–Australia cooperation in addressing the crisis in Myanmar, maritime security and the South China Sea, trade wars and economic integration, as well as challenges related to artificial intelligence and digital sovereignty. Participants also explored ways to enhance bilateral cooperation to promote regional stability.

The discussions highlighted the importance of expanding cooperation in areas such as renewable energy, the halal industry, and digital infrastructure. Participants also emphasised the need to strengthen humanitarian efforts and prioritise economic development collaboration alongside traditional security cooperation. The exchange of views generated practical ideas that could contribute to the formulation of future foreign policies in both Malaysia and Australia.

In addition to the roundtable sessions, participants attended lectures by distinguished speakers on foreign policy, ASEAN priorities, trade in the digital era, and economic diplomacy. The programme also included a visit to the Bank Negara Malaysia Museum and Art Gallery to provide insights into Malaysia's monetary history and cultural heritage.

The programme concluded with the presentation of certificates of completion to participants, recognising their active engagement throughout the three-day discussion.

Public Lecture on 'The Growing Intersection of Economics and Geopolitics'



On 5 August 2025, the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) organised a public lecture titled, “The Growing Intersection of Economics and Geopolitics” at Wisma Putra, Putrajaya. The lecture was delivered by Dr Fergus Cumming, Deputy Chief Economist at the United Kingdom’s Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).

In his presentation, Dr Cumming discussed how global technological developments are reshaping the world economy and international relations. He highlighted the environmental impact of technological growth, particularly its contribution to climate change. He also explained how technological change is transforming global economic structures and influencing demographic trends, including fertility rates, life expectancy, and population imbalances in certain regions.

Dr Cumming further explored key geoeconomic issues shaping today’s global landscape. These included China’s Belt and Road Initiative as a tool to expand its international influence, Russia’s trade disputes with Ecuador, and the growing importance of emerging economies. He noted that the E7 countries — Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia, and Turkey — are projected to surpass the G7 as the world’s leading economic powers in the future, signalling a major shift in global economic balance.

During the Q&A session, participants raised questions on the role of ethics in economic decision-making, the economic impact of Brexit on the United Kingdom, and the broader political implications of recent increases in United States tariffs. The discussion allowed participants from various sectors to engage directly with these complex issues.

The programme concluded with an exchange of mementos and a group photograph involving representatives from ministries, government agencies, embassies, and high commissions. Beyond a single lecture, the event reflected ongoing Malaysia–UK diplomatic engagement and knowledge-sharing on issues of mutual interest.

MTCP: Economic Diplomacy Course for International Participants



The Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP): Economic Diplomacy Course for International Participants was conducted from 11 to 22 August 2025, bringing together 13 officials from Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos, Libya, Qatar, Namibia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Turkmenistan.

The course was designed to deepen participants' understanding of Malaysia's economic diplomacy within regional and global settings. The modules addressed Malaysia's foreign policy priorities, bilateral and multilateral economic engagement, the MADANI Economic Framework, ASEAN economic cooperation, and international trade amid evolving geopolitical challenges. Participants also benefited from sector-specific briefings highlighting Malaysia's economic strengths in areas such as semiconductors, oil and gas, automotive, and palm oil, alongside emerging opportunities in Islamic finance and sustainable investment.

To enhance the learning experience, specially curated study visits were arranged to provide practical exposure to Malaysia's governance, economic institutions, and cultural heritage. In Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya, participants visited key administrative centres, financial institutions, and national landmarks, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A food diplomacy session by Dato' Chef Ismail, Malaysian food ambassador further showcased Malaysia's cultural diplomacy and soft power approach.

The highlight of the programme was a three-day, two-night study visit to Johor Bahru. Participants engaged with institutions central to the state's economic development, including the Johor Civil Service Academy, the Economic Planning Unit of the Johor State Secretary Office, the Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA), Invest Johor, and the Invest Malaysia Facilitation Centre Johor (IMFC-J). The visit also included a site tour of Forest City and an engagement with the Royal Malaysian Navy Reserve Force Command Headquarters.

Participants remained highly engaged throughout the programme and expressed positive feedback on its relevance and organisation. The programme concluded with a certificate presentation ceremony attended by diplomatic representatives, marking the successful completion of the course.

Forum on ASEAN: Shaping a More Inclusive and Sustainable Future



On 2 October 2025, the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) organised the "Forum on ASEAN: Shaping a More Inclusive and Sustainable Future" at Hilton Kuala Lumpur. The forum also marked the launch of IDFR's latest publication, *ASEAN 2025: Fostering Resilient and Equitable Futures Through Inclusivity and Sustainability*. The keynote address was delivered by YB Datuk Mohamad bin Alamin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia.

The forum featured three plenary sessions focusing on key regional challenges. These included ASEAN's ability to lead its own regional order amid major power competition, economic security in a fragmented global trade environment, and inequality and sustainable development in Southeast Asia.

More than 385 participants attended the forum, including government officials, diplomats, policymakers, experts, academics, civil society representatives, and secondary school students.

Participants came from ASEAN Member States as well as China, and included ambassadors and high commissioners to Malaysia.

Discussions highlighted several important themes. Panellists stressed the need for ASEAN to remain central in the regional architecture and to act collectively to shape outcomes rather than be influenced by external powers. Economic priorities included improving the ease of doing business, strengthening trade facilitation, enhancing labour mobility, and coordinating industrial policies. ASEAN's neutrality in the US–China rivalry, grounded in the principles of the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN), was also emphasised.

The forum further highlighted the importance of data sovereignty, digital transformation, green transition, and the promotion of medium- to high-skilled migration. ASEAN Vision 2045 was discussed as a roadmap for a resilient, inclusive, and people-centred future, with digital literacy and access to technology recognised as fundamental rights.

The programme concluded with closing remarks by Dato' Zainol Rahim Zainuddin, Director General of IDFR.

MTCP (TCTP) - Australia: Diplomatic Training Programme for Timor-Leste Officials



From Kuala Lumpur to Dili, the Diplomatic Training Programme for Timor-Leste Officials was conducted in Timor-Leste from 13 to 17 October 2025, reflecting a strong commitment to delivering practical and context-specific capacity-building on the ground. The programme aimed to support Timor-Leste's engagement in regional and multilateral platforms, including its aspiration for full ASEAN membership. Implemented as a trilateral initiative supported by Malaysia under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme, together with Australia and Timor-Leste, the programme brought together 41 Timor-Leste government officials from various ministries and agencies (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Civil Service Commission, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Timor-Leste, Ministry of Education, Customs Authority and Business Registration and Verification Service) for a week of structured learning focused on strengthening diplomatic knowledge and professional competencies.

The programme featured a series of targeted modules covering *Foreign Policy and Malaysia's Experience, Public Diplomacy, Cross-Cultural Communication, Effective Brief and Speaking Notes, Crisis Management, and Report Writing for Diplomatic Engagements*. Additional sessions on *Malaysia and ASEAN, Protocol Practices and Diplomatic Etiquette, and Economic Diplomacy* further enhanced participants' understanding of the regional diplomatic landscape and the practical skills required for effective international engagement.

The programme concluded on a positive note, with participants expressing strong appreciation for the relevance and quality of the sessions, particularly the practical insights gained through case studies, interactive discussions, and hands-on exercises. A certificate presentation ceremony was held to mark the successful completion of the programme, attended by H.E. Dato' Amarjit Sarjit Singh, Ambassador of Malaysia to Timor-Leste; Mr Sidónio Martins, National Director for Political Security Affairs, Directorate General for ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Timor-Leste; and Mr Chad Clark, First Secretary for Governance and Economic Development at the Australian Embassy in Timor-Leste.

MTCP: ASEAN Trade Facilitation



The Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP): ASEAN Trade Facilitation was a customised course for Timor-Leste officials, conducted from 27 October to 7 November 2025. The programme brought together 14 diplomats and government officials from various ministries in Timor-Leste (TradInvest Timor-Leste, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Tax Authority Timor-Leste, Ministry of Agriculture Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry, The Authority of Inspection and Supervision of Economic, Sanitary and Food Activities, Public Institute and Timor-Leste Customs Authority) with the objective of strengthening their understanding of economic diplomacy within the ASEAN context.

The course focused on ASEAN trade facilitation and regional integration, examining customs and exercise challenges as well as the operational realities of the ASEAN Economic Community. Participants received briefings on Malaysia's international trade policy, Free Trade Agreements, and bilateral and multilateral diplomatic engagements that shape regional and global economic relations. Emphasis was also placed on building negotiation competencies through sessions on negotiation fundamentals, strategic preparation, and analytical approaches to trade and economic decision-making. Collectively, these modules provided participants with a structured understanding of ASEAN's economic framework and Malaysia's role in advancing regional cooperation.

To enhance practical exposure, the programme incorporated a series of study visits highlighting Malaysia's cultural, administrative, and economic environment which offered insights into Malaysia's cultural diversity and urban development. In Putrajaya, activities included a food diplomacy and networking session with Dato' Chef Ismail, Malaysian food ambassador and Wisma Putra Desk Officers, a scenic cruise showcasing the city's urban planning, and visits to government administrative centres, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. These engagements complemented the academic sessions by providing contextual understanding of Malaysia's governance and public diplomacy.

The programme also featured a three-day, two-night study visit to Negeri Sembilan, which offered participants practical exposure to state-level development initiatives. Engagements with the Negeri Sembilan State Secretary's Office provided insights into governance structures, strategic planning, and federal-state coordination in advancing ASEAN economic integration. Participants also visited Techpark @ Enstek to observe Malaysia's halal industry ecosystem and toured the Negeri Sembilan State Museum to learn about the *Adat Perpatih* cultural heritage. This visit enriched participants' understanding of the interplay between economic development, governance, and culture.

The programme concluded with a certificate presentation ceremony attended by Mrs Adelina Soares Martins, First Secretary of the Embassy of Timor-Leste in Malaysia, and the Heads of Centres of IDFR, marking the successful completion of the course.

IDFR Distinguished Lecture Series - Gaza: What's Next?



On 11 November 2025, the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR), Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, organised an IDFR Distinguished Lecture Series titled, “Gaza: What’s Next?”. The lecture was delivered by Prof Dr Hisham A. Hellyer, Senior Associate Fellow at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), United Kingdom. The session was moderated by Mr Sayed Munawar, a TV host and producer, and held at the Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

In his lecture, Prof Hellyer stressed that the root cause of the current conflict is the continued occupation of Palestinian territories, which international law clearly defines as illegal. He described the situation in Gaza as genocidal and said the scale of destruction has been seriously understated. He also argued that Western countries supplying weapons to Israel share responsibility for the devastation, even though there has been little accountability despite findings by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Prof Hellyer noted that regional dynamics have shifted since 7 October 2023. In particular, Saudi Arabia now insists that the establishment of a genuine Palestinian state must come before any normalisation agreement with Israel. He warned that the proposed 20-point peace plan for Gaza could lead to a permanent partition of the territory and would not serve the interests of the international community.

He also described the situation in the West Bank as an apartheid-like system marked by gradual annexation. According to Prof Hellyer, a “new Middle East” is emerging, shaped by Israeli military dominance, weak regional security arrangements, strong U.S. backing, and growing anti-Arab and anti-Muslim prejudice.

During the Q&A session, participants asked about the peace plan, international law, and U.S. influence. Prof Hellyer concluded that without meaningful changes and a credible political pathway for Palestinians, a lasting solution remains unlikely.

Dili-Australia Data Collection Trip



In 2025, the IDFR research team, led by Expert Researcher Dr Murni Wan Mohd Nor, successfully conducted comprehensive fieldwork in Dili, Timor-Leste from 11 to 18 August 2025 and Canberra, Australia from 7 to 11 September 2025. This mission is a core component of IDFR's ongoing study on Timor-Leste's post-independence development and the trilateral cooperation between Malaysia, Australia, and Timor-Leste, the findings of which will be published in the form of a book.

In Dili, the team engaged in high-level consultations, beginning with an invitation from H.E. Dr. Jose Ramos-Horta, President of Timor-Leste. Key diplomatic insights were gathered through interviews with H.E. Maria de Lurdes Bessa (Ambassador to Belgium) and H.E. Felicidade de Sousa Guterres, who provided perspectives on national reconciliation and the role of female freedom fighters. The research team also explored the country's socio-historical fabric through visits to the Timorese Resistance Archive, the Chega! Exhibition, and the Xanana Gusmão



Reading Room, alongside grassroots interviews with UN Women and the Islamic Community of Timor-Leste.

The research continued in Canberra, supported by the High Commission of Malaysia and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). The team conducted expert interviews at the Australian National University (ANU) with renowned scholars including Professor John Braithwaite, Professor Emeritus William Maley, and Dr Lia Kent, focusing on restorative justice, peacebuilding, and transitional justice.

These trilateral engagements have provided invaluable data on resilience and nation-building, further strengthening Malaysia's diplomatic ties and academic contributions to regional stability.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations: Special Issue on Asean

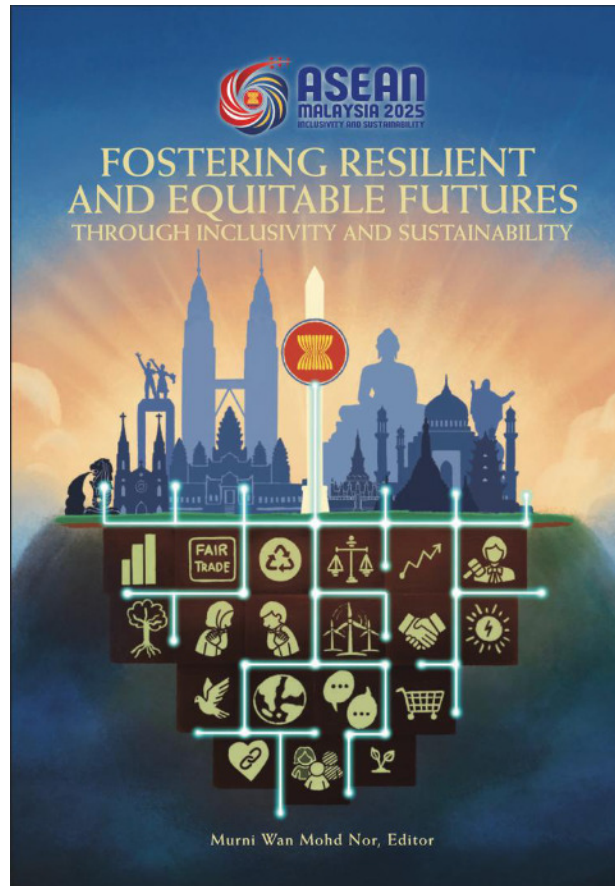


The Journal of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (JDFR) is IDFR's flagship open-access publication, recognised for its academic rigour and indexed in the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) framework. Since its founding in 1999, the journal has served as a vital bridge between theory and practice, fostering high-level discourse across international studies, strategic security, and development studies. Under the leadership of the Director General of IDFR as Editor-in-Chief, *JDFR* continues to promote the advancement of diplomacy as both an art and a science, providing invaluable insights for a global audience of scholars, diplomats, and policymakers.

A hallmark achievement for the year was the release of *JDFR: Special Issue on ASEAN (Volume 22, Number 1) in November 2025*. Administered by the Centre for Political Studies and Economic Diplomacy (PSED), this edition was strategically published to coincide with Malaysia's assumption of the ASEAN Chairmanship. The issue features seven scholarly articles authored by prominent practitioners and academics from Malaysia, Indonesia, and Singapore, offering a regional perspective on contemporary diplomatic challenges.

The contributions within this special volume address pivotal themes, including the nuances of ASEAN's non-interference policy, balancing between free speech and the need to address hate speech according to ASEAN values, and the strategic governance of Artificial Intelligence. Furthermore, the issue explores the critical nexus of climate, peace, and security, alongside the institutional development of the ASEAN Halal Council. Through this publication, IDFR reaffirms its commitment to providing intellectual leadership and supporting Malaysia's foreign policy objectives during its landmark tenure as ASEAN Chair. The complete e-journal is available for download via the official IDFR website at <https://www.idfr.gov.my/my/publication/jdfr/9>.

***ASEAN 2025: Fostering Resilient and Equitable Futures
Through Inclusivity and Sustainability***



Edited by Dr Murni Wan Mohd Nor, IDFR's Expert Researcher, the latest publication, "*ASEAN 2025: Fostering Resilient and Equitable Futures Through Inclusivity and Sustainability*," offers critical perspectives on the complex landscape of Southeast Asia. This comprehensive compilation provides actionable insights as the region navigates evolving challenges and opportunities under Malaysia's 2025 ASEAN Chairmanship.

The volume features contributions from distinguished experts, including Emeritus Prof Dato' Dr Aishah Bidin on the intersection of business and human rights for inclusive growth, and Dr Syarifah Fatimah AlZahrah Syed Hussien Al-Attas, who examines systemic barriers to women's participation in diplomacy. Additionally, Ms Tamerlaine Beasley provides a practitioner's lens on intercultural competency for effective dialogue, while Mr Danial Abdul Rahman analyses the geopolitical and sustainability pressures facing the ASEAN retail sector.

By emphasising equitable corporate governance, gender parity, and the balance between people, planet, and product, this book serves as a roadmap for a more inclusive regional future. It reaffirms IDFR's role in shaping high-level policy discourse through rigorous research and diverse expert collaboration. The complete e-book is available for download on the official IDFR website at https://www.idfr.gov.my/images/pdf_folder/E-Copy-Fostering-Resilient-and-Equitable-Futures-Through-Inclusivity-and-Sustainability.pdf.

**CENTRE FOR LEADERSHIP,
NEGOTIATION AND
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY
(LNPD)**

CENTRE FOR LEADERSHIP, NEGOTIATION AND PUBLIC DIPLOMACY (LNPD)

The Centre for Leadership, Negotiation and Public Diplomacy (LNPD) plays a vital role in strengthening the professional capacity of diplomats and public officials. It focuses on developing core competencies in leadership, negotiation, and public diplomacy. LNPD serves as a key pillar within IDFR, ensuring that diplomats and public officials are well-prepared with the leadership, negotiation, and public diplomacy skills necessary to advance Malaysia's foreign policy objectives and international standing.

Pre-Posting Orientation Course for Home-Based Staff and Spouses (Series 1 to Series 5)



The Pre-Posting Orientation Course is a mandatory programme for Government officials and their spouses who will be serving for the first time at Malaysia's Missions abroad, as stipulated under *Surat Pekeliling Am Bilangan 2 Tahun 2018: Sistem Pentadbiran Kerajaan Malaysia (SPKM) di Luar Negeri*. The course aims to strengthen participants' readiness in administration, protocol, consular services, social etiquette, and other essential areas related to overseas postings.

The Centre successfully implemented three (3) series of SPKM courses for officers of Grade 9 and above (nine days) and two (2) series for officers of Grade 8 and below (five days) in the year 2025. In total, 364 participants, comprising 206 officers and 158 spouses from 22 Ministries and Government Agencies attended the course.

The SPKM modules include administrative functions at Malaysian missions, covering inspectorate duties, financial management, protocol, security, and integrity, Malaysia's foreign policy, strategies for promoting Malaysia's interests and personal grooming, social etiquette, and professional conduct.

Participants provided highly positive feedback, noting that the structured approach, engaging speakers, and practical insights enhanced their confidence for overseas postings.

Humanitarian Leadership Course



From 22 to 24 April 2025, the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) organised the Humanitarian Leadership Course at Mercure Hotel, Putrajaya. The three-day course was designed to strengthen leadership capacity among Government officers involved in humanitarian and development-related work, equipping them with the skills required to respond effectively to complex humanitarian challenges. 21 officers from various Ministries, Agencies, and Non-Governmental Organisations participated in the course, reflecting the growing importance of cross-sectoral collaboration in humanitarian governance.

The course provided participants with a comprehensive understanding of the evolving humanitarian landscape, shaped by dynamic socio-economic, technological, environmental, and geopolitical developments. Emphasis was placed on how these factors influence humanitarian needs and demand adaptive, forward-looking public policy responses.

Through guided discussions and structured learning modules, participants were encouraged to critically examine current humanitarian challenges critically and explore innovative approaches to leadership in crisis and development contexts.

Interactive sessions and group-based activities created opportunities for participants to exchange experiences, share best practices, and establish professional connections with peers and practitioners in the humanitarian field. These networks are expected to serve as a catalyst for future cooperation and coordination in humanitarian and development efforts. The course reinforced IDFR's commitment to enhance leadership excellence within the public sector and to contribute meaningfully in strengthening the Malaysia's capacity to engage effectively in humanitarian and development initiatives at the national and international levels.

Negotiation Course for Junior Officers



From 6 to 8 May 2025, the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) conducted the Negotiation Course for Junior Officers, aimed at equipping early-career Government officers with essential negotiation competencies. Recognising negotiation as a core skill in public service, diplomacy, and inter-agency coordination, the course brought together 23 officers from Grades 9 and 10 representing various Ministries, Agencies, and Departments. It provided participants with early exposure to negotiation processes and the responsibilities associated with representing Government interests.

The course highlighted negotiation as an essential tool for resolving differences, securing agreements, balancing stakeholder interests, and fostering sustainable professional relationships. Participants were introduced to key negotiation principles, frameworks, and strategies, enabling them to navigate diverse negotiation settings with greater confidence. Through structured simulations, guided debriefings, and reflective discussions, officers enhanced their communication, conflict-management, and decision-making skills, while drawing lessons from real-world international negotiation experiences.

A distinctive focus of the course was the management of mindset and emotions during negotiations. Participants explored techniques to remain composed under pressure, project confidence, and respond strategically in challenging situations. Emphasis was also placed on critical stages of the negotiation process, including preparation, effective communication, trust-building, and outcome assessment. In conclusion, the course enhanced participants' understanding of negotiation as a strategic tool in public administration, contributing to a more confident, capable, and negotiation-ready public service in line with IDFR's commitment to strengthen leadership and professional competencies within the Malaysian Civil Service.

Pre-Posting Orientation Course for Home-Based Staff and Spouses for the Ministry of Higher Education



The Centre conducted a four-day specialised SPKM course for the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia from 10 to 13 June 2025. A total of nine officers of Grade 9 and above, together with their spouses, attended the course.

This specially tailored series focused on the most essential topics of the standard SPKM programme, including administration, protocol, consular services, and social etiquette, ensuring that participants acquired the key knowledge and skills necessary for their overseas postings.

The programme provided a combination of interactive sessions, case studies, and practical exercises, allowing participants to engage actively and apply their learning effectively. The series received positive feedback for its focused content and efficient delivery.

Media Skills Workshop for Mid-Level Officers



The Media Skills Workshop for Mid-Level Officers was held from 15 to 17 July 2025, with the participation of 15 mid-level officers (Grades 12 and 13) from various Ministries and Government Agencies.

The workshop aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the media landscape and its strategic importance, while equipping them with practical skills for effective and professional media engagement. Key objectives included strengthening communication of Government policies, improving crisis communication capabilities, and building confidence in managing media interactions.

The workshop featured expert speakers from the Government, Academia, and the private sector. Core discussions covered crisis communication, addressing misinformation, crafting clear and consistent messages, managing emotions in high-pressure situations, and engaging the media effectively. Participants also examined the importance of Inter-Ministerial

collaboration to ensure coherent and unified Government messaging. Lessons learned from past media challenges were shared, alongside emerging practices such as anticipatory governance, which emphasises proactive preparation for potential crisis.

Participants actively engaged throughout the workshop, sharing experiences and contributing to constructive discussions. Overall, the workshop successfully strengthened media literacy and enhanced officers' capacity to manage media engagements with greater professionalism, supporting credible and impactful government communication.

Public Diplomacy Course for Junior Level Officers



The Public Diplomacy Course for Junior-Level Officers was held from 28 to 30 July 2025, with the participation of 30 junior officers from various Ministries and Government Agencies.

The course was designed to raise awareness of the importance of public diplomacy in advancing Malaysia's national interests, while enhancing participants' understanding of Malaysia's public

diplomacy initiatives and selected best practices from other countries. Emphasis was placed on strategic communication, public engagement, and the effective use of soft power in diplomacy.

The course comprised lectures, a mini forum, and interactive discussions led by seasoned diplomats, Government officials, academics, and practitioners. Key sessions included experience sharing on the implementation, successes, and challenges of public diplomacy tools in bilateral and multilateral contexts, case studies on cultural diplomacy, and discussions on current public diplomacy issues. Topics also covered building and sustaining public trust, national branding, and people-to-people engagement.

Participants actively contributed to discussions, drawing on case studies and comparative examples to contextualise Malaysia's public diplomacy efforts. Overall, the course received positive feedback and provided a practical platform for strengthening knowledge and skills in public diplomacy, reinforcing the importance of positive narratives in winning hearts and minds.

Leadership Course for Junior Officers



The Leadership Course for Junior Officers was held from 5 to 7 August 2025 as part of IDFR's ongoing efforts to strengthen leadership capabilities within the Malaysian Civil Service. The course was attended by 27 junior officers of Grades 9 and 10 from various Ministries and Agencies, providing them with early exposure to leadership roles and responsibilities. Designed as a transformative learning platform, the course aimed to unlock participants' leadership potential and prepare them to navigate complex challenges with confidence and strategic insight.

All participants were equipped with essential leadership skills to address organisational challenges effectively and develop practical, solution-oriented approaches. The course emphasised strategic thinking, decision-making, and situational awareness, enabling officers to better understand and manage their working environments. Through guided discussions and structured learning activities, participants gained valuable insights into leading teams with clarity, purpose, and confidence.

The course content focused on building self-reliance and self-resilience as core attributes of effective leadership. Participants were introduced to techniques for managing pressure, adapting to change, and maintaining composure in demanding situations. In addition, the course addressed conflict resolution strategies and highlighted the importance of preparation, communication, and empathy in fostering a cohesive and productive team environment.

The Leadership Course for Junior Officers successfully enhanced participants' understanding of leadership as an essential competency in public service. By nurturing visionary thinking, resilience, and interpersonal effectiveness at an early career stage, the course helped develop capable and confident future leaders. This initiative reflects IDFR's ongoing commitment to cultivating high-quality leadership and professional excellence within the Malaysian Civil Service.

Negotiation Course for Mid-Level Officers



The Negotiation Course for Mid-Level Officers was held from 26 to 28 August 2025. The course was attended by 16 mid-level officers of Grades 12 and 13 from various Ministries, and Agencies. Designed for mid-career professionals, the course aimed to elevate participants' critical negotiation skills and tactical awareness in handling complex negotiations at both local and international levels.

The course focused on the full negotiation cycle, encompassing effective preparation, execution, and finalisation to achieve successful and sustainable outcomes. Emphasis was placed on developing mutually beneficial agreements while safeguarding organisational and national interests. Participants were exposed to establish negotiation strategies and techniques that enhanced their ability to analyse situations, manage stakeholder dynamics, and respond strategically under pressure.

The course content drew on real-life examples, practical lessons learned, and proven negotiation tactics to enhance participants' understanding and application of negotiation skills. Through facilitated discussions, case analyses, and hands-on exercises, participants were challenged to navigate tricky situations and resolve problematic conundrums commonly encountered in inter-agency coordination, policy implementation, and international engagements. These practical components strengthened participants' confidence and adaptability in complex negotiation environments.

Overall, the Negotiation Course for Mid-Level Officers effectively strengthened participants' negotiation capabilities and professional confidence. By equipping officers with higher-level competencies, practical tools, and strategic perspectives, the course supported the development of a more capable and negotiation-ready public service. The programme underscores IDFR's commitment to nurture high-performing officers who can represent the Malaysian civil service with confidence and effectiveness in increasingly complex negotiation environments.

MTCP: Negotiation Course for International Participants



The Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP): Negotiation Course for International Participants was held at Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, from 9 to 17 September 2025. The course brought together 16 officers from a diverse range of countries, namely Algeria, Azerbaijan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao PDR, Libya, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Venezuela, and Malaysia.

Throughout the nine-day programme, participants were immersed in a comprehensive and practice-oriented curriculum aimed at strengthening their negotiation skills across diplomatic, economic, and multilateral contexts. The key topics covered included Negotiation Essentials, Communication and Relationship Building, the Language of Negotiation, Negotiation Styles and Strategies, Managing Conflict in Negotiation, Cross-Cultural Negotiation, and Malaysia's Foreign Policy. Hands-on negotiation simulations formed a central component of the course, allowing participants to apply theoretical concepts in realistic scenarios while receiving constructive feedback to enhance their effectiveness and confidence.

Beyond the classroom, the programme incorporated study visits to Wisma Putra and iconic landmarks such as the Petronas Twin Towers, Central Market, and historical sites in Kuala Lumpur and Melaka. These visits enriched participants' understanding of Malaysia's diplomatic environment, culture, and heritage. The programme concluded with a Gala Dinner and Certificate Presentation Ceremony. Ms Phalla Outdra Vottey from Cambodia delivered a vote of thanks on behalf of the participants. The evening was further enlivened by a group performance of the song "*Rasa Sayang*" and a poem entitled "*Across the Table, Across the World*" by Mr Terence Kaidadaya from Papua New Guinea. The programme concluded on a high note, celebrating both the learning journey and the strong bonds of camaraderie and cultural exchange formed throughout the programme.

Johor Student Leaders Council (JSLC) Young Diplomat Programme



IDFR hosted 14 outstanding student leaders from Johor for the Young Diplomats Programme under the Johor Student Leaders Council (JSLC) Cohort 14, held from 29 September to 3 October 2025. Organised in collaboration with the Johor State Education Department and JSLC, the programme brought together students carefully selected for their leadership potential, academic excellence, and active community involvement.

Designed as a five-day immersive experience, the programme introduced participants to the principles and practices of diplomacy and international relations. Through a combination of lectures, briefings, interactive discussions, workshops, and study visits, students gained practical skills in communication, negotiation, critical thinking, intercultural awareness, and public diplomacy. Modules also emphasised national pride, ethical leadership, responsible communication, and the promotion of unity in Malaysia's multicultural society.

The programme featured insights from experienced diplomats, Government officials, and academics, providing participants with real-world perspectives and professional guidance. Key themes included Malaysia's foreign policy, bilateral and multilateral relations, strategic communication, soft power, and the role of diplomacy in advancing national interests.

The closing ceremony was done by Dato' Dr Mohamad Rameez Yahaya, Director of the Centre for Leadership, Negotiation and Public Diplomacy, with remarks from Tuan Haji Mohd Kamal Ahmad Untong, Deputy Director of the Johor State Education Department. Certificates of participation were awarded to all students in recognition of their engagement and commitment.

The programme received positive feedback from both students and organisers. IDFR is confident that these young leaders leave better equipped, inspired, and motivated to explore the world of diplomacy. The Young Diplomats Programme reflects IDFR's continued commitment to nurture Malaysia's next generation of diplomatic leaders.

Leadership Course for Mid-Level Officers



The Leadership Course for Mid-Level Officers was successfully conducted from 7 to 9 October 2025 at the Premiera Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The course was attended by 26 officers of Grades 12 and 13 from various Ministries and Government Agencies, reflecting strong interest and institutional support for leadership development at the mid-career level.

Designed to enhance leadership effectiveness in increasingly complex public sector environments, the course focused on strengthening strategic thinking, decision-making, and people management skills. Participants were exposed to practical leadership frameworks and approaches that enabled them to navigate organisational challenges, manage change, and align team performance with broader policy and institutional objectives. The course emphasised the importance of adaptive leadership and accountability in delivering effective public service outcomes.

The course employed a blend of interactive lectures and case-based learning to encourage active engagement and peer learning. Through these sessions, participants examined real-world leadership challenges commonly faced in government settings, including inter-agency coordination, stakeholder management, and organisational transformation. The collaborative learning environment also facilitated the exchange of experiences and best practices among officers from diverse professional backgrounds.

Overall, the Leadership Course for Mid-Level Officers played a meaningful role in strengthening participants' leadership awareness, confidence, and practical capabilities. Through exposure to relevant leadership tools and contemporary perspectives, the course prepared officers to lead with resilience, adaptability, and strategic insight in an evolving governance landscape. The course reaffirms IDFR's commitment to cultivating high-calibre leaders and advancing professional excellence across the Malaysian Civil Service.

Strategic Thinking in Negotiations Course for Wisma Putra Officers



The Strategic Thinking in Negotiations Course for Wisma Putra Officers was held from 4 to 6 November 2025, as part of IDFR's specialised capacity-building initiatives for diplomatic officers. The course was designed to strengthen participants' strategic thinking capabilities within negotiation contexts, particularly in support of Malaysia's bilateral, regional, and multilateral diplomatic engagements.

The course introduced key principles of strategic thinking by integrating analytical tools, systems perspectives, scenario planning, and diplomatic insights. Participants learned how to align national and institutional interests, design coherent negotiation strategies, and navigate complex and dynamic negotiation environments. Emphasis was placed on informed decision-making and strategic judgement, drawing on real-world approaches commonly applied in high-level diplomatic negotiations.

Throughout the course, learning was reinforced through practical exercises, interactive discussions, and real-world case experiences from bilateral, regional, and multilateral negotiations. These activities enabled participants to analyse competing interests, assess risks and opportunities, and formulate effective responses to evolving negotiation challenges. The course also enhanced participants' understanding of Malaysia's role and positioning in regional and global diplomacy, providing valuable context for their negotiation responsibilities.

Overall, participants showed marked improvements in strategic judgement, negotiation capability, and confidence in handling complex diplomatic engagements. Ultimately, the course enhanced the professional capacity of Wisma Putra officers, preparing them with practical and strategic tools to deliver sustainable and mutually beneficial outcomes in support of Malaysia's future foreign policy objectives.

Empowering Leadership Excellence Through Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) Course



The Empowering Leadership Excellence Through Neuro Linguistic Programming (NLP) Course was successfully conducted from 11 to 13 November 2025 at the Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The three-day course was designed to equip Government officers with cutting-edge NLP tools to enhance leadership effectiveness, communication skills, and emotional resilience within the public sector. The course welcomed 19 participants from a wide range of Ministries and Government Agencies. This diverse representation enriched discussions and enabled meaningful exchanges of leadership experiences across sectors.

The core objective of the course was to empower participants to enhance their leadership capabilities through the application of NLP techniques that build confidence, clarity, and influence. Over three days, participants engaged in focused sessions on Personal Discovery, the Pillars and Presuppositions of NLP, Effective Interpersonal Communication, and the

Redesign of Visioning Leadership. Strong emphasis was placed on developing emotional intelligence, strengthening rapport-building skills, and aligning personal values with organisational goals to foster sustainable leadership growth and resilience.

Delivered through a highly interactive and hands-on approach by expert facilitators Dr Amir Aris and Professor Dr Angzzas Sari Mohd Kassim, the course equipped participants with practical strategies and a leadership mindset geared towards continuous excellence. The programme reflects IDFR's commitment to nurturing confident, adaptive, and impactful leaders. Participants are now better positioned to drive innovation, accelerate professional growth, and contribute meaningfully to the evolving landscape of Malaysia's public service.

AI@Work: Innovating Diplomacy Course



The AI@Work: Innovating Diplomacy Course was successfully held from 18 to 10 November 2025 at the Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The three-day course was designed to equip government officers with practical skills in applying Artificial Intelligence (AI) to enhance daily work processes and strengthen diplomatic functions. The course was attended by participants from Wisma Putra, the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, and the Institute of Strategic and International Studies, fostering cross-institutional learning and collaboration.

In line with the national digital transformation agenda, the workshop supported initiatives such as MyDIGITAL and the Public Sector Digitalisation Strategic Plan. Its key objectives were to enhance participants' practical understanding of AI, strengthen their ability to utilise AI tools to improve productivity and communication, and cultivate an innovation-oriented mindset that encourages continuous learning and the adoption of digital solutions within the public sector. The course adopted an interactive and hands-on learning approach through guided demonstrations, practical exercises, and group discussions.

Participants gained applied skills in using AI to support key functions, including document preparation, information analysis, report drafting, and communication management. Core modules addressed ethics, governance, and responsible AI use, alongside AI and Large Language Model fundamentals for diplomacy. The course also covered simplified data analytics and visualisation, as well as strategies to enhance communication and content creation using AI tools. Overall, the course equipped participants with practical capabilities to navigate the evolving digital landscape, improving efficiency, creativity, and service delivery.

Social Media Strategies Course



The Centre organised the Social Media Strategies Course from 18 to 20 November 2025 with the participation of 21 officers from various Ministries and Government Agencies.

The course aimed to enhance participants' ability to utilise social media effectively, creatively, and responsibly in their official duties. Recognising the influential role of social media in shaping public perception, the course provided practical guidance on leveraging digital platforms to disseminate accurate information, build public trust, and engage diverse audiences meaningfully.

Key components of the course included developing basic photography skills, with participants learning how lighting, composition, and angles impact visual storytelling. The programme also addressed caption writing, content selection, and strategic posting to maximise engagement, while emphasising the importance of professionalism, ethical communication, and safeguarding organisational and personal reputation online.

Interactive discussions, case studies, and hands-on exercises encouraged participants to share experiences and address challenges in digital communication within their agencies. Feedback reflected the course's relevance, practicality, and immediate applicability to participants' work.

The Social Media Strategies Course demonstrates IDFR's commitment to equipping Malaysian public sector officers with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective, transparent, and responsible digital engagement. By organising this course, IDFR continues to support the Government's broader objectives in fostering informed, accountable, and digitally competent public service communication.

IDFR Distinguished Lecture Series - AI@Work: Innovating Diplomacy

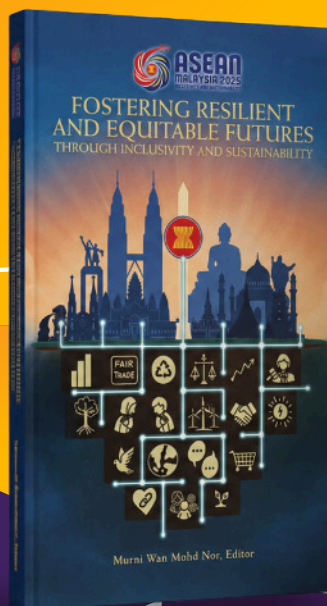
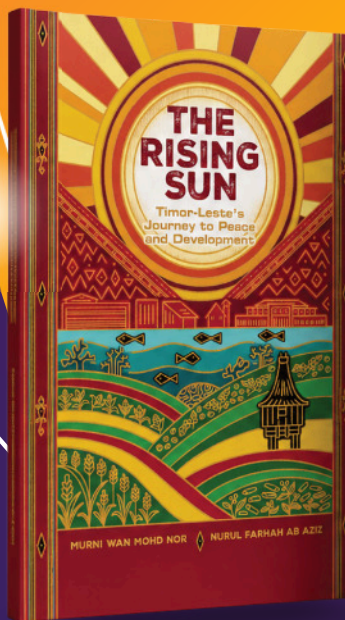


The IDFR Distinguished Lecture Series – AI@Work: Innovating Diplomacy was held on 25 November 2025 at the InterContinental Kuala Lumpur and was attended by representatives from high commissions and embassies, Government Ministries and Agencies, public and private higher learning institutions, think tanks, and the corporate sector. The lecture series commenced with opening remarks by Dato' Dr Mohamad Rameez Yahaya, Director of Centre for Leadership, Negotiation and Public Diplomacy, IDFR, who emphasised the importance of artificial intelligence in shaping the future of diplomacy and underscored the need for Malaysia to strengthen its strategic readiness through innovation, adaptability, and responsible adoption of emerging technologies.

Through expert lectures and an extensive question-and-answer session, the lecture series highlighted artificial intelligence as an unavoidable force in modern statecraft, offering transformative opportunities while also presenting significant risks that must be managed through sound governance, enhanced digital literacy, and informed human judgement. AI was recognised for its potential to enhance agility, precision, and efficiency in diplomatic practice, including decision-making, policy analysis, and engagement in an increasingly complex global environment.

The lecture series examined AI from both security and governance perspectives. The first lecture, delivered by Ir Dr Megat Zuhairy bin Megat Tajuddin, Chief Executive of the National Cyber Security Agency (NACSA), highlighted national security risks associated with AI, including data manipulation, cybercrime, misinformation, and supply-chain vulnerabilities. He also outlined Malaysia's ongoing efforts to strengthen AI governance through cybersecurity guidelines, regional cooperation within ASEAN, and legislative measures. The second lecture, delivered by Mr Fathy Rashad, Founder of Cleve.ai, explored the rapid evolution of AI and its growing application in public services and diplomacy, noting that while progress has been made, challenges remain in ensuring ethical use, accountability, and effective integration.

NEW RELEASE



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**CENTRE FOR LANGUAGES
AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY
(CLCD)**

CENTRE FOR LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY (CLCD)

The Centre for Languages and Cultural Diplomacy (CLCD) focuses on two key pillars of diplomacy: Language and Culture. To enhance the communication skills of government officers, the Centre offers various language courses in English, as well as other foreign and United Nations languages, including Arabic, French, German, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, and Spanish. In fostering better understanding and a deeper bond between Malaysia and other countries, the Centre conducts Cultural Diplomacy courses for Malaysia government officers and within the Malaysia Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) including officers from ASEAN member states and other countries.

An Induction for Foreign Diplomats in Malaysia – Malaysia's Culture and Identity (MCI)

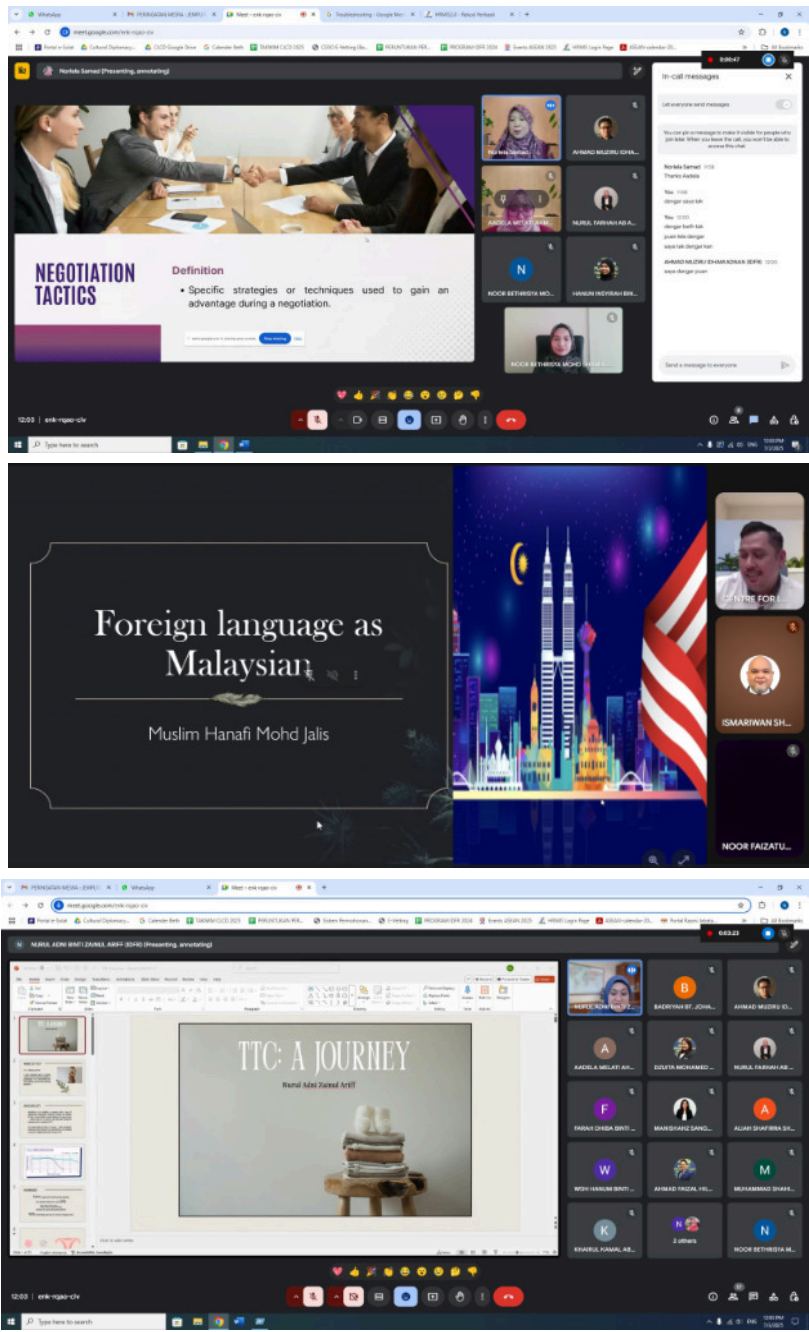


A two-day course titled, “An Induction for Foreign Diplomats in Malaysia – Malaysia’s Culture and Identity” (MCI) was held on 22 and 23 January 2025 at IDFR. The course welcomed 15 participants from foreign embassies, high commissions, and international organisations. This is the sixth instalment of the course since it was first introduced in June 2023.

The course aimed to provide an overview of diplomatic life in Malaysia, including the workings of the Malaysian government machinery, the customs of Malaysian culture as well as the unique aspects of Malaysia’s workings, politics and social interactions. The course was attended by diplomats from embassies in Malaysia comprised of Venezuela, Russia, Namibia, Bangladesh, the Netherlands, Iraq as well as representatives from the Mission of Canada to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Jakarta, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Labour Organization and United Nations International Children Emergency Fund (UNICEF). Among the modules covered during the course are Wisma Putra and Malaysia’s Diplomacy, Malaysian Politics, Honorifics in Malaysia, Press and Media Landscape, and Introduction to Malaysia’s Culture delivered by field professionals from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and subject matter experts.

The course also featured a luncheon talk, providing participants with an opportunity to expand their diplomatic networks, engage in meaningful discussions, and gain experience in applying appropriate use of honorifics and forms of formal address in Malaysia. Additionally, a session was also held at BERNAMA, where participants were given an introductory talk to the press and media landscape in Malaysia. Participants expressed appreciation for the knowledge and insights gained into Malaysian culture, expressing enhanced understanding of Malaysia’s cultural nuances, political background and media landscape in forming a solid foundation for their diplomatic assignments in Malaysia.

KM Café 2025

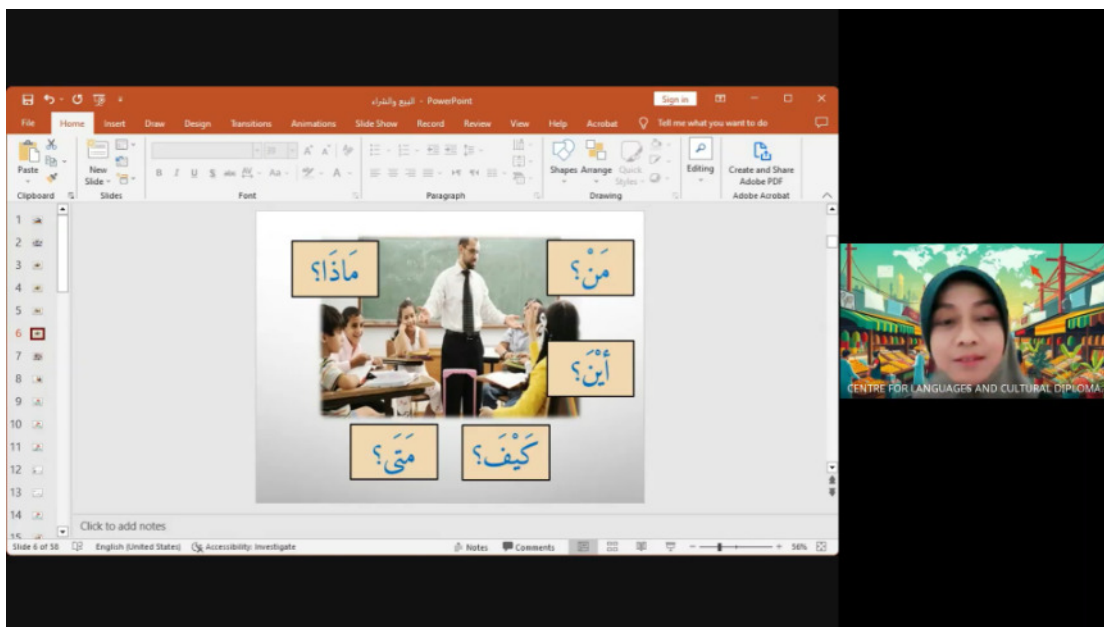


Throughout 2025, the Centre conducted the KM Café series, a dedicated virtual knowledge sharing platform for IDFR staff to share insights and engage in discussions on various topics. The first session, held on 24 January 2025, focused on “*Agama Adalah Kuasa: Bagaimana Kepercayaan Membentuk Struktur Tatanan Global (Global Order)*,” exploring how religion, language, and perceptions shape power dynamics and influence global structures. The second session, held on 7 February 2025, discussed “Negotiation Styles and Strategies” offering practical guidance on negotiation techniques and approaches applicable to both professional and international contexts.

The third session, held on 7 March 2025, covered “TTC: A Journey,” providing insights into the process, challenges, and realities of family planning and reproductive health outside of the reality of work, focusing more into personal life. The fourth session, conducted physically on 30 May 2025, centred on “Self-Actualisation: Sharing of Experiences,” highlighting self-awareness, values, and purposeful career planning to encourage continuous personal and professional growth. The fifth and final session, held virtually on 5 December 2025, addressed “Foreign Language as Malaysians,” examining the benefits of learning foreign languages and practical strategies to strengthen proficiency.

Overall, the KM Café 2025 series successfully provided a platform for both professional development and personal enrichment, fostering engagement, knowledge sharing, and cultivating a culture of continuous learning among IDFR officers.

Arabic Language: Basic Communication Course

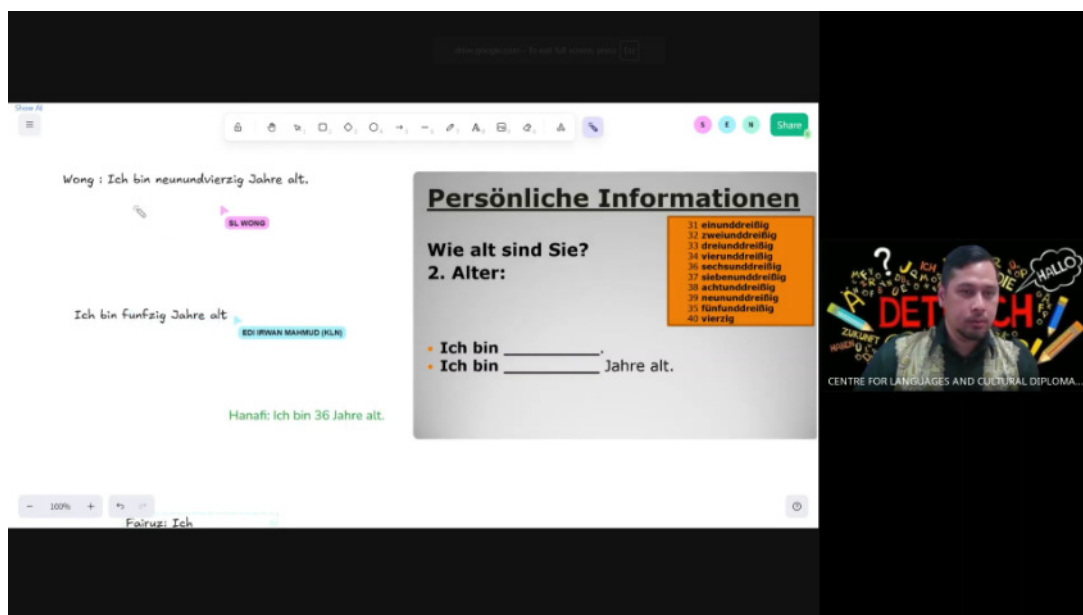


The Arabic Language: Basic Communication Course was conducted from 4 to 25 February 2025 over six sessions, totalling 12 hours of interactive language training. Participants were introduced to essential topics such as greetings, self-introduction, and expressing wishes and preferences, providing them with a foundational understanding of the Arabic language and its cultural context.

The course aimed not only to develop basic communication skills but also to establish a solid foundation for participants to further enhance their Arabic language proficiency. A total of 34 officers participated in the course, representing a wide range of ministries and agencies. These included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, Ministry of Health, the Prime Minister's Office, as well as various Islamic Religious Councils and legal departments nationwide.

The diverse professional backgrounds of the participants enriched the learning experience, encouraging meaningful interaction and practical application of the language within professional and institutional contexts.

German Language: Basic Communication Course



The German Language: Basic Communication Course was conducted from 4 to 25 February 2025 via Google Meet. The course comprised 12 contact hours and aimed to provide participants with the opportunity to attain a basic level of German communication for use in everyday and work-related contexts. Emphasis was placed on the phonological and morphological aspects of listening and speaking skills in German.

The course was attended by 21 participants from various ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment

and Climate Change, the Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia, the Prime Minister's Department, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, the Palace of Justice, the Public Service Department, and the Ministry of Human Resources.

A total number of 17 participants successfully completed the course. The 17 participants acquired basic German language skills, enabling them to understand simple conversations and use common phrases for basic communication purposes in both, everyday and professional settings.

French Language: Basic Communication Course

drive.google.com - To exit full screen, press Esc

des clés

Pour communiquer (197)

soixante-six euros

par

price

full

SVP

please

STUART

name

prénom

Adilbu

A - Vous avez des chambres disponibles ?
M - Je vous envoie une confirmation par e-mail.

A - Oui, pour combien de personnes ?
S - Quel est le prix de la chambre ?

- Je suis désolé(e), mais l'hôtel est complet.

- La chambre est à 76 €, le petit déjeuner est à 8 €, la demi-pension à 90 €.

- Je voudrais réserver une chambre pour deux personnes, du 11 au 12 mai, s'il vous plaît.

- Vous avez le code de la porte ?

- J'ai une chambre avec deux petits lits ou un grand lit.

- La clé de la chambre ouvre la porte d'entrée après 22 heures.

- Je prends la chambre avec un grand lit.

- Où est situé le camping / l'hôtel ?

- Très bien, c'est à quel nom ?

- Le camping est à côté de la plage. / de la rivière.

CENTRE FOR LANGUAGES AND CULTURAL DIPLOMA...

The French Language: Basic Communication Course was conducted from 4 to 25 February 2025, comprising a total of 12 contact hours. The course was held twice a week, with each session lasting two hours. It focused on the phonological and morphological aspects of the French language, with particular emphasis on developing listening and speaking skills.

The primary objective of the course was to equip participants with basic French communication skills for everyday and work-related contexts. A total of 21 participants attended the course, representing a diverse range of ministries, agencies, and organisations. These included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, Parliament of Malaysia, Royal Malaysian Customs Department, the Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia, the Prime Minister's Department, the Malaysia Civil Defence Force, Inland Revenue Board of Malaysia, Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, as well as private-sector organisations.

Participants demonstrated a high level of commitment and enthusiasm throughout the six online sessions. Their active engagement in interactive activities contributed significantly to the effectiveness of the course and enhanced overall learning outcomes. The course successfully provided a well-structured and engaging learning experience, promoting basic linguistic proficiency while fostering greater cultural awareness among participants.

Say It Right: A Course on Pronunciation



The Centre conducted its first English language course of the year titled “Say It Right: A Course on Pronunciation” from 15 to 17 April 2025. Designed to enhance officers’ clarity and intelligibility when speaking English, the course brought focus on the common pronunciation challenges faced by Malaysians, the English sound system, articulation, rhythm, and stress patterns. A series of structured activities was conducted to enhance the officers’ awareness of phonetic elements, including vowel and consonant differentiation, intonation patterns, and the placement of lexical stress, enabling them to recognise and correct common errors in everyday communication.

A total of 27 officers from various ministries and agencies attended the course, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Atomic Energy, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Ministry of Plantations and Commodities, Malaysian Space Agency and the Ministry of Health.

The course was well-received by the officers, with many stating they had significantly reduced their fear and embarrassment of mispronouncing words which helped them build confidence in speaking English publicly. This was due to the combination of demonstrations, pronunciation drills, and group practice sessions within a supportive learning environment. By the end of the course, officers reported greater awareness of their speech patterns and applying the strategies taught during the course.

MTCP: Comprehensive Overview of ASEAN Workings for Timor-Leste Officials



The Centre's first Malaysian Technical Cooperation Course, "MTCP: Comprehensive Overview of ASEAN Workings for Timor-Leste Officials" was held from 23 April to 9 May 2025 in Dili, Timor-Leste. The course was attended by 55 participants from various government ministries and agencies of Timor-Leste, with the objective of enhancing participants' understanding of ASEAN's institutional structure, decision-making processes and operational mechanisms, while familiarising them with ASEAN protocols and document drafting conventions to enable effective participation in regional discussions.

The course featured a series of interactive modules designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of ASEAN's landscape and institutional framework. Throughout the course, participants engaged in interactive modules aimed at strengthening their understanding of ASEAN's institutional framework, decision-making processes and document preparation. The sessions provided a broad overview of ASEAN, with particular emphasis on the ASEAN Three Pillars and policy implementation mechanisms, equipping participants with the foundational knowledge required for effective engagement in ASEAN forums.

The course also introduced participants to key ASEAN documents and negotiation processes through guided discussions, drafting exercises and zero-draft negotiation simulations. Additionally, a dedicated session within the course focused on ASEAN documents, encompassing foundational diplomatic principles and the use of language in ASEAN documents. Participants explored the use of language in ASEAN documents and diplomatic communication and engaged in drafting exercises and role-play simulations to mirror real-life ASEAN meetings in preparation for Timor-Leste's accession into ASEAN.

Arabic Language Day-to-Day Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers



The Centre conducted the “Arabic Language Day-to-Day Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers” from 5 May to 14 August 2025 as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen officers’ language proficiency in languages essential for Malaysia’s diplomatic engagements. The 42-hour course was conducted physically twice a week at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Putrajaya, and was designed to introduce officers to essential Arabic vocabulary, expressions, and conversational patterns commonly used in daily interactions.

Through a structured and progressive approach, the officers were guided to develop basic listening and speaking skills, enabling them to engage in simple exchanges relevant to both social and workplace contexts. Throughout the course, the officers were also exposed to structured lessons that incorporated role-plays, situational dialogues, pronunciation practice, and cultural-sharing sessions.

allowed the officers to gradually familiarise themselves with Arabic sounds, greetings, self-introductions, and commonly used phrases. The inclusion of cultural elements further enhanced participants' understanding of contextual nuances, particularly in interpersonal settings.

A total of 25 officers from various divisions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs participated in the course and informed that the programme helped them differentiate Arabic sounds more accurately, improve pronunciation, and gain a clearer understanding of basic sentence structures. Officers also noted increased confidence in attempting simple conversations and applying the language in informal workplace interactions.

Overall, the course provided a solid foundation for officers seeking to develop basic communicative competence in Arabic. It reinforced the importance of language learning as a tool for effective diplomacy and supported IDFR's broader objective of enhancing officers' readiness to engage in multilingual environments.

French Language Day-to-Day Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers



The “French Language Day-to-Day Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers” was conducted from 5 May to 14 August 2025 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Putrajaya. The course aimed to equip officers with practical French language skills necessary for navigating everyday interactions, particularly in casual and workplace settings.

The course was conducted for 42 hours across 21 sessions where it introduced the officers to the elements of the French language, including pronunciation, basic vocabulary, common expressions, and simple grammatical structures. Furthermore, the course adopted an interactive teaching approach that encouraged active participation among officers, such as visual-based tasks, guided group practice, listening activities, and situational dialogues that reflected real-life communication scenarios. This approach allowed participants to gradually build familiarity with the language while reinforcing correct pronunciation and usage. The structured progression of lessons also ensured that participants were able to consolidate their learning at each stage before progressing to more complex content.

A total of 27 officers from various divisions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs attended the course and noted that the supportive learning environment helped them feel more confident when attempting to speak French and reduced apprehension associated with learning a new language. By the end of the course, officers demonstrated improved confidence in using basic French expressions and recognised the relevance of the language to their professional roles. The course contributed meaningfully to the officers’ personal development and supported IDFR’s commitment to strengthening practical communication skills within the ministry.

Spanish Language Day-to-Day Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers



The Centre conducted the “Spanish Language Day-to-Day Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers” from 5 May to 14 August 2025 with the objective of equipping officers with foundational Spanish language skills suited for everyday communication. The 42-hour course was held physically at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Putrajaya, every Monday and Wednesday, and focused on introducing the officers to key vocabulary, familiar expressions, listening tasks, and basic communication patterns commonly used in routine interactions.

Throughout the course, officers participated in a range of practical activities designed to support gradual language acquisition, such as role-plays, guided dialogues, listening exercises, and situational practice that simulated real-life scenarios. These activities enabled the officers to apply their newly acquired vocabulary and expressions in a meaningful context, reinforcing their understanding and encouraging active use of the language.



Russian Language Day-to-Day Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers

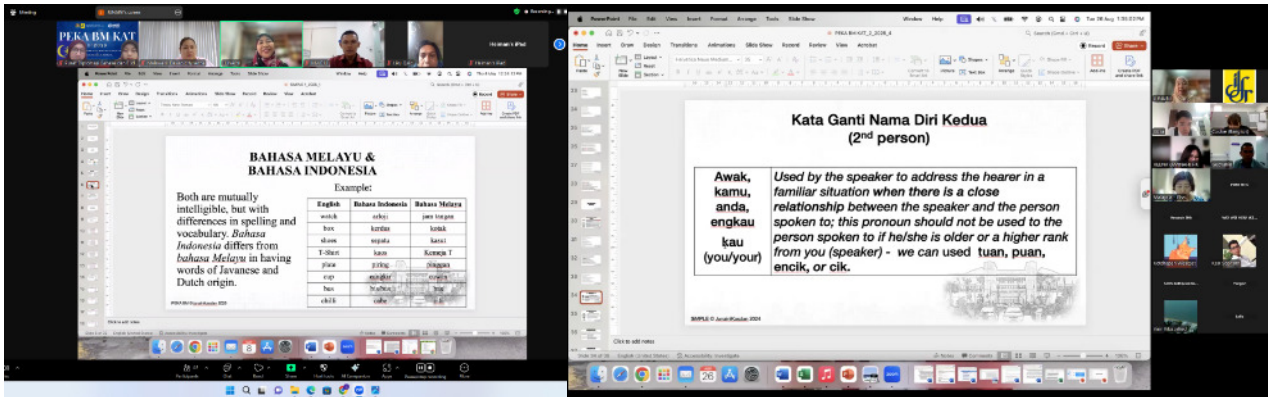


The “Russian Language Day-to-Day Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers” was conducted physically at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Putrajaya from 5 May to 14 August 2025. This 42-hour course was held twice a week and aimed at introducing officers to the fundamentals of the Russian language, including the Cyrillic alphabet, basic vocabulary, pronunciation, and sentence formation. The course was structured to provide participants with a gradual and systematic introduction to the language. Officers engaged in a variety of activities, including pronunciation drills, guided practice, and dialogue role-plays. These activities were designed to familiarise participants with Russian sounds and sentence patterns while enabling them to practise simple exchanges in a supportive learning environment. The structured nature of the lessons allowed officers to progressively build confidence in recognising and using basic vocabulary.

The course was attended by 22 officers from various divisions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Many officers reported noticeable improvements in their ability to apply vocabulary and respond to basic conversational cues and highlighted that consistent practice and repetition throughout the sessions contributed to their growing confidence in attempting simple communication in Russian.

In conclusion, the course provided officers with a foundational understanding of the Russian language and equipped them with basic communicative skills for everyday use. It reinforced IDFR’s efforts to support multilingual competence and enhance officers’ preparedness for engagement in diverse linguistic settings.

***Program Khas Kemahiran dan Pemantapan Bahasa Melayu bagi Kakitangan
Ambilan Tempatan (PEKA BM KAT) Series 1/2025 & Series 2/2025***



The Program Kemahiran dan Pemantapan Bahasa Melayu bagi Kakitangan Ambilan Tempatan (PEKA BM KAT) was implemented in two series in 2025, with the objective of equipping Locally Recruited Staff (LRS) at Malaysian diplomatic missions with foundational Malay language communication skills.

Series 1/2025 was conducted from 8 May to 24 July 2025 and involved 24 participants from diplomatic missions in Southeast Asia and Oceania, including Australia, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Japan, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam.

Series 2/2025 was conducted from 12 August to 30 October 2025 and involved 21 participants from the same regions. Both series were delivered through an online learning platform and facilitated by native Malay-speaking trainers.

Each series comprised 42 contact hours and covered key aspects of the Malay language, including pronunciation, self-introduction, food-related communication, directions, numbers, time expressions, telephone etiquette, reading comprehension, and the completion of official forms. Learning activities incorporated practical simulations, role-playing, and interactive exercises to support the development of functional communication skills.

Upon completion of the programmes, participants demonstrated improved basic Malay language proficiency relevant to their professional roles, supporting more effective communication in the context of Malaysian diplomatic missions.

Course on Intercultural Awareness and Cultural Diplomacy (CICAD)



The Centre conducted a two-day course on “Intercultural Communication and Cultural Diplomacy” from 20 to 22 May 2025. Designed to strengthen participants’ understanding of intercultural communication and Malaysia’s approach to cultural diplomacy, the course provided a comprehensive platform for officers to enhance their cultural intelligence and diplomatic competencies.

The course was attended by 32 officers from different ministries and government agencies, including Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), Prime Minister's Department, Ministry of Education, Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board, Department of Meteorology Malaysia, Public Service Department, University Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Department of Environment, Department of the Director General of Lands and Mines, Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia and Parlimen Malaysia.

During the course, participants engaged in interactive and engaging modules covering key thematic areas such as Cultural Diplomacy, Cross-Cultural and Intercultural Communication, Madani Values in Malaysian Multicultural Society Mediation, the Use of Language in Culturally Sensitive Conflicts, Cultural Diplomacy in the ASEAN Arena and Cultural Intelligence. Experienced speakers and subject-matter experts provided practical insights and real-world perspectives on intercultural communication and cultural diplomacy in local and international contexts during these sessions. Participants also engaged in hands-on training through mediation exercises, thus reinforcing the concepts introduced in the modules and enabling them to apply newly acquired skills and techniques in navigating culturally diverse environments.

Expanding the scope beyond the core modules, the course also incorporated a specialised session on Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship, offering participants a comprehensive overview of regional diplomacy as Malaysia assumed the role of ASEAN Chair for 2025. The session highlighted ASEAN's role within the diplomatic landscape, the regional framework guiding its work and the mandate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It further underscored the importance of enhanced inter-agency collaboration to advance Malaysia's national interests and development priorities.

Introduction to Knowledge Management



The “Introduction to Knowledge Management” course is a one-day course held on 13 June 2025 for IDFR officers. The objective of the course is to introduce IDFR officers to the basics of knowledge management, the importance of knowledge management and the ways knowledge management could be applied at the Institute. The course is the third instalment of the “Introduction to Knowledge Management” course since it was first introduced in IDFR in 2022 and subsequently held in 2023 and was attended by 25 participants from various IDFR Centres and Divisions.

IDFR actively conducts various knowledge management initiatives such as the IDFR Lecture Series, Tacit Knowledge Sharing Session, KM Café and the IDFR Repository, which equips officers with knowledge management awareness and techniques to efficiently utilise IDFR’s knowledge management initiatives and resources. The course included sessions on introducing knowledge management concepts and ideas to provide participants with an overview of knowledge management and the importance of capturing, organising and applying knowledge for decision making and problem solving to enhance an organisation's productivity.

Additionally, sessions on knowledge management strategies and planning focused on practical approaches to leverage knowledge databases, coordinate intellectual resources and understand various knowledge capturing tools and strategies. The sessions combined lectures and interactive group activities including case study reviews and applying knowledge management techniques to IDFR courses. The course aspires to further equip officers with the competencies required to manage knowledge management resources and initiatives effectively at the Institute.

Shaping Dialogue: Drafting and Delivery of Effective Diplomatic Interventions (Ministry of Health)



As a collaborative effort with the Ministry of Health to assist their officers in enhancing their competencies and preparedness to engage in national and international projects, the Centre conducted the “Shaping Dialogue: Drafting and Delivery of Effective Diplomatic Interventions” course on 17 and 18 June 2025. The course provided the officers with a structured approach to effective note-taking, preparing concise speaking points, and delivering interventions that are clear, strategic, and aligned with Malaysia’s national priorities.

A total of 44 officers from the Ministry of Health attended the course, including those from the Disease Control Division, Family Health Development Division, Medical Development Division, Planning Division, Public Health Development Division (Global Health), Policy and International Relations Division, Traditional and Complementary Medicine Division, Policy, Strategic Planning and Codex Standards Division, Pharmaceutical services Division, Nutrition Division, Digital Health Division, Health Transformation Office, National Centre of Excellence for Mental Health

(NCEMH), Institute for Health Systems Research (IHSR), Institute for Medical Research (IMR), National Public Health Laboratory and Legal Advisor Office.

Officers were introduced to key techniques for drafting diplomatic interventions, including message framing, structuring concise arguments, and ensuring alignment between national policy positions and regional or international agendas. The course also included practical simulations, group activities and personalised feedback sessions as the core of the training. The course concluded with positive feedback, with officers highlighting its practicality, relevance, and immediate applicability to their daily responsibilities.

Presentation Skills at the Workplace



The Centre conducted its annual “Presentation Skills at the Workplace” course from 23 to 25 June 2025, with the aim of enhancing officers’ ability to deliver structured and persuasive presentations suited for professional settings, such as meetings, ministry briefings, and conferences. Officers were guided through the essential components of effective presentations, including content planning, managing presentation anxiety, designing clear messages, and leveraging both verbal and non-verbal communication strategies to enhance audience engagement.

The course was attended by government officers from various ministries and agencies, including the Department of Mineral and Geoscience Malaysia (JMG), Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), National Department for Culture and Arts, the National Archives of Malaysia, Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia (JUPEM), the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Terengganu State Education Department, Malaysian External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), Science Technology Research Institute for Defence (STRIDE), Segamat District Education Office, Malaysian Nuclear Agency, Kuala Lumpur Training Institute Ministry of Health Malaysia, Ministry of Digital, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability, Kuala Klawang Vocational College and Ministry of Education.

Over the span of three days, officers engaged in guided practice sessions, small-group activities, and simulation-based exercises designed to build confidence and refine their presentation delivery skills. Through the targeted feedback they received from the trainers on voice projection, gestures, pace, and overall delivery style, officers noted improvements in terms of clarity, confidence, and stage presence by the end of the course.

Course on Resolution Drafting and Substantive Committee Rapporteur for AIPA 2025 (Parlimen Malaysia)



The Centre, in collaboration with *Parlimen Malaysia*, organised the “Course on Resolution Drafting and Substantive Committee Rapporteur for AIPA 2025” on 1 and 2 July 2025. The course was specifically designed to prepare parliament officers who would serve as rapporteurs during the 46th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA). The course introduced the officers to the skills required for writing rapporteur reports and documenting points effectively while ensuring the content remained accurate and free of bias. Officers were also briefed on the roles and responsibilities of rapporteurs in ASEAN programmes.

Officers from *Parlimen of Malaysia*, including those from the Research and Library Department, Office of the Speaker House of Representatives, International Relation and Protocol Department and Special Select Committee Section took part in the two-day course. Throughout the two days, officers participated in a series of practical exercises focusing on rapporteur

responsibilities, listening strategies, structured note-taking, and the differences between summary and verbatim transcription methods. In addition, they were also introduced to the standard language, structure and diplomatic tone used in AIPA resolutions through past examples. As the course provided many opportunities for the officers to undergo rapporteuring practices, they expressed improved confidence in their forthcoming rapporteuring duties for the 46th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA).

MTCP: ASEAN Meetings and Negotiation Workshop



The Centre's second Malaysian Technical Cooperation Course, "MTCP: ASEAN Meetings and Negotiation Workshop" was held from 7 to 18 July 2025. The course was attended by 15 Timor-Leste officials comprising of officers from Ministry of Youth, Sports, Art and Culture, National Institute for Workforce Development, Attorney General's Office, Ministry of Rural Development and Community Housing, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry, Secretary of State for Equality, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Civil Service Commission, Ministry of Tourism, National Communications Authority, National Authority of Environmental Licensing and Ministry of Finance. The course was the extension of the previous "MTCP: Comprehensive Overview of ASEAN Workings for Timor-Leste Officials" that was held in Timor-Leste from 23 April to 9 May 2025.

During the duration of the course, participants were immersed in varied modules designed to enrich their understanding of the ASEAN landscape as well as ASEAN meetings, negotiation and language. The sessions were tailored to strengthen participants' negotiation skills as well as familiarise participants with ASEAN's language and drafting style. The course also placed emphasis on strengthening participants' command of the English language and negotiation to enhance their familiarity and effectiveness in ASEAN-related meetings and processes. Additionally, participants also had the opportunity to attend the Opening Ceremony of the 58th ASEAN Foreign Minister's Meeting (AMM) at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) on 9 July 2025, providing valuable exposure beyond the classroom setting in highlighting Malaysia's role as ASEAN Chair for 2025.

The participants also engaged with officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and subject matter experts delving into Malaysia's diplomatic relations, foreign policies, negotiation skills, language of meetings and the process of drafting ASEAN documentations. Additionally, modules such as A Quick Think on Malaysian Foreign Policy, Diplomatic Negotiations in Bilateral and

Multilateral Settings, Fundamentals of Negotiation, ASEAN Meetings: Decision-Making and Coordination, ASEAN Meetings: Protocols and Procedures, Zero Draft Negotiations and Writing for ASEAN: Style, Structure and Substance allowed participants to fully understand ASEAN substantive roles and key diplomatic competencies at the end of the workshop.

Diplomatic Training Course for ASEAN Attachment Officers



The Diplomatic Training Course for ASEAN Attachment Officers 2025 was held from 11 to 22 August 2025. Conducted under the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI), the two-week Diplomatic Training Course for ASEAN Attachment Officers 2025 aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the core theories and practices of diplomacy, the ASEAN framework, and international relations, reflecting Malaysia's commitment to narrowing development gaps among ASEAN Member States aligned with Malaysia's role as ASEAN Chair in 2025. The programme brought together 15 attachment officers from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam, and Timor-Leste, who are currently undertaking a one-year attachment at the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta.

Throughout the duration of the course, participants explored key dimensions of diplomacy, focusing on cultural, economic and public diplomacy and the ASEAN landscape as well as Malaysia's ASEAN Chairmanship. These sessions were complemented by sessions on regional geopolitics and economic trends, trade agreements, self-grooming, while practical modules further honed participants' skills in negotiation, media engagement, economic reporting, as well as English presentation skills and report writing to enhance their familiarity and effectiveness in ASEAN-related meetings and processes.

The course also incorporated study visits to Malaysia government institutions and agencies to expose participants to Malaysia's diplomatic and strategic communication frameworks, as well as Malaysia's culture and heritage. During the course, participants also had the opportunity to attend IDFR's United Nation Association Malaysia (UNAM) Forum on Multilateralism, which explored topics of multilateralism, Malaysia's foreign policy and current regional issues, particularly in light of Malaysia's role as ASEAN Chair in 2025.

Overall, the course met its objective of enhancing participants' competencies by deepening their knowledge of diplomacy, international relations and ASEAN-related processes. Through modules aligned with the three ASEAN Community pillars, the course strengthened participants' understanding of regional and international issues, diplomatic practices and key diplomatic competencies towards the development of stronger regional diplomatic engagement and cooperation.

MTCP - Australia: Language of Meetings for Timor-Leste Officials, Dili, Timor-Leste



The “Malaysian Technical Cooperation Course (MTCP) – Australia: Language of Meetings for Timor-Leste Officials” was held from 19 to 28 August 2025 in Dili, Timor-Leste. The course is a continuation of the collaborative effort between Malaysia, Australia and Timor-Leste with the aim of providing Timor-Leste officials with a comprehensive understanding of ASEAN’s institutional processes, protocols and formalities.

During the two-week course, participants engaged in varied modules focusing on ASEAN meetings and negotiations, complemented by practical sessions and immersive simulations that emulated real-life ASEAN meetings. The course also focused on the English language, with particular emphasis on the specific language and tone for ASEAN reporting and document writing. These sessions were designed to enhance participants’ zero-drafting and negotiation skills, while further strengthening their command of the English language for effective participation in ASEAN meetings and documentation.

The course was attended by 40 Timor-Leste officials comprising of officials from various ministries and agencies of Timor-Leste. Modules such as An Overview of ASEAN, The Chairmanship of ASEAN, ASEAN Meetings – Protocols and Procedures and ASEAN Documents provided participants with a foundational understanding of ASEAN’s institutional framework, highlighting the role of ASEAN Chair and ASEAN’s decision-making processes, negotiations and documentation practices. Negotiation simulations and modules on the English language were also a key component of the course, focused on building participants’ proficiency in the language used in ASEAN meetings, drafting reports and formal statements, as well as understanding the appropriate tone and language used in ASEAN engagements. The course further reinforced Malaysia’s continued commitment to support capacity-building efforts for Timor-Leste officials in preparation for engagement within the ASEAN framework.

French Language Professional Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers

Choisissez un lieu et, à partir du point rouge, indiquez les directions à votre voisin. Ne donnez pas le nom de la destination. Il/elle doit tout seul en fonction des indications.

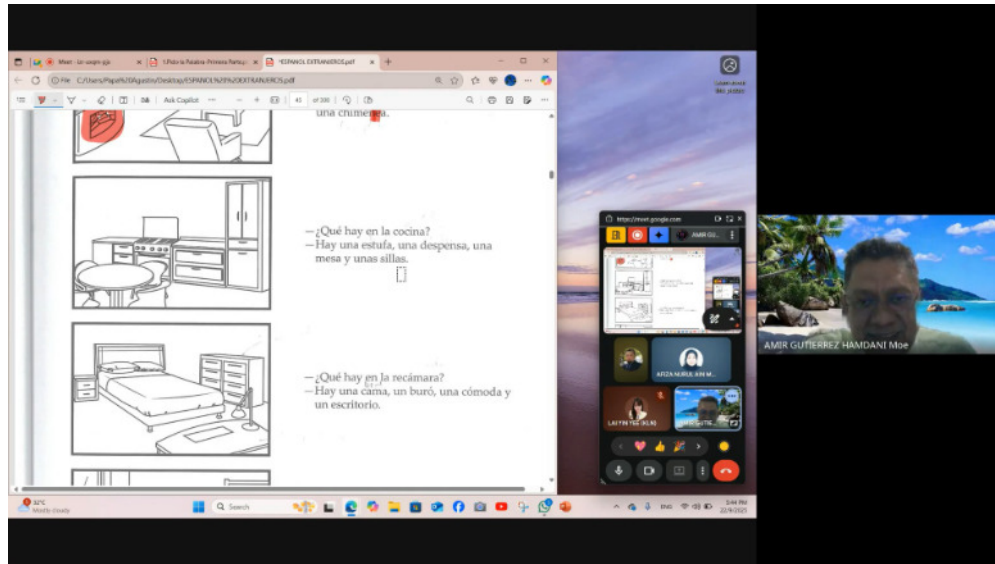
Choose a location from the red dot, give directions to your neighbor. Do not give him/her the destination. He/she must find it themselves using the directions.

Conducted virtually via the Zoom application from 25 August to 5 November 2025, the “French Language Professional Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers” was a continuation of the previously conducted “French Language Day-to-Day Communication Course”. This particular course aimed to further enhance participants’ language proficiency by focusing on advanced vocabulary building, structured speaking tasks, and cultural insights relevant to French-speaking diplomatic environments.

The sessions were held twice weekly on every Monday and Wednesday to allow for steady progression and reinforcement of learning. The course adopted a structured approach that combined guided speaking activities, vocabulary expansion, and contextual discussions. The officers were encouraged to apply the language in simulated professional scenarios, enabling them to practise appropriate expressions and registers used in official communication. Cultural components were also integrated to provide officers with a broader understanding of language use in daily and diplomatic contexts.

This 42-hour course had the participation of 28 officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Embassies of Malaysia, including officers from Dakar, Brussels, Paris, Zagreb, Rabat, the Holy See, and the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations in Geneva. Officers responded positively to the practical focus of the lessons and the guidance provided by the native speaker instructor. On completion of the course, the officers reported improved confidence in both everyday and official communication. The course played a valuable role in strengthening officers’ professional language skills to enhance multilingual diplomacy.

Spanish Language Professional Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers



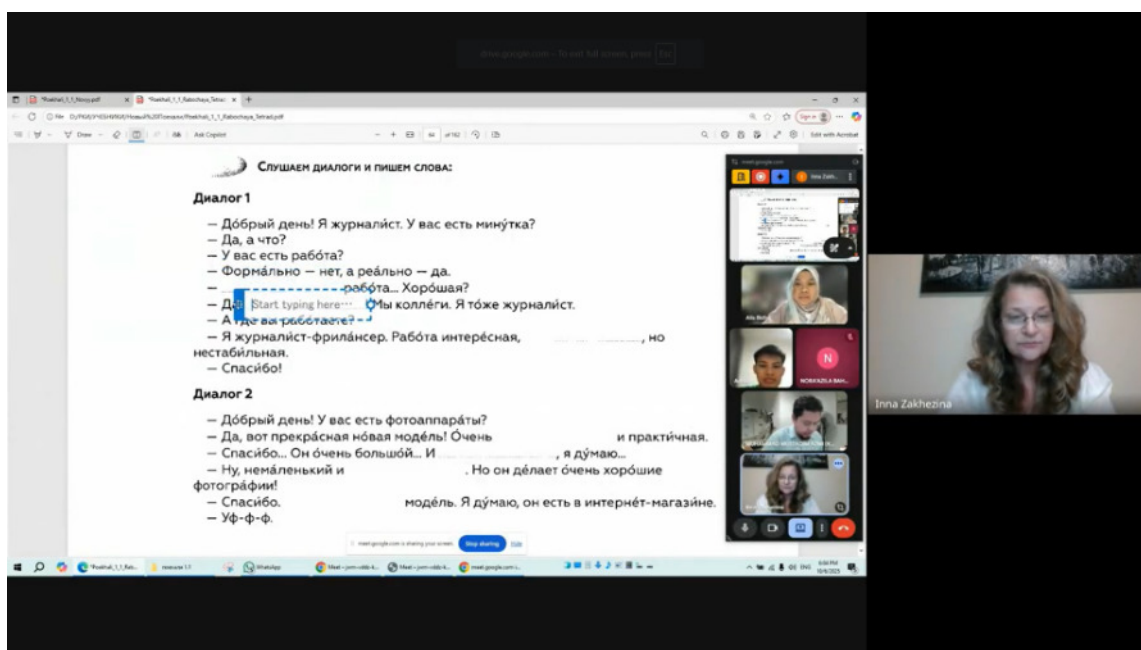
The “Spanish Language Professional Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers” was conducted online via Google Meet from 25 August to 12 November 2025. The course was designed to further strengthen officers’ existing knowledge of the Spanish language, particularly for the officers who had taken part in the “Spanish Language Day-to-Day Communication Course” conducted previously. This was effectively done by expanding their vocabulary, enhancing structured communication skills, and exposing them to cultural elements that support meaningful interaction in professional and diplomatic contexts.

Over the duration of 42 hours, officers were guided through structured speaking activities, thematic vocabulary development, and contextual exercises tailored to workplace and official settings. The lessons, building upon foundational language competencies, emphasised the use of appropriate registers, sentence construction, and commonly used expressions in professional

communication. Cultural discussions were also incorporated to help officers better understand social norms and communication styles within Spanish-speaking environments, thus enhancing their overall communicative awareness.

The course was attended by 34 officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Embassies of Malaysia, including Havana, Washington, Harare, Santiago, Vientiane, Prague, Accra, Kunming, and Hong Kong. The officers highlighted that the interactive learning environment, combined with consistent speaking practice, encouraged active participation and gradual confidence-building throughout the course.

Russian Language Professional Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers



The “Russian Language Professional Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers” was conducted online via Google Meet from 25 August to 12 November 2025. The course acted as an extension to the “Russian Language Day-to-Day Communication Course” and was designed to expand officers’ proficiency in the Russian language. Particular emphasis was placed on its application in formal and professional communication settings. The course aimed to equip officers with the language skills necessary to engage more effectively in official interactions and workplace communication.

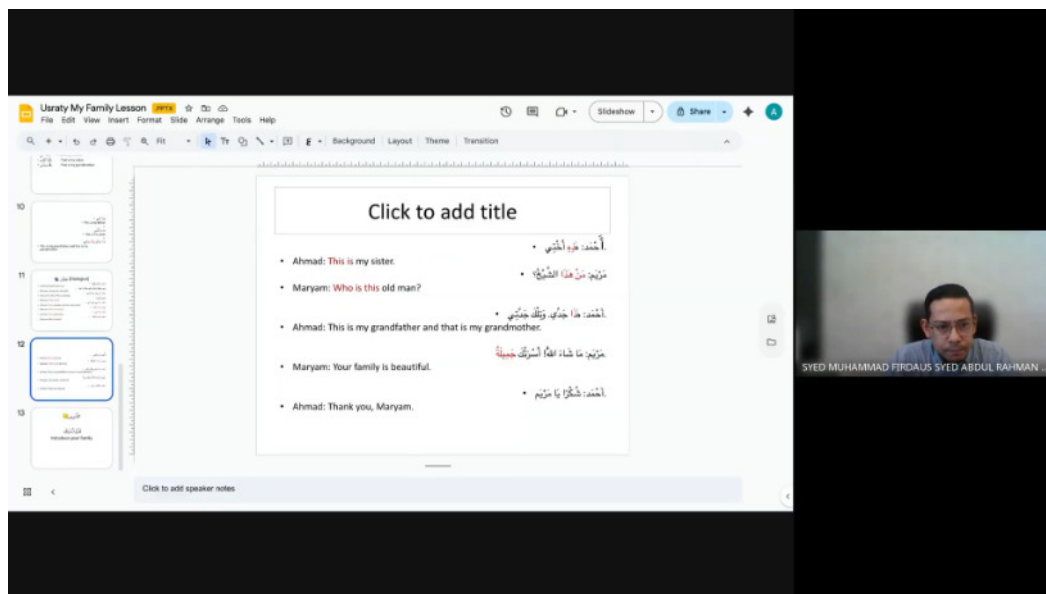
During the course, officers were guided through structured speaking exercises, systematic vocabulary expansion, and contextual application of the language in professional scenarios. Moreover, the lessons focused on familiarising the officers with formal expressions, sentence patterns, and commonly used terminology relevant to official communication. Through guided practice and repeated exposure, officers were encouraged to apply the language more confidently and accurately in simulated professional situations.

The course was attended by 12 officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Embassies of Malaysia, including Astana, Yangon, Moscow, and the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to ASEAN in Jakarta. Officers reported that the structured nature of the lessons and the focus on practical usage supported their gradual improvement in fluency and comprehension. In addition to that, the officers also noted increased confidence in using Russian for formal interactions, improved ability to construct appropriate responses, and greater familiarity with professional language conventions.

Overall, the course strengthened officers’ capacity to communicate in Russian within diplomatic contexts and supported IDFR’s efforts to strengthen effective communication in multilingual diplomatic settings.

On completion of the course, the officers reported greater readiness to apply Spanish in professional interactions, particularly in work-related discussions and engagements. The course contributed positively to officers' professional development and reinforced the importance of continuous language development in supporting Malaysia's international engagements.

Arabic Language Professional Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers

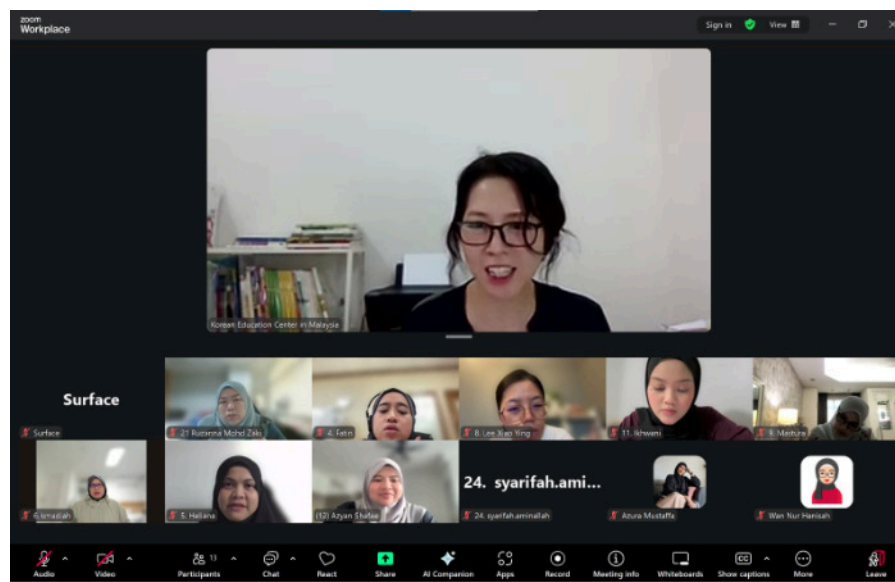


The “Arabic Language Professional Communication Course for Wisma Putra Officers” was conducted online via Google Meet from 25 August to 5 November 2025. As a continuation of the previous “Arabic Language Day-to-Day Communication Course”, this 42-hour course aimed to deepen officers’ ability to use the Arabic language within formal and professional contexts. The course focused on expanding the officers’ vocabulary, developing connected speech, and enhancing comprehension in workplace-related scenarios.

Throughout the course, officers were guided through structured speaking tasks, vocabulary expansion exercises, and contextual applications of the language relevant to professional settings. Furthermore, the lessons were designed to help the officers move beyond basic expressions and gain greater confidence in responding appropriately in formal interactions. Additionally, the virtual sessions allowed officers from different locations to participate while maintaining consistent engagement through interactive activities.

The course was attended by 18 officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and embassies of Malaysia, including Amman, Kathmandu, Warsaw, Mexico City, Harare, and the Holy See. The officers reported noticeable progress in their understanding of spoken Arabic and their ability to respond more confidently in professional situations. Overall, the course contributed to enhancing officers' communicative competence in Arabic within a diplomatic context. It reinforced the importance of continuous language development and equipping officers with practical skills for effective professional communication.

Korean Language Level 1 Course



The “Korean Language Level 1 Course” was conducted online via the Zoom application from 2 September to 20 November 2025, a collaboration with the Korean Education Centre (KEC). The 42-hour course was designed to introduce officers to the fundamentals of Korean language, including Hangul, essential vocabulary, basic grammar structures, and everyday conversational expressions. Elements of Korean culture were also incorporated to provide participants with contextual understanding and support appropriate language use. The lessons were structured progressively to allow officers to build a strong foundation in reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. The officers also engaged in guided practice, interactive exercises, and simple dialogue activities that encouraged active participation and gradual confidence-building. This teaching approach enabled officers to familiarise themselves with basic sentence construction, pronunciation, and commonly used expressions in everyday situations.

The course was attended by 27 officers from various ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), Royal Malaysian Police (RMP), Prime Minister’s Department of Malaysia, Ministry of Education (MOE), Attorney General’s Chambers of Malaysia, *Institut Penyiaran dan Penerangan Tun Abdul Razak* (IPPTAR), Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI), Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, Duchess of Kent Hospital, National Blood Centre, Pagoh Vocational College, and Department of Syariah Judiciary Malaysia.

On completion of the course, officers reported increased confidence in reading and writing simple Korean as well as carrying out basic conversations. Overall, the programme provided a solid linguistic foundation and highlighted the role of language learning in strengthening cross-cultural communication and professional effectiveness.

Korean Language Level 2 Course



In addition to the “Korean Language Level 1 Course”, the Centre once again collaborated with the Korean Education Centre (KEC), to conduct the “Korean Language Level 2 Course” virtually via the Zoom application from 2 September to 20 November 2025. The course, built upon the officers’ existing knowledge of Korean in the Level 1 course, aimed to enhance officers’ command of the Korean language through more advanced communicative tasks.

The course focused on expanding vocabulary, applying grammar in context, and engaging in discussions related to everyday and work-related topics. The lessons were designed to support the development of intermediate-level skills through structured reading, speaking, and listening activities. The course encouraged officers to construct longer sentences, respond appropriately in more formal situations, and demonstrate improved comprehension of written and spoken texts. Guided exercises and interactive discussions were also conducted throughout the course, allowing officers to practise applying their knowledge in a supportive learning environment.

The course was attended by 21 officers from various ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA), Attorney General's Chambers of Malaysia, Department of Mineral and Geoscience Malaysia (JMG), Ministry of Digital, Ministry of Education (MOE), Ministry of Health (MOH), Prime Minister's Department of Malaysia, Ministry of Youth and Sport, Parliament of Malaysia, Federal Territories Department, Ministry of Defense Malaysia (MINDEF), Office of the Chief Registrar Federal Court of Malaysia and Department of Environment.

On completion of the course, officers demonstrated noticeable improvement in reading more complex texts and responding effectively in formal interactions. The course contributed to strengthening officers' intermediate proficiency and supported their readiness to apply Korean in professional contexts.

Be Grammar Smart!



Acknowledging the struggles faced by officers of their English usage in work setting, the Centre conducted the “Be Grammar Smart!” course from 9 to 11 September 2025 with the aim of helping officers strengthen their command of key grammatical structures, an essential part of ensuring clear communication in the workplace. Thus, through the course, the officers thoroughly explored the elements of English grammar and its proper usage in professional situations and participated in speaking simulations to familiarise themselves with the language.

The course brought together 22 officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, South East Johor Development Authority, Federal Territory Islamic Religious Department, Penang Regional Development Authority, Forestry Department of Peninsular Malaysia, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), National Audit Department Malaysia, Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) Peninsular Malaysia, National Archives of Malaysia, Alor Gajah National Advanced Youth Vocational Institute, Attorney General’s Chambers, Johor State Education Department, Ministry of Rural and Regional Development (KKDW), Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education.

With the help of interactive grammar lessons, real-life simulations, and corrective guidance by the trainers, the course concluded with notable improvements in officers’ confidence and clarity in both spoken and written communication.

Mandarin Basic Level Course



The Centre, in collaboration with Han Culture Centre Malaysia, conducted the Mandarin Basic Level Course from 13 September to 22 November 2025. The 45-hour course was conducted physically at Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) every Saturday and was designed to introduce officers to essential Mandarin vocabulary, basic sentence structures, and commonly used expressions for simple communication in everyday and workplace contexts.

During the course, officers were exposed to structured lessons that incorporated pronunciation practice, guided speaking activities, and interactive exercises to support gradual language acquisition. Additionally, emphasis was placed on developing listening and speaking skills, allowing participants to become more familiar with Mandarin sounds, tones, and sentence patterns. The interactive nature of the sessions also encouraged active participation and created a supportive learning environment for officers with little to no prior knowledge of the language.

With a total of 110 officers from various ministries and agencies participating, the course was divided into two classes with the first class comprised 57 officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, Royal Malaysia Police, Department of Immigration of Malaysia, *Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka* (DBP), Ministry of Education (MOE), Federal Court of Malaysia, Ministry of Health (MOH), Malaysian Examinations Council, and Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation. The second class comprised 53 officers from the Ministry of Human Resources and Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UNIKL).

On completion of the course, officers reported increased confidence in using simple Mandarin phrases and improved understanding of basic conversational structures. Many officers also recognised the practical value of the course in supporting daily communication and workplace interactions, particularly when engaging with Mandarin-speaking counterparts. Overall, the course provided the officers with a strong foundation in Mandarin and enhanced their confidence to communicate at a basic level, thus contributing to officers' professional development.

Mandarin Intermediate Level Course

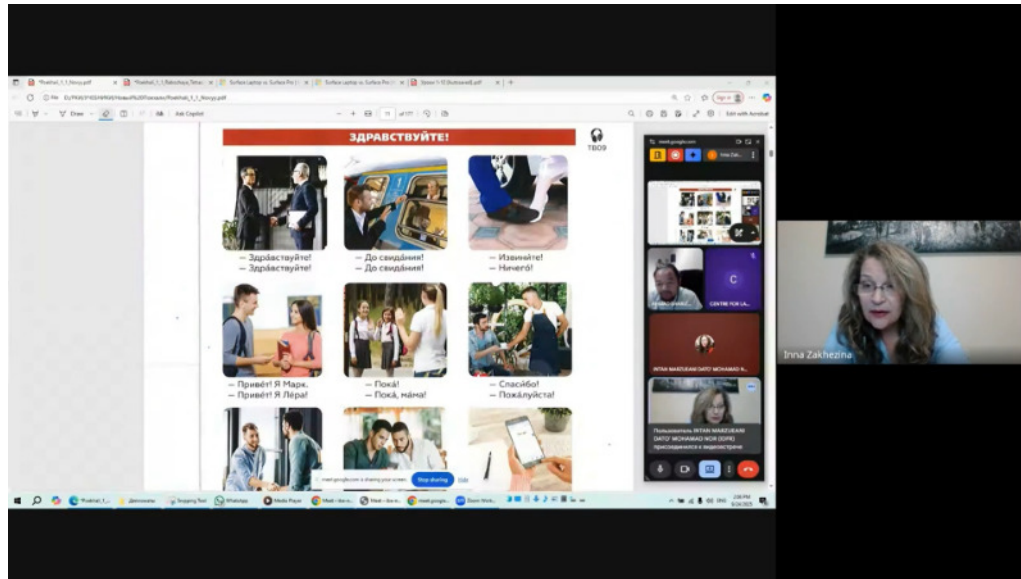


Concurrently with the commencement of "Mandarin Basic Level Course", the Centre, in collaboration with Han Culture Centre Malaysia, conducted the "*Mandarin Intermediate Level Course*" from 13 September to 22 November 2025. This 45-hour course was held physically at Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) and aimed to support officers who wished to further enhance their Mandarin language proficiency beyond the basic level. Thus, the course focused on introducing more complex grammar structures, thematic vocabulary, and speaking activities designed to improve fluency and accuracy. The officers were also given opportunities to engage in contextual exercises, guided discussions, and structured speaking practices that encouraged the application of Mandarin in both formal and informal settings. These activities allowed officers to develop greater confidence in expressing ideas and responding appropriately in workplace-related situations.

The course was attended by 17 officers from various ministries and agencies including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, Prasarana Malaysia Berhad, Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), Royal Malaysia Police, Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), University Kuala Lumpur (UNIKL), Ministry of Human Resources, and Malaysian Handicraft Development Corporation.

On completion of the course, the officers reported noticeable improvement in their ability to construct longer and more coherent sentences, participate more actively in discussions, and apply Mandarin in professional contexts. In conclusion, the course helped strengthen officers' proficiency and encouraged more confident use of the language in relevant work environments.

Russian Language Level 1 Course for Malawakil Officials

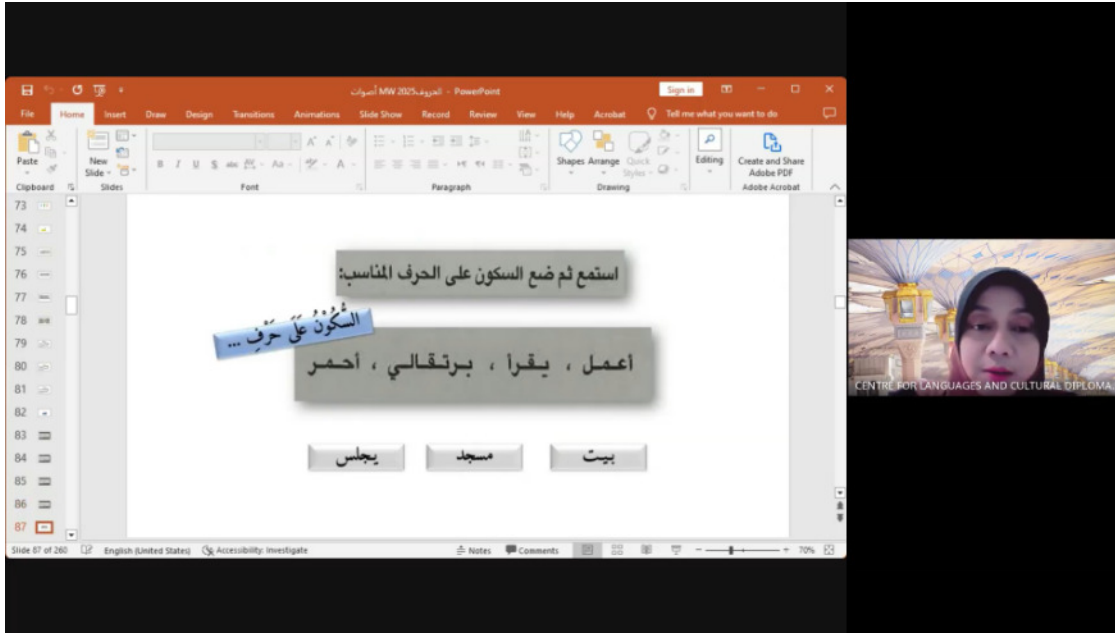


The Russian Language Level 1 Online Course for Malawakil Officials was conducted from 17 September to 6 November 2025. This newly introduced course comprised 42 teaching hours delivered across 21 online sessions. A total of 15 participants attended, representing Malawakil Vientiane, Astana, Baghdad, Bangkok, Ashgabat, Moscow, as well as officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Wisma Putra).

The course focused on foundational Russian grammar, practical communication skills, and selected cultural elements. Participants developed the ability to understand and use common expressions, communicate immediate needs, exchange basic information, and describe their background and surroundings.

Overall, the course contributed to enhanced professional readiness and supported participants' understanding of Russian language use within its broader cultural and societal context.

Arabic Language Level 1 Course for Malawakil Officials

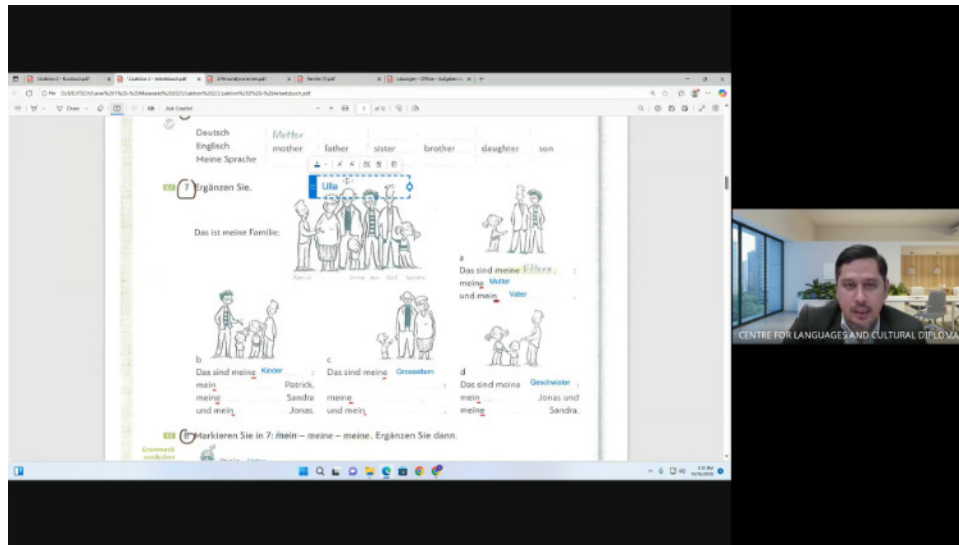


The Arabic Language Level 1 Online Course for Malawakil Officials was conducted from 18 September to 6 November 2025. This newly introduced course comprised 42 teaching hours delivered across 21 online sessions. A total of eight participants attended, representing Malawakil Yangon, Amman, Kunming, Singapore, Brunei, Kathmandu, as well as officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Wisma Putra).

The course focused on the development of essential Arabic communication skills for both formal and informal contexts. Instruction covered basic grammar, practical conversation exercises, and selected cultural elements relevant to professional engagement. Upon completion, participants demonstrated the ability to understand and use common expressions, communicate simple information, and describe themselves, their immediate environment, and work-related matters.

Overall, the course supported participants' professional preparedness while contributing to a broader understanding of Arabic language use and cultural context.

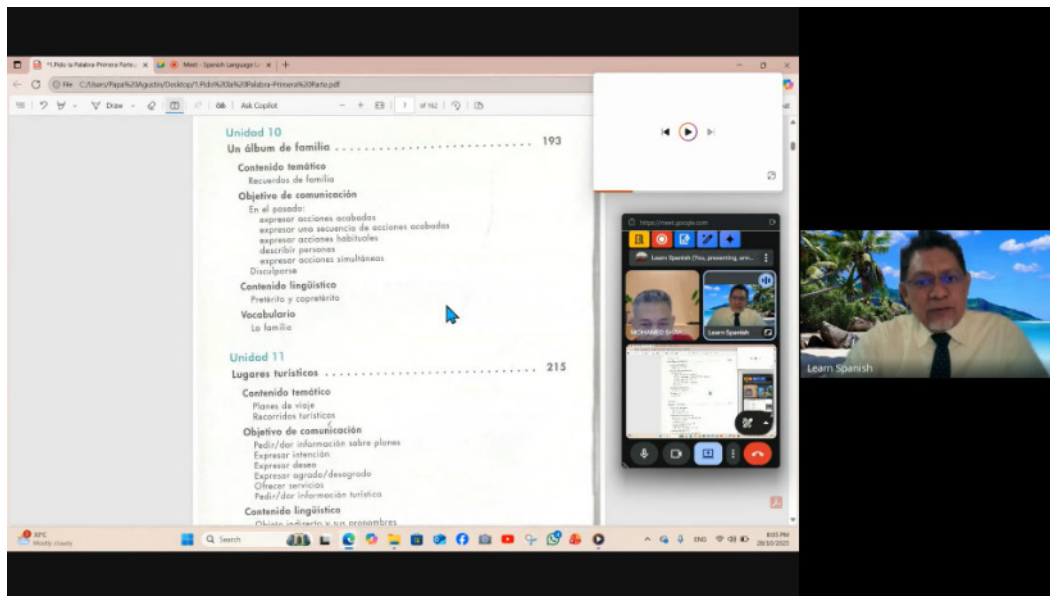
German Language Level 1 Course for Malawakil Officials



The German Language Level 1 Online Course for Malawakil Officials was conducted from 18 September to 6 November 2025, comprised 42 instructional hours across 21 online sessions. Eight participants attended the course, including officers from Malawakil Frankfurt and Vienna, as well as officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Wisma Putra).

This newly established beginner-level course introduced participants to essential German grammar, vocabulary, functional expressions, and selected cultural elements. Upon completion, participants demonstrated the ability to understand and use basic phrases, engage in simple exchanges of information, and provide short descriptions of themselves, their surroundings, and daily activities. The course supported the development of basic German language competence and strengthened participants' understanding of German-speaking cultural contexts.

Spanish Language Level 1 Course for Malawakil Officials



The Spanish Language Level 1 Online Course for Malawakil Officials was conducted from 18 September to 6 November 2025. The course comprised 42 instructional hours delivered over 21 online sessions. A total of 20 participants attended, representing Malawakil Paris, Lima, Holy See, Jakarta, Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, Madrid, Belgrade, Tehran, Abuja, as well as officers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The course contributed to the development of foundational Spanish language skills and enhanced participants' awareness of the linguistic and cultural context of Spanish-speaking environments.

Spanish Language Intensive Course for Heads of Mission

The Spanish Language Intensive Course for Heads of Mission was conducted from 24 September to 22 October 2025. The programme comprised 10 teaching hours and aimed to strengthen ambassadors' basic Spanish language skills and cultural understanding for official engagement.

The course was led by Mr Agustin Gutierrez Castillejos, a native Spanish speaker with over 30 years of experience in language instruction. The course content focused on foundational language use, selected cultural considerations, and diplomatic communication in Spanish-language settings.

Following completion, the participant demonstrated improved ability to engage in basic communication in Spanish with appropriate cultural and professional sensitivity.

ASEAN Reporting Workshop for Government Ministries and Agencies



The Centre conducted the “*ASEAN Reporting Workshop for Government Ministries and Agencies*” from 30 September to 1 October 2025 with the aim to enhance the skills of government officers in becoming an effective rapporteur. The two-day course was conducted physically at the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) where it introduced the officers to the definition, roles and responsibility of a rapporteur in comparison with a minute-taker. The lessons also covered the fundamentals of ASEAN reporting, including listening strategies, technical note-taking methods, and techniques for producing both summary and verbatim reports and introduced the officers to the usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools suited for rapporteuring work.

The course was attended by government officers from various ministries and agencies including the Parliament of Malaysia, Taiping Hospital, Pagoh Vocational College, Ministry of Health (MOH) and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES).

Apart from theoretical sessions, the course also conducted several practical rapporteuring sessions, allowing the officers to gain hands-on experience in performing the tasks and familiarising themselves with the usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools. The combination of these lessons were welcomed by the officers, with many noting a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a rapporteur.

Thai Language Intensive Course for Heads of Mission

The Thai Language Intensive Course for Heads of Mission was conducted from 6 to 10 October 2025. The course comprised 10 teaching hours and was designed to enhance ambassadors' basic linguistic competence and cultural awareness to support diplomatic engagement in a Thai-language environment.

The course was led by Ms Nordiana Zakaria, an instructor with extensive experience in teaching Thai as a foreign language. Instruction focused on essential language structures, selected cultural elements, and commonly used diplomatic expressions relevant to official interactions.

On completion of the course, the participant demonstrated the ability to convey basic ideas, respond appropriately in Thai, and apply suitable expressions in professional and diplomatic contexts.

Reports, Brief, and Diplomatic Correspondence Writing Course for Wisma Putra Officers



In an effort to acknowledge the challenges faced by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs officers in effectively producing written documents according to their assigned format, the Centre conducted a course centred to solve the rising issues titled “Reports, Brief, and Diplomatic Correspondence Writing Course for Wisma Putra Officers”. The course was conducted physically on 7 October 2025 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Putrajaya with the aim to enhance the capability of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs officers in preparing clear and concise diplomatic documents that aligned with the Ministry’s standards. In addition, the course particularly highlighted the essential writing structures and principles suitable for drafting reports, briefing notes, talking points, summaries, and other formal correspondence.

The course was attended by 88 officers from various divisions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and proved highly effective in strengthening their diplomatic writing competencies. Through the lectures and practical sessions, participants developed a clearer understanding of the required formats, policy sensitivities, and standards in official document preparation. The course enhanced officers' practical application of clarity, conciseness, and appropriate tone in diplomatic writing, while improving their ability to produce reader-oriented, factually accurate, and policy-relevant briefs, reports, and situation updates. It also strengthened their familiarity with formal diplomatic correspondence, including proper formats, register, and etiquette, as well as their capacity to review and edit written work by identifying common structural, logical, and stylistic shortcomings.

Overall, the course significantly improved officers' readiness to produce high-quality diplomatic documents tailored to diverse international and multilateral contexts, with due consideration for cultural sensitivities, policy framing, and audience expectations.

MTCP: Diplomatic Training and Economic Diplomacy Course



The “Malaysian Technical Cooperation Course (MTCP): Diplomatic Training and Economic Diplomacy” course was held from 7 to 16 October 2025. The ten-day course was attended by 22 officials representing various ministries and government agencies from MTCP recipient countries comprising Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao PDR, Maldives, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Uzbekistan and Zambia.

The course aimed to enhance participants’ understanding of diplomacy and foreign relations through the study of key theories, practices, and elements of diplomacy, encompassing foreign policy, bilateral and multilateral relations, cultural diplomacy and aspects of economic diplomacy. The course also sought to strengthen participants’ foundational knowledge of Malaysia’s foreign policy, diplomatic practices and regional leadership, particularly within the ASEAN framework. Throughout the course, participants engaged in a series of interactive lectures, discussions, and simulation exercises, complemented by study visits that provided firsthand insights into Malaysia’s diplomatic landscape and economic initiatives. The engagements enabled participants to develop a deeper understanding of the intersection between diplomacy and economics, while fostering the exchange of perspectives and best practices in negotiation, foreign policy, and international collaboration.

The course also included practical study visits to BERNAMA and *Kompleks Kraf* Malaysia to further enhance engagement with Malaysia’s media landscape and Malaysian customs and culture. Modules such as Reflection on the Madani Economic Framework and Malaysia’s Economic Diplomacy, Malaysia’s Bilateral Diplomacy Practices, Malaysia’s Multilateral Practices, Malaysia’s Foreign Policy, Overview of ASEAN, Diplomacy in Crisis Management, Cross-Cultural Communication, International Trade, Applied Economic Analysis, Media and Negotiation Skills aimed to enhance the participants’ understanding of key diplomatic themes to strengthen participants’ core professional competencies. Overall, the successful implementation

of the course strengthened participants' understanding of contemporary diplomatic practices, including economic and cultural diplomacy, while deepening their awareness of Malaysia's foreign policy approach and regional leadership.

Mastering the Stage : Emcee Excellence Masterclass



Realising that many government officers still encountered stage fright and apprehensiveness when it comes to speaking in front of an audience, the Centre, in an effort to resolve this matter, conducted the “Mastering the Stage: Emcee Excellence Masterclass” from 3 to 5 November 2025. The course was conducted physically at the Grand Mercure Hotel, Bukit Bintang with the goal to equip government officers with the necessary confidence and technical skills to be a Master of Ceremonies suited for official events. During the course, the officers explored various aspects of emceeing, including key components such as vocal projection, articulation, stage management, script preparation, and handling common challenges.



The course brought together 13 officers from various ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations, Ministry of Health, Malaysian Prison Department, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), and Ministry of National Unity.



The officers also underwent various simulations, group activities, and individual presentations where they received targeted feedback on their delivery, presence, and audience engagement. By the end of the course, the officers demonstrated improved confidence, better articulation, and a better grasp of commanding the stage. Overall, the course received positive feedback for its relevance and applicability.

MTCP: ASEAN Document and Cooperation Project Proposal



The “Malaysian Technical Cooperation Course (MTCP): ASEAN Document and Cooperation Project Proposal” was held from 4 to 13 November 2025. Following Timor-Leste’s official admission into ASEAN during the 47th ASEAN Summit in October, the course brought together nine mid-level officials from various government institutions and agencies of Timor-Leste to enhance officials’ capacity in preparing key ASEAN documents and cooperation project proposals.

The course featured sessions such as Understanding ASEAN and Its Institutional Framework, Preparing ASEAN Documents, Principles and Process of ASEAN Project Proposals, and Writing an ASEAN Cooperation Project Proposal. Participants were guided through drafting essential ASEAN documents, including Leaders’ Declarations, Foreign Ministers’ Statements, Chair’s Statements, and Joint Communiqués, with a focus on correct diplomatic structures, conventions, and language, providing a solid foundation in ASEAN-specific documentation practices.

In addition, participants analysed selected ASEAN documents, such as Leaders' Statements and Joint Communiqués, and took part in hands-on workshops on drafting cooperation project proposals, ensuring alignment with ASEAN priorities and regional cooperation objectives.

Participants also had the opportunity to attend the IDFR Distinguished Lecture Series, titled "Gaza: What's Next" delivered by Dr. Hisham A. Hellyer. The course further included institutional engagements with the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC) and the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), offering valuable exposure to Malaysia's trade frameworks, economic initiatives, and the AGC's role in international law and negotiations. Collectively, these engagements enriched participants' understanding of Malaysia's approach to regional and multilateral cooperation and enhanced their preparedness for effective engagement within ASEAN.

Speechwriting Course with Simon Lancaster (Junior, Mid-Level & Senior Officers)



The Centre conducted the “Speechwriting Course with Simon Lancaster” from 10 to 14 November 2025 for junior, mid-level, and senior officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The course was conducted physically at the Grand Mercure Hotel, Bukit Bintang with the aim of guiding officers craft persuasive speeches that accurately reflected the targeted narrative. Through the guidance of internationally acclaimed speechwriting expert, Mr Simon Lancaster, the course introduced officers to the principles of rhetoric, narrative structure, emotional and logical appeals, and the stylistic features of effective speechwriting to further enhance the officers’ writing skills.

The course was attended by a total of 39 officers from various divisions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Across the three levels, the officers were introduced to the principles of speechwriting, the techniques for drafting compelling sentences, the functionality of metaphors and storytelling in speeches, as well as the importance of clarity. The course enabled the officers to participate in writing challenges and speech delivery exercises, allowing them to refine their speechwriting skills through hands-on learning.

The course concluded with highly positive feedback from the officers, who reported increased competence in forming clear messages and drafting speeches suitable for high-level diplomatic engagements. Many emphasised the value of receiving direct guidance from Simon Lancaster, whose expertise significantly contributed to the depth and impact of the training.

Portuguese Language Intensive Course for Heads of Mission

The Portuguese Language Intensive Course for Heads of Mission was conducted from 12 to 24 November 2025. This newly introduced course comprised 10 teaching hours and was designed to enhance ambassadors' foundational Portuguese language skills and cultural awareness for diplomatic purposes.

The programme was led by Mr Jamian Mohamad, an experienced Portuguese language instructor from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, with over 25 years of teaching experience. H.E. Dato' Mohammad Ali bin Selamat. Instruction covered essential language structures, practical communication, and selected diplomatic expressions relevant to professional contexts.

On completion of the course, the participant demonstrated the ability to communicate basic ideas, respond appropriately in Portuguese, and apply suitable diplomatic expressions in official interactions.

**COMPETENCY
ENHANCEMENT CENTRE
(CEC)**

COMPETENCY ENHANCEMENT CENTRE (CEC)

The Competency Enhancement Centre (CEC) manages one of IDFR's long-term flagship programmes, namely the Diploma in Diplomacy (DiD), a preparatory course for the junior officers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia prior to their first posting abroad. The Centre also holds training courses for selected group of individuals from time to time. CEC aims to provide opportunities to participants to build on and further enhance their knowledge, skills, and experience not only in diplomatic, foreign policy, international relations, and strategic theories, but also in practical applications. Ultimately, the Centre envisages moulding competent and inquisitive individuals who are better aware of the shifting global political and economic climate, to contribute to the progress of Malaysian diplomacy.

IDFR-UNAM Forum on Multilateralism



The IDFR–UNAM Forum on Multilateralism entitled The United Nations and Multilateralism was held on 12 August 2025 at Menara Aras Raya, jointly organised by the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) and the United Nations Association of Malaysia (UNAM). The forum recorded participation of over 170 participants, including online attendees via Google Meet from Malaysian Embassies and High Commissions, diplomats, academicians, government officials, and participants of IDFR training programmes. The strong turnout, both physical and virtual, reflected the continued interest in multilateral diplomacy and the relevance of the United Nations in today's global landscape.

President of UNAM, Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, delivered the welcoming remarks, reaffirming Malaysia's principled foreign policy and its consistent support for the Palestinian cause as part of the country's commitment to justice and international law. He highlighted that Malaysia's credibility and longstanding advocacy on international issues place the country in a strong position to contribute meaningfully to discussions on UN reform, particularly together with ASEAN in promoting dialogue, peace, and regional stability.

The panel discussion featured Prof. Emeritus Dr. Johan Saravanamuttu of Universiti Sains Malaysia and Ms. Prisheela Prakas of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, and was moderated by Dato Westmoreland Palon, Director of the Competency Enhancement Centre, IDFR. The speakers shared perspectives on the role of the UN in the current global order, noting that while the organisation faces structural limitations and political pressures, it remains the most representative and comprehensive multilateral platform for addressing global issues. The discussion also highlighted the importance of parallel efforts by regional groupings, middle powers, and smaller states in supporting the broader goals of peace, social justice, and equitable development.

The forum provided an important platform for open and constructive discussion on the urgent need for reform of the United Nations, particularly in restoring trust, strengthening multilateralism, and ensuring that the organisation remains fit for purpose in addressing current global challenges. Participants were encouraged to reflect on how global cooperation is increasingly tested by geopolitical tensions, humanitarian crises, and shifting power dynamics, and how collective action through multilateral institutions remains essential despite these challenges.

Overall, the forum was successfully conducted and contributed to greater awareness of the challenges and opportunities facing the United Nations and the multilateral system. This collaboration marked the third joint effort between UNAM and IDFR, underscoring both organisations' continued commitment to promoting informed dialogue, strengthening diplomatic understanding, and supporting Malaysia's role in advancing effective and principled global governance.

Pre-Posting Course for Heads of Mission and Spouses 2025



The Pre-Posting Course for Heads of Mission and Spouses was held from 23 to 30 August 2025 at InterContinental Kuala Lumpur. The programme was designed to equip 12 prospective Heads of Mission and their spouses with the necessary skills, knowledge, and expertise for their upcoming diplomatic roles. It emphasised leadership development, interpersonal skills, and a comprehensive understanding of diplomacy, economy, and international relations. Special sessions for spouses were also included to prepare them for their significant responsibilities in the diplomatic field.

The course modules provided a well-rounded curriculum focused on key aspects of Malaysia's foreign policy, Protocol and Etiquette, Grooming, and Sustainable Development. Participants also engaged with representatives from prominent government agencies such as the Malaysian Healthcare Tourism Council (MHTC), Tourism Malaysia, the Halal Development Corporation (HDC), the Malaysian Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC), the Ministry of Trade and Industries (MITI), the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), and the Malaysian External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE). These interactions gave participants a deeper understanding of the multifaceted nature of diplomacy, economy and its connection to national development.

One of the program's highlights was a session led by the Press Secretary to the Prime Minister and Senior Political Secretary to the Prime Minister. They shared invaluable experience in media relations and public trust management as well as dynamic relationship between politics, governance, and diplomacy

Another highlight was a dinner talk with Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Abdul Razak, the former Governor of Pulau Pinang and former Secretary-General of Wisma Putra and Toh Puan Khadijah Mohd Nor. He shared invaluable experiences especially in relations to international diplomacy.

Participants also had sessions with the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General of Bilateral Affairs, Deputy Secretary General of Multilateral Affairs, and the Deputy Secretary General of Management Services from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia. These senior officials offered advice, encouragement, and shared their expectations for all Heads of Missions.

The spouses on the other hand attended cultural excursions to Royal Selangor, Kraftangan Malaysia and Gift Shop of the women's prison in Kajang. They also had coaching sessions, discussions on mental health and a special sharing session with Puan Sri Jazliza Jalaludin, wife of former Secretary-General, Tan Sri Radzi Abd Rahman.

Overall, the course was successfully conducted, achieving its objective of equipping participants for their upcoming roles as Heads of Mission. The course included notable speakers and subject matter experts who shared valuable knowledge with the participants. This holistic approach was intended to fully prepare them for the challenges of their future roles. The prospective Heads of Missions were awarded their credentials by His Majesty Yang Di-Pertuan Agong on 4th of September 2025 at a ceremony held at Istana Negara.

Outreach Programme with *Sekolah Angkat MADANI* (SK Seberang Batu Hampar, Rembau)



CEC in collaboration with other centres in IDFR organised an outreach programme with SK Seberang Batu Hampar, Rembau under the Sekolah Angkat MADANI initiative on the 13th of November 2025. This programme involves 169 students from pre-school to Year Six and 22 teachers.

The event began with speeches from Mr Asmi bin Lamin, the Headmaster of SK Seberang Batu Hampar followed by Dato Westmoreland Palon, Director of CEC. Then, a sharing session conducted by Mr Ahmad Faizal Hilmi from IDFR on the importance of diplomacy was held. A quiz then followed where schoolbags and stationaries were given as gifts. IDFR also took the opportunity to donate some books for the library as well as treat the children to a special lunch.

Overall, the session was well received by all. The outreach programme achieved its objective of exposing school-going children to the basics of international relations and diplomacy. CEC hopes to organise more outreach programmes in 2026.

Engaging Dialogue, Aligning Views



The *Engaging Dialogue, Aligning Views* course was held on 8 August for IDFR officers and 14 and 15 December 2025 for Wisma Putra officers. The course was held at the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR). A total of 12 participants attended the first session, eight attended the second and another 12 attended the third session. This introductory course aims to strengthen officers' communication skills and help them achieve clearer outcomes in discussions. The programme focused on core abilities such as asking focused questions, practising active listening, working collaboratively in discussions and negotiations, and providing constructive feedback.

This one-day course covered six modules based on the Focused Conversation method. Participants learned essential dialogue skills, including analysing communication needs, understanding different types of questions, diagnosing conversations, and listening attentively. They also explored reflective communication practices such as setting clear intentions, recognising assumptions, suspending judgment, and using inquiry to deepen understanding. The modules further introduced key dialogue principles, levels of listening, and how to select appropriate questions in professional context.

Participants were also trained to plan structured conversations by preparing effective openings, developing guiding questions, clarifying objectives, and forming clear conclusions. These skills were applied through activities using real stakeholder scenarios, followed by reflection and evaluation sessions to reinforce learning and support follow-up action planning. It also uses an interactive learning approach through group discussions and real-life situation exercises. They also explored the "Five Ps" of diplomatic interaction which are Product, Process, People, Planet, and Peace to better understand how these elements shape communication in their daily work.

Overall, the *Engaging Dialogue, Aligning Views* course reinforced IDFR's commitment to developing confident and competent officers. By enhancing participants' communication and

engagement skills, the course contributed to improved dialogue practices and supported more effective decision-making in both diplomatic and organisational settings.

Courses for ASEAN Chairmanship 2025

For the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2025, IDFR was appointed as the Committee for Training and Documentation. Under the training wing, CEC facilitated in organising four (4) courses:

Refresher Course for Liaison Officers for the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting and Related Meetings (SOM)



The refresher course for Liaison Officers for the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting and Related Meetings (SOM) was held from 26 to 27 April 2025 at InterContinental Kuala Lumpur. In total, 45 Liaison Officers (LO) from various Ministries/Agencies underwent a two (2) day refresher course to help them perform their duties during the ASEAN SOM and Related Meetings.

The training included briefings on ASEAN 2025 by the Head of Secretariat (SILA), as well as sessions conducted by the Head of the Subcommittee on Protocol and the Head of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Security, and Traffic. Participants were also brought for a site visit to recce the meeting venue's at KLCC and the SOM Dinner venue at Boathouse by the Lake in Ampang.

ASEAN Volunteers Workshop 2025



The ASEAN Volunteers Workshop 2025 was held on 10th May 2025 at the Tun Abdullah Badawi Auditorium in Wisma Putra, Putrajaya. The workshop was attended by 55 participants from the Student Volunteers Foundation - *Yayasan Sukarelawan Siswazah* (YSS).

The training included briefings on ASEAN 2025 by the Head of Secretariat (SILA), as well as sessions conducted by all subcommittees of the ASEAN Secretariat. The workshop aimed to equip volunteers with sufficient knowledge to support ASEAN meetings and events.

**Briefing and Site Visit for Liaison Officers, Personal Security Officers
and Drivers of Heads of States/ Heads of Government 46th ASEAN Summit,
2nd ASEAN-GCC Summit & ASEAN-GCC-China Economic Summit 2025**



On 20 May 2025, IDFR successfully conducted a one-day briefing and site visit at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre for Liaison Officers (LO), Personal Security Officers (PSO), and drivers for Heads of State and Government assigned to the 46th ASEAN Summit, 2nd ASEAN-GCC Summit & ASEAN-GCC-China Summit 2025.

A total of 490 participants from various Ministries/Agencies and the Royal Malaysian Police attended a comprehensive briefing to prepare for their duties during the summits. The session included a presentation on ASEAN 2025 by the Head of Secretariat (SILA), a briefing on the roles and functions of LO's and PSO's by the Ceremonial and International Conference Secretariat Division (BIUPA) and a briefing by the Royal Malaysian Police. Further briefings were conducted by the Head of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Security, and Traffic. Site visits were also conducted at The Estate Federal Hill, Petronas Club and Seri Perdana.

On the sidelines, a briefing session with 55 volunteers from Yayasan Sukarelawan Siswa (YSS) was also conducted to familiarize them with the venues involved.

**Briefing and Site Visit for
the Liaison Officers Personal Security Officers and Drivers of
the 58th ASEAN Foreign Minister's Meeting and Related Meeting 2025**



The Briefing and Site Visit for Liaison Officers (LO), Personal Security Officers (PSO), and drivers assigned to the 58th ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting and Related Meetings 2025 took place on 3 July 2025 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. A total of 350 participants from various Ministries/Agencies and the Royal Malaysian Police attended the briefing to prepare themselves for the event.

The training included briefings by the Head of Secretariat (SILA), as well as sessions conducted by the Head of the Subcommittee on Protocol and the Head of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Security, and Traffic. Participants were also brought for a site visit to recce the meeting venue's at KLCC and the SOM Dinner venue at Banyan Tree, Kuala Lumpur.

Briefing and Site Visit for the Liaison Officers, Personal Security Officers and Drivers of the 47th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits



On 19 October 2025, IDFR successfully conducted a one-day briefing and site visit at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre for Liaison Officers (LO), Personal Security Officers (PSO), and drivers for Heads of State and Government assigned to the 47th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits.

A total of 470 participants from various Ministries/Agencies and the Royal Malaysian Police attended a comprehensive briefing to prepare for their duties during the summits. The session included a presentation on ASEAN 2025 by the Head of Secretariat (SILA), a briefing on the roles and functions of LO's and PSO's by the Ceremonial and International Conference Secretariat Division (BIUPA) and a briefing on the dry run session by the Royal Malaysian Police. Further briefings were conducted by the Head of the Subcommittee on Protocol and the Head of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Security, and Traffic.

Participants also took part in a site visit to familiarise themselves with the meeting venues at the Convention Centre as well as dinner venues at Sky Garden, Permata Sakura Tower KLCC, the Park Hyatt and Grand Hyatt hotel in Kuala Lumpur.

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**MANAGEMENT
SERVICES
DIVISION (MSD)**

MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION (MSD)

The Management Services Division provides support and administrative services to IDFR and ensures the practicality and efficiency of all management and operation activities of the Institute.

Administration, Finance and Human Resource section

Retreat IDFR 2025



From 31 October to 2 November 2025, the staff of the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) gathered at Avillion Port Dickson for a transformative three-day retreat. This event brought together the Director General, officers, academicians, and support staff to reconnect and strengthen their bond as a unified team away from the office.

The programme officially commenced on the first evening with a briefing and an Ice Breaking session, where participants were divided into groups and assigned tasks to foster collaboration from the start. This was followed by the "My Mission" module, designed to align personal goals with the institute's core mission of diplomatic excellence.

The second day focused on physical energy and collective morale. Following a welcoming address by the Director General and a group photography session, the staff participated in high-energy outdoor challenges, including the "Tower Challenge," "Traffic Jam," and an "Android Explorace." These activities were carefully curated to improve communication, trust, and problem-solving skills across departments. The day culminated in a grand BBQ Dinner and Appreciation Night with the theme "Black and Red." The evening featured an official address by the Director General, the presentation of hampers, lucky draws, and an open karaoke session, significantly boosting the team's spirit.

The final day was dedicated to forward-looking strategy. The morning was entirely focused on the "IDFR 2026 Programme Planning" presentation. During this session, staff brainstormed and presented new curricula, high-level forums, and international collaborations to ensure IDFR remains a premier diplomatic training hub. This allowed every department to contribute their vision to the institute's roadmap for the coming year.

By the time the retreat concluded with the closing ceremony on 2 November 2026, the IDFR team departed with a renewed sense of purpose and a clear, actionable plan for 2026. By investing in staff well-being and long-term planning, IDFR has built a more resilient workforce, fully prepared for the diplomatic challenges ahead.

TeTRA 2025



In 2025, six dedicated staff members from the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) successfully undertook the "Advanced Diploma (Level 3) in Teaching, Training, and Assessing Learning (Tetra)." This professional certification programme was designed to elevate the pedagogical skills and instructional design capabilities of IDFR's internal trainers and academicians.

The Tetra programme focused on the complete training cycle, moving beyond basic teaching methods to master advanced instructional techniques. Throughout the course, the six participants engaged in intensive modules covering the psychology of adult learning, the design of impactful curricula, and the implementation of rigorous assessment frameworks. This was particularly crucial for IDFR, as the institute continues to refine its role as a premier hub for diplomatic training on the global stage.

A key highlight of the programme was the practical assessment component, where participants were required to demonstrate their ability to deliver high-level training and provide constructive

feedback. By mastering these competencies, the group is now better equipped to bridge the gap between theoretical diplomatic knowledge and practical, skill-based learning.

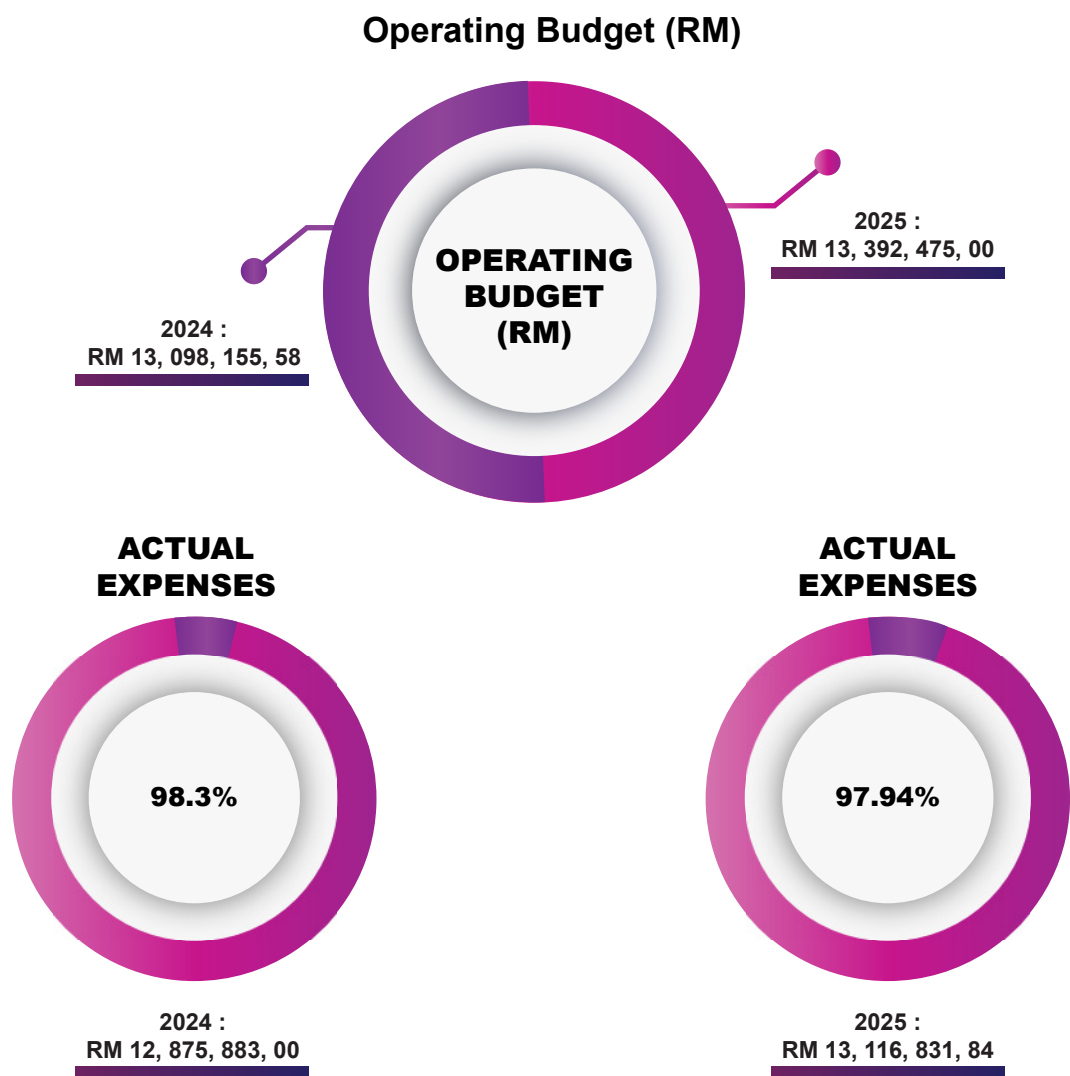
The successful completion of this Advanced Diploma by the 6 IDFR officers marks a significant investment in IDFR’s human capital. These certified trainers are now poised to lead the development of new training modules and ensure that the delivery of IDFR’s programs meets international vocational standards. This initiative ensures that the institute remains at the forefront of diplomatic education, bolstered by a team of highly skilled and professionally assessed educators.

Financial Allocation and Expenses

As IDFR is listed as a National Training Institute (ILA), it received a training allocation of RM 25,800.42 from the Public Service Department (JPA) in 2025. The courses coordinated for the self-enhancement of its trainers under this fund are detailed below:

DATE	PROGRAMMES
12 - 13 JUNE 2025	WORKSHOP ON DIGITAL DIPLOMACY AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
11 - 13 JUNE 2025	COURSE INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

IDFR received an operating budget of RM 13,392,475.00 in 2025. Its total spending for the year was RM 13,116,831.84. In 2024, IDFR received an operating budget of RM 13,098,155.58 and the total expenses for the year was RM 12,875,883.74. This shows an increase in the amount of actual expenses compared to 2024. This is indicated by the increasing number of programmes conducted by IDFR in 2025.



Breakdown of IDFR’s operating budget and actual expenses in year 2024 and 2025

LIBRARY SECTION

In line with IDFR's commitment to strengthening literacy and information fluency, the Library implemented a series of programmes aimed at supporting intellectual development, lifelong learning and community engagement. These initiatives reinforced the Library's role as a central resource for research, learning support and knowledge enrichment within IDFR and its outreach communities.

IDFR Quran Hour



In conjunction with the month of Ramadan, the Library, in collaboration with the IDFR Club Religious Bureau, organised a spiritual discourse titled “*Mencari Ramadan Mabrur dan Lailatul Qadar*” on 25 March 2025. The session featured al-Fadhil Ustaz Hj Mohd Meeftah Hj Anuar from JAKIM and incorporated Quranic recitation and tadabbur. The programme aimed to enhance spiritual literacy while fostering reflection and communal engagement among participants.

Jom Baca Bersama



Held in conjunction with World Book and Copyright Day, this programme featured a talk titled, *“Dari Buku Ke Bot: Evolusi Perpustakaan”* by Mr Wan Azuan Shah Wan Mohamed, Deputy Director of the Digital Project Management Division, National Library of Malaysia, on 25 April 2025. The session explored the transformation of libraries in the digital era, including the role of artificial intelligence, virtual libraries, digital curation and information literacy, as well as the evolving responsibilities of librarians in the contemporary knowledge environment.

National Day and Malaysia Day Celebrations

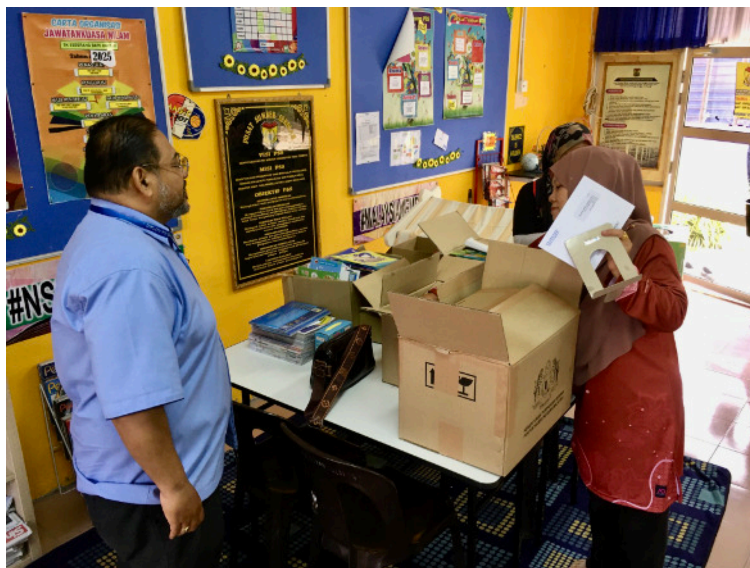


On 29 August 2025, as part of the National Day and Malaysia Day celebrations, the Library organised a talk titled, *“Bila Api Mula Menyala: Siapa Selamat, Siapa Bahaya”*, delivered by PgKB Jusman Roman from the Fire and Rescue Department of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur. The session focused on basic fire safety awareness and personal safety. In addition, the Library conducted an online quiz, mounted a mini exhibition titled *Malaysia MADANI: Rakyat Disantuni*, and screened the historical video 31 August 1957: Declaration of Independence.

Monthly Excellent Reader Award

The Monthly Excellent Reader Award was introduced since 2023 to recognise individuals who demonstrated consistent reading habits through frequent book borrowing. The initiative aimed to encourage a sustained reading culture among IDFR staff and participants.

Book Donation @ Sekolah Angkat MADANI



Under the *Sekolah Angkat MADANI* initiative, the Library coordinated a book donation programme for SK Seberang Batu Hampar, Rembau on 13 November 2025 and SK Datuk Akhir Zaman, Rembau on 2 December 2025. The initiative sought to enhance access to reading materials and support the development of early reading habits among school children.

Reading Corner @ *Kampung Angkat MADANI*



As part of the *Kampung Angkat MADANI* initiative, the Library established a reading corner at the Sports Complex, Kampung Sawah Raja, Rembau, Negeri Sembilan on 6 December 2025. The facility was designed to provide a dedicated community space for reading and learning, supporting efforts to promote literacy and lifelong learning at the community level.

Program Riang Ria Cuti Sekolah



This school holiday programme was organised to promote literacy among children through interactive storytelling, group reading activities and creative games from 22 to 23 December 2025. The programme encouraged reading engagement while strengthening community participation and fostering creativity among young learners. Twenty two children of IDFR staff participated in the activity.

ICT SECTION

In 2025, the Information Communication and Technology (ICT) Section, IDFR played a pivotal role in advancing digital transformation and operational excellence. The Unit supported IDFR's strategic objectives by maintaining robust IT systems, ensuring high availability and security, and overseeing the migration of ICT infrastructure to new premises. This process included equipment relocation, system testing, and user acceptance procedures.

The Unit integrated advanced digital tools and AI-driven solutions into daily operations, aligning with the national digitalisation agenda and the IDFR Digitisation Strategic Plan 2025–2030. Proactive measures were implemented to enhance cybersecurity, support data analytics, and provide targeted staff training in data science and AI. Standardising procedures and strengthening internal capabilities remained priorities to meet the evolving demands of digital diplomacy.

Repository System User Training



On 19 June 2025, IDFR conducted Repository System User Training for 31 staff members, focusing on document uploading, metadata tagging, secure access, and troubleshooting. The session emphasised data security, compliance, and best practices for digital archiving. This initiative supports digital transformation by equipping staff with essential skills for secure information management and fostering a culture of digital literacy and record-keeping.

Program Pembudayaan ICT: Kepintaran Buatan Sektor Awam



Launched to promote digital innovation and ethical AI adoption at IDFR, this programme supported national policies and aimed to raise AI awareness, provide foundational knowledge, and encourage responsible use. Activities included expert talks, workshops, and exhibitions. Held on 29 September 2025, the program involved 100 participants and advanced a progressive, ethical AI ecosystem supporting Malaysia's digital transformation goals.

The Friday Tech Talk Series 2025



In 2025, IDFR's Information Technology Unit organised the Friday Tech Talk series to enhance staff digital literacy. Four sessions covered e-Government applications, AIOps, MyGovUC services, and Microsoft Copilot. Each session emphasised safe technology use, best practices, and security, fostering tech-savviness and digital competency among agency staff.

Contribution of ICT Equipment to *Sekolah Angkat MADANI*



IDFR also contributed ICT equipment to *Sekolah Angkat MADANI* at Sekolah Kebangsaan Seberang Batu Hampar, Negeri Sembilan, supporting digital learning and bridging educational disparities. The Unit provided 30 computers and two printers to strengthen the school's digital learning infrastructure, supporting technology-enabled education and digital literacy. This initiative aligns with *Sekolah Angkat MADANI*'s goal to address educational disparities through ICT, foster partnerships, and prepare students for a digital world, while demonstrating Malaysia's diplomatic values in community development.

Course Application System Training



The *Sistem Permohonan Kursus dan Pengurusan Asrama* (SPKPA) Training from 22 to 24 December 2025 equipped 11 course secretariats with skills to operate the SPKPA system, covering course management, facility booking, event management, and complaints handling. The training improved online application management, record-keeping, and reduced errors. Ongoing support from the Information Technology Unit and updated manuals ensure optimal system use, advancing IDFR's digitalisation and governance goals.

CORPORATE AFFAIRS SECTION

The Corporate Affairs Section (CAS) serves as the backbone of IDFR's outreach and branding efforts, delivering comprehensive and essential services such as programme coordination, public relations, media engagement, publicity, strategic partnerships, Publications, and Corporate Gifts. With a strong emphasis on strategic alignment, CAS ensures that all programmes support the Institute's overarching objectives while crafting compelling narratives that strengthen relationships with key stakeholders. Our team is adept at producing impactful publications that showcase the Institute's achievements and thought leadership, as well as curating exclusive corporate gifts that reflect our values. Additionally, CAS actively creates avenues for staff to engage with external partners and cultivate collaborative relationships through visits and official engagements. Throughout 2025, CAS continued to play a pivotal role in coordinating numerous internal and external initiatives, enhancing the Institute's visibility and further reinforcing its influence.

16th Annual Meeting of Deans and Directors of Diplomatic Training Institutions of ASEAN Plus Three



The 16th Annual Meeting of Deans and Directors of Diplomatic Training Institutions of ASEAN Plus Three was held on 1 October 2025, bringing together 27 delegates from the ASEAN member states, China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. The meeting served as a platform for participants to exchange views and insights on the opportunities and challenges posed by AI in diplomacy, discuss the continuous enhancement of generic and functional skills within the diplomatic corps—with particular emphasis on strengthening AI competencies and explore avenues for deeper collaboration among the diplomatic training institutes of the ASEAN Plus Three countries. The discussions enabled delegates to identify shared priorities, reaffirm their commitment to capacity-building, and chart new pathways for joint initiatives aimed at fostering a more cohesive, future-ready diplomatic community.

IDFR Networking Hi-Tea 2025



The event, held on 21 November 2025, was a dynamic and engaging occasion that brought together IDFR and its key strategic partners. It served as a highly anticipated platform for in-depth discussions on strengthening collaboration, exploring new avenues of cooperation, and addressing emerging challenges in diplomacy and foreign policy. With an emphasis on mutual advancement, the session facilitated the exchange of ideas, strategies, and perspectives, laying the foundation for impactful future initiatives. The event also sparked fresh opportunities for joint efforts, reinforcing the shared commitment to advancing international relations and shaping the broader diplomatic landscape. Through vibrant dialogue and renewed partnerships, IDFR reaffirmed its position as a catalyst for meaningful progress in the field of diplomacy.

Majlis Peluncuran Projek Kampung Angkat MADANI



The programme commenced on 6 December 2025 at Kompleks Sukan, Kampung Sawah Raja, Rembau, Negeri Sembilan. The event reflected IDFR's continued commitment to enhancing the quality of life in rural communities in line with the aspirations of MADANI. The programme featured a range of activities, among others are kids sports, health screenings, free haircut services and foot massages, a handicraft exhibition, *Jualan Rahmah* MADANI, reading corner, cupcake decoration competitions, as well as friendly futsal and table tennis matches. It was indeed a meaningful day for the Kampung Sawah Raja community.

Majlis Penyerahan Sekolah Angkat MADANI



Majlis Penyerahan Sekolah Angkat MADANI project at Sekolah Kebangsaan Datuk Akhir Zaman and *Majlis Perasmian Sekolah Angkat MADANI* at Sekolah Kebangsaan Seberang Batu Hampar were, officiated by the Director General of IDFR on 9 December 2025 and 19 December 2025 respectively. The programmes mark a significant step in strengthening IDFR's commitment to community development, particularly in supporting educational excellence at the primary school. As part of the initiative, IDFR allocated a dedicated budget and contributed essential learning equipment to SK Datuk Akhir Zaman. This contribution aims to enhance the school's learning environment and support more engaging, interactive, and student-centred learning sessions. The ceremony concluded with an expression of shared commitment between IDFR and the school to continue nurturing educational empowerment, promoting community well-being, and upholding the values of the MADANI framework.

Delegation Visits

The Corporate Affairs Section also facilitates delegation visits to IDFR from a wide range of representatives, including government and university officials, government agencies, and foreign service personnel from various countries. These visits provide a valuable opportunity for guests to gain an in-depth understanding of IDFR's pivotal role in the field of diplomacy. Delegates, bringing diverse academic and diplomatic backgrounds, engage in meaningful discussions, exchange best practices, and explore potential areas for future collaboration. Some of the delegations hosted include:

1. Visit by Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (ASLI)
2. Visit by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reforms, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), Philippines
3. Visit by the Malaysian Armed Forces Defence College (MAFDC)

Benchmarking Visit to Australia



The former General of IDFR, Dato' Syed Bakri Syed Abdul Rahman, undertook a benchmarking visit from 16 to 22 February 2025, engaging in a series of impactful discussions in Melbourne and Canberra. In Melbourne, the Director General met with Dr. Susan Carland, where conversations centred on the rise of Islamophobia in Australia and the critical importance of strategic media engagement. Additional networking sessions were held with diversity consultant Tasneem Chopra OAM and Rowan Gould of Mosaic Communications. In Canberra, meetings at DFAT's Diplomatic Academy provided insights into diplomatic training and language immersion, while exchanges with Dr. Justin Lee and Dr. Bryce Wakefield explored diplomacy, international affairs, and potential avenues for future collaboration. These engagements collectively reinforced IDFR's commitment to global best practices in diplomacy and cross-cultural understanding.

Publicity, Promotion and Social Media

In the rapidly evolving landscape of digital connectivity, IDFR has steadily strengthened its social media presence since its initial launch. Guided by principles of transparency and engagement, our platforms have attracted a broad audience and evolved into dynamic spaces for disseminating the latest news and updates from across the Institute. By consistently sharing information on events, achievements, and key insights, we have fostered a greater sense of community and connection among our stakeholders. With continued enthusiastic feedback, IDFR remains committed to expanding its digital reach to ensure our global audience stays well-informed and engaged. This commitment reflects our broader effort to leverage social media to enhance relationships, amplify our visibility, and encourage more inclusive dialogue within the diplomatic sphere and beyond.

Public Relations and Media

CAS is also responsible for managing media invitations, preparing press releases, and coordinating promotional initiatives for IDFR events and publications, such as:

- 1) Majlis Peluncuran Kampung Angkat MADANI
- 2) IDFR Distinguished Lecture Series "AI@Work: Innovating Diplomacy"
- 3) Forum on ASEAN: Shaping a More Inclusive and Sustainable Future

Strategic Partnerships

To strengthen our global strategic partnerships, the section manages collaboration requests, including the preparation and implementation of Memorandums of Understanding, Letters of Intent, and Exchanges of Notes.

- 1) Exchange of Notes with Higher Institute of International Relations “Raúl Roa García” (ISRI) Cuba
- 2) Exchange of Notes with University of World Economy and Diplomacy Uzbekistan
- 3) Exchange of Notes with Diplomatic Academy Turkiye
- 4) Exchange of Notes with Diplomatic Academy of Montenegro
- 5) Exchange of Notes with Foreign Service Institute of Maldives
- 6) Exchange of Notes with Diplomatic Academy of Kosovo
- 7) Exchange of Notes with Diplomatic Academy Kyrgyz Republic
- 8) Exchange of Notes with the Institute of Diplomacy and International Relations of Algeria
- 9) Exchange of Notes with Foreign Service Academy of Bangladesh
- 10) Exchange of Notes with Foreign Service Academy of Pakistan

Publications

The section oversees the publication and distribution of two IDFR periodic publications: the IDFR Prospectus 2026 and the IDFR Annual Report 2024.





KELAB IDFR

KELAB IDFR

Kelab IDFR successfully organised 15 activities during the year, guided by two core focus areas, namely welfare, sports and healthy lifestyle. These activities were designed to support staff well-being, foster camaraderie and strengthen a sense of belonging within IDFR.

NAME	POSITION
YBHG. DATO' ZAINOL RAHIM ZAINUDDIN	PATRON
YBHG. DATO WESTMORELAND PALON	CHAIRMAN
MR HARIS SYARWANI RAZALI	DEPUTY CHAIRMAN
MS HANRIYANI SAHMAWI	SECRETARY
MS NURUL FARHAH AB AZIZ	ASSISTANT SECRETARY
MS WARDAH SINA	TREASURER
MS MAZULINA MAT JUSOH	ASSISTANT TREASURER
MS BADRIYAH JOHARI	INTERNAL AUDITOR
MR HARVINDER SINGH RAMDAY	EXCO (WELFARE)
MR AHMAD MUZIRU IDHAM ADNAN	EXCO (RELIGIOUS AFFAIR)
MR MOHD SHA'ARIE AMRAN	EXCO (SPORTS)
MS NORHASHIKIN HASSAN	EXCO (CULTURE)

Farewell Ceremonies, Birthday Celebrations and Welfare Contributions

Throughout 2025, *Kelab IDFR* organised farewell ceremonies to honour officers and staff who concluded their service with IDFR, namely Ms Sithira Devi Govindan, Mr Muhd Jaafar Abd Karim, Ms Roslina Haroun @ Haron (retired) and Ms Norazlin Tahir, Mr Anuar Hafizi Adnan, Ms Nik Khalilah Nik Ab Kadir, Ms Ainul Munazah Hassan, Ms Shanthini Subramaniam, Ms Dayang Jariah Johari and Dr Raihan Dato' Dr Marzuki (Transferred). These events served as a gesture of appreciation for their service and contributions.

In addition, *Kelab IDFR* also extended financial assistance to those who experienced bereavement, hospitalisation or the birth of their firstborn child, as part of its ongoing welfare support during difficult times.

As part of its welfare initiatives, *Kelab IDFR* organised birthday celebrations throughout the year to recognise and appreciate members on their special day. These celebrations, though simple in nature, served as a meaningful platform to build closer working relationships, strengthen interpersonal ties and promote a positive workplace culture.

**Discover IDFR's latest trainings, discourses,
publications, and research initiatives. Visit
our website for full details and updates.**

More info: www.idfr.gov.my





LIST OF IDFR PROGRAMMMES

LIST OF PROGRAMMES

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
JANUARY				
1	FORUM AND BOOK LAUNCH: A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO ADDRESS HATE SPEECH	17	PSED	70
2	AN INDUCTION FOR FOREIGN DIPLOMATS IN MALAYSIA - MALAYSIA'S CULTURE AND IDENTITY (MCI) SERIES 2025	22	CLCD	17
3	COURTESY CALL FROM PETRONAS	22	DG	5
4	COURTESY CALL FROM DEVELOPEMENT STRATEGY CENTRE UZBEKISTAN	22	DG	2
5	KM CAFE BIL.1/2025	24	CLCD	15
FEBRUARY				
6	KURSUS PRA-PENEMPATAN UNTUK PEGAWAI-PEGAWAI HOME-BASED SERTA PASANGAN DI BAWAH SISTEM PENTADBIRAN KERAJAAN MALAYSIA DI LUAR NEGERI (SPKM) SIRI 1	4-14	LNDP	77
7	KM CAFE BIL.2/2025	7	CLCD	20
8	FOREIGN LANGUAGE BASIC COMMUNICATION COURSE - ARABIC	4-25	CLCD	33
9	FOREIGN LANGUAGE BASIC COMMUNICATION COURSE - GERMAN	4-25	CLCD	20
10	FOREIGN LANGUAGE BASIC COMMUNICATION COURSE - FRENCH	4-25	CLCD	21
11	COURTESY CALL FROM THE JOHOR SERVICE ACADEMY	6	DG	3
12	COURTESY CALL FROM OFFICE FOR CONFLICT STABILISATION AND MEDIATION (OCSM)	21	DG	7
13	BENCHMARKING VISIT TO AUSTRALIA	16-22	DG	2
14	TAKLIMAT KEADAAN SEMASA UMAT ISLAM DI RANTAU ASEAN	24	CLCD	59
15	COURTESY CALL FROM PROF EMERITUS TAN SRI DR ZAKRI, JOINT CHAIRMAN MIGHT (GOVERNMENT)	28	DG	3
16	FRIDAY MORNING SEASON (FMS): ETIKA PAKAIAN DAN PENAMPILAN PEGAWAI AWAM	28	LNDP	60

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
MARCH				
17	KM Cafe Bil.3/2025	7	CLCD	25
18	COURTESY CALL FROM DEPUTY AUSTRALIA HIGH COMMISSIONER	10	DG	2
19	COURTESY CALL FROM DATO' AMBASSADOR DR. YUSSOF A. BAKAR (CEO LINCOLN UNIVERSITY)	11	DG	2
20	IDFR QURAN HOUR	25	BKP	74
APRIL				
21	SAY IT RIGHT : A COURSE ON PRONUNCIATION	15-17	CLCD	24
22	<i>KURSUS PRA- PENEMPATAN UNTUK PEGAWAI-PEGAWAI HOME-BASED SERTA PASANGAN DI BAWAH SISTEM PENTADBIRAN KERAJAAN MALAYSIA DI LUAR NEGERI SIRI 2</i>	15-23	LNDP	65
23	HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP COURSE	22-24	LNDP	22
24	PUBLICATION: IDFR ANNUAL REPORT 2024	23	CAS	
25	MTCP: COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF ASEAN WORKINGS FOR TIMOR-LESTE OFFICIALS	24 APR- 9 MAY	CLCD	55
26	<i>KURSUS REFRESHER BAGI PEGAWAI PENGIRING BAGI MESYUARAT ASEAN SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING AND RELATED MEETINGS (SOM)</i>	26-27	CEC	45
27	ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY COURSE	28-30	PSED	23
28	<i>JOM BACA BERSAMA 10 MINIT PERINGKAT IDFR</i>	25	BKP	77

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
MAY				
29	NEGOTIATION COURSE FOR JUNIOR LEVEL OFFICERS	6-8	LNPD	22
30	FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY-TO-DAY COMMUNICATION PHYSICAL COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS - ARABIC	5 MAY-14 AUG	CLCD	25
31	FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY-TO-DAY COMMUNICATION PHYSICAL COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS - FRENCH	5 MAY-14 AUG	CLCD	25
32	FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY-TO-DAY COMMUNICATION PHYSICAL COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS - SPANISH	5 MAY-14 AUG	CLCD	25
33	FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY-TO-DAY COMMUNICATION PHYSICAL COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS - RUSSIAN	5 MAY-14 AUG	CLCD	25
34	<i>PROGRAM KHAS KEMAHIRAN DAN PEMANTAPAN BAHASA MELAYU BAGI KAKITANGAN AMBILAN TEMPATAN (PEKA BM KAT) SIRI 1/2025</i>	5 MAY-24 JUL	CLCD	24
35	BENGKEL SUKARELAWAN ASEAN 2025	10	CEC	55
36	BRIEFING AND SITE VISIT FOR LIAISON OFFICERS PERSONAL SECURITY OFFICERS AND DRIVERS OF HEADS OF STATES / HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS 46 th ASEAN SUMMIT, 2ND ASEAN-GCC SUMMIT & ASEAN-GCC-CHINA ECONOMIC SUMMIT 2025	20	CEC	450
37	COURSE ON INTERCULTURAL AWARENESS AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY (CICAD)	20-22	CLCD	23
38	MTCP: DIPLOMATIC TRAINING COURSE FOR INTERNASIONAL PARTICIPANTS	24 MAY- 4 JUN	PSED	13
39	KM CAFE' BIL.4/2025	30	PLCD	30

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
JUNE				
40	VISIT BY ASIAN STRATEGY AND LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (ASLI)	4	DG	5
41	COURTESY CALL FROM ASLI	4	DG	2
42	COURTESY CALL FROM BANGSAMORO DELEGATES	9	DG	18
43	VISIT BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND AGRARIAN REFORMS, BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (BARMM), PHILIPPINES	9	BKP	30
44	<i>KURSUS PRA- PENEMPATAN KHAS UNTUK PEGAWAI-PEGAWAI KEMENTERIAN PENDIDIKAN TINGGI SERTA PASANGAN DI BAWAH SISTEM PENTADBIRAN KERAJAAN MALAYSIA DI LUAR NEGERI</i>	10-13	LNDP	16
45	COURTESY CALL FROM MALAYSIAN ARMED FORCE DEFENCE (MAFDC)	11	DG	2
46	VISIT BY MALAYSIAN ARMED FORCE DEFENCE COLLAGE (MAFDC)	11	BKP	5
47	INTRODUCTION TO KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT	13	CLCD	25
48	<i>KURSUS PRA-PENEMPATAN UNTUK PEGAWAI-PEGAWAI HOME-BASED SERTA PASANGAN DI BAWAH SISTEM PENTADBIRAN KERAJAAN MALAYSIA DI LUAR NEGERI Siri 3</i>	16-26	LNDP	69
49	<i>KURSUS SHAPING DIALOGUE: DRAFTING AND DELIVERY OF EFFECTIVE DIPLOMATIC INTERVENTIONS (MOH)</i>	17-18	CLCD	43
50	COURTESY CALL FROM EMBASSY OF SPAIN	23	DG	1
51	PRESENTATION SKILLS AT THE WORKSPACE	23-25	CLCD	30
52	COURTESY CALL FROM BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER	24	DG	2
53	COURTESY CALL FROM HIGH COMMISSIONER OF NIGERIA	30	DG	1
54	STRATEGIC AND SECURITY ANALYSIS COURSE	30 JUNE- 2 JULY	PSED	20

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
JULY				
55	COURSE ON RESOLUTION DRAFTING AND SUBSTANTIVE COMMITTEE RAPORTEURING FOR AIPA 2025	1 - 2	CLCD	25
56	BRIEFING AND SITE VISIT FOR THE LIAISON OFFICER PERSONAL SECURITY OFFICER AND DRIVERS OF THE 58 TH ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING AND RELATED MEETING 2025	3	CEC	150
57	MTCP: ASEAN MEETINGS AND NEGOTIATION WORKSHOP	7 - 13	CLCD	15
58	COURTESY CALL FROM PROF EMERITUS TAN SRI DR ZAKRI, JOINT CHAIRMAN MIGHT (GOVERNMENT)	10	DG	5
59	COURTESY CALL FROM LIEUTENANT GENERAL DATO' SERI HAJI MUHAMMAD HUZAIMI SABRI CHIEF EXECUTIVE, MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF DEFENCE AND SECURITY (MIDAS)	14	DG	4
60	MEDIA SKILLS WORKSHOP FOR MID-LEVEL OFFICERS	15 - 17	LNDP	15
61	YOUNG SCHOLAR DIPLOMACY PROGRAMME: 7 TH MALAYSIA-AUSTRALIA MID-CAREER DIPLOMATS ROUNDTABLE	22 - 24	PSED	20
62	COURTESY CALL FROM YB DATO' INDERA MOHD SHAHAR ABDULLAH, MP OF PAYA BESAR, CHAIRMAN OF THE BACKBENCHERS CLUB (BBC) AND CHAIRMAN OF THE YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS OF AIPA (YPA)	25	DG	5
63	PUBLIC DIPLOMACY WORKSHOP FOR JUNIOR LEVEL OFFICERS	23 - 30	LNDP	30

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
AUGUST				
64	COURTESY CALL FROM TUAN HAJI ZABIDI NASAN DIRECTOR GENERAL OF YAYASAN PEMBANGUNAN EKONOMI ISLAM MALAYSIA (YAPEIM)	4	DG	3
65	PUBLIC LECTURE ON 'THE GROWING INTERSECTION OF ECONOMICS AND GEOPOLITICS'	5	PSED	100
66	LEADERSHIP COURSE FOR JUNIOR LEVEL OFFICERS	5 - 7	LNDP	27
67	FRIDAY TECH TALK: <i>SEMBANG SANTAI TEKNOLOGI</i> 1/2025	8	ICT	41
68	ENGAGING DIALOGUE AND ALIGNING VIEWS	8	CEC	12
69	DIPLOMATICS TRAINING COURSE FOR ASEAN ATTACHMENT OFFICERS	11 - 22	CLCD	15
70	MTCP: ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY COURSE FOR THE INTERNASIONAL PARTICIPANTS	11 - 22	PSED	13
71	IDFR-UNAM FORUM: THE UNITED NATIONS AND MULTILATERALISM	12	CEC	200
72	COURTESY CALL FORM THE EMBASSY OF SOMALIA	15	DG	3
73	PEKA BM KAT: <i>PROGRAM KHAS KEMAHIRAN DAN PEMANTAPAN BAHASA MELAYU BAGI KAKITANGAN AMBILAN TEMPATAN SIRI 2/2025</i>	12 AUG - 30 OCT	CLCD	21

74	MTCP-TCTP: AUSTRALIA LANGUAGE OF MEETINGS FOR TIMOR LESTE OFFICIALS	19 - 28	CLCD	40
75	FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS - FRENCH	25 AUG-12 NOV	CLCD	28
76	FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS - SPANISH	25 AUG-12 NOV	CLCD	34
77	FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS - RUSSIAN	25 AUG-12 NOV	CLCD	12
78	FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS - ARABIC	25 AUG-12 NOV	CLCD	18
79	FRIDAY TECK TALK: <i>SEMBANG SANTAI TEKNOLOGI SIRI 2/2025</i>	22	ICT	39
80	<i>KURSUS PRA-PENEMPATAN BAGI BAKAL KETUA-KETUA PERWAKILAN DIPLOMATIK MALAYSIA</i>	23 - 30	CEC	12
81	NEGOTIATIONS COURSE FOR MID-LEVEL OFFICERS	26 - 28	LNDP	15
82	COURTESY CALL FROM H.E. YEO SEUNG-BAE AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA	29	DG	2
83	<i>PROGRAM GALAKAN MEMBACA SEMPENA HARI KEBANGSAAN DAN HARI MALAYSIA PERINGKAT IDFR</i>	29	LIBRARY / BKP	80
84	ADVANCED DIPLOMA (LEVEL 3) IN TEACHING TRAINING AND ASSESSING LEARNING (TeTrA)	AUG - NOV	CAS	6

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
SEPTEMBER				
85	KOREAN LANGUAGE COURSE LEVEL 1	2 SEPT- 20 NOV	CLCD	27
86	KOREAN LANGUAGE COURSE LEVEL 2	2 SEPT- 20 NOV	CLCD	21
87	MTCP: NEGOTIATION COURSE FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS	9-17 SEPT	LNDP	16
88	BE GRAMMAR SMART (OFFICERS GRADE 41/44)	9-11 SEPT	CLCD	22
89	FRIDAY TECH TALK: <i>SEMBANG SANTAI TEKNOLOGI SIRI 3/2025</i>	12 - SEPT	ICT	43
90	<i>KURSUS BAHASA MANDARIN TAHAP ASAS</i>	13 SEPT-22 NOV	CLCD	110
91	<i>KURSUS BAHASA MANDARIN TAHAP PERTENGAHAN</i>	13 SEPT-22 NOV	CLCD	17
92	FOREIGN LANGUAGES LEVEL 1 COURSE FOR MALAWAKIL OFFICIALS - <i>BAHASA RUSSIA</i>	17 SEPT-6 NOV	CLCD	15
93	FOREIGN LANGUAGES LEVEL 1 COURSE FOR MALAWAKIL OFFICIALS - <i>BAHASA ARAB</i>	18 SEPT-6 NOV	CLCD	8
94	FOREIGN LANGUAGES LEVEL 1 COURSE FOR MALAWAKIL OFFICIALS - <i>BAHASA JERMAN</i>	18 SEPT-6 NOV	CLCD	6
95	FOREIGN LANGUAGES LEVEL 1 COURSE FOR MALAWAKIL OFFICIALS - <i>BAHASA SEPANYOL</i>	18 SEPT-6 NOV	CLCD	20
96	<i>KURSUS PRA-PENEMPATAN UNTUK PEGAWAI-PEGAWAI HOME-BASED SERTA PASANGAN DI BAWAH SISTEM PENTADBIRAN KERAJAAN MALAYSIA DI LUAR NEGERI SIRI 4</i>	22-29 SEPT	ICT	56
97	<i>PROGRAM PEMBUDAYAAN ICT: KECERDASAN BUATAN SEKTOR AWAM</i>	29 SEPT	LNDP	90
98	JOHOR STUDENT LEADERS COUNCIL: YOUNG DIPLOMAT PROGRAMME	29 SEPT-3 OCT	CAS	18
99	16 TH ANNUAL MEETING OF DEANS AND DIRECTORS OF DIPLOMATIC TRAINING INSTITUTIONS OF ASEAN PLUS THREE	30 SEPT – 2 OCT	CAS	26
100	COURTESY CALL FROM MS. HAJAH KASMALATI KASSIM, DIRECTOR OF TRAINING DIVISION MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	30	DG	2
101	COURTESY CALL FROM H.E. DR. SANDOR SIPOS AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE OF HUNGARY IN MALAYSIA	30	DG	2

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
OCTOBER				
102	ASEAN FORUM: SHAPING A MORE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE	2 OCT	PSED	388
103	PUBLICATION: 'ASEAN 2025: FOSTERING RESILIENT AND EQUITABLE FUTURES THROUGH INCLUSIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY'	2 OCT	PSED	-
104	COURTESY CALL FROM H.E. DR. HENNADII NADOLENKO, AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF UKRAINE TO MALAYSIA	6 OCT	DG	1
105	REPORT, BRIEF, AND DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE WRITING COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS	7 OCT	CLCD	88
106	LEADERSHIP COURSE FOR MID-LEVER OFFICERS	7-9 OCT	LNDP	26
107	MTCP: DIPLOMATIC TRAINING AND ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY COURSE	7-16 OCT	CLCD	22
108	TCTP - AUSTRALIA: DIPLOMATIC TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR TIMOR-LESTE OFFICERS	13 – 17 OCT	PSED	41
109	COURTESY CALL FROM PARTICIPANTS OF THE MTCP DIPLOMATIC TRAINING & ECONOMY DIPLOMACY COURSE	13-10	DG	22
110	COURTESY CALL FROM MR. OLIVIER SIGAUD DEPUTY HEAD OF MISSION OF FRANCE IN MALAYSIA	22-OCT	DG	2
111	MTCP: ASEAN TRADE FACILITATION	27 OCT – 7 NOV	PSED	14
112	PROGRAM RETREAT IDFR	31 OCT-2 NOV	MSD	100

NO.	PROGRAMMES	DATE	ORGANISER	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
NOVEMBER				
113	MASTERING THE STAGE: EMCEE EXCELLENCE MASTERCLASS	3-5	CLCD	13
114	STRATEGIC THINKING IN NEGOTIATIONS COURSE FOR WISMA PUTRA OFFICERS	4-6	LNDP	9
115	<i>KURSUS PRA-PENEMPATAN UNTUK PEGAWAI-PEGAWAI HOME-BASED SERTA PASANGAN DI BAWAH SISTEM PENTADBIRAN KERAJAAN MALAYSIA DI LUAR NEGERI SIRI 5</i>	4-14	LNDP	81
116	MTCP: ASEAN DOCUMENT AND COOPERATION PROJECT PROPOSAL DRAFTING COURSE	4-13	CLCD	19
117	COURTESY CALL FROM PROFESSOR DR. HISHAM HELLYER, SENIOR ASSOCIATE FELLOW AT ROYAL UNITED SERVICES INSTITUTE (RUSI)	7	DG	1
118	SPEECHWRITING COURSE WITH SIMON LANCASTER (JUNIOR OFFICERS)	10-11	CLCD	15
119	IDFR DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES (GAZA: WHAT'S NEXT?)	11	PSED	88
120	EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE THROUGH NEURO LINGUISTIC PROGRAMMING (NLP)	11-13	LNDP	19
121	SPEECHWRITING COURSE WITH SIMON LANCASTER (MID-LEVEL OFFICERS)	12-13	CLCD	11
122	<i>PROGRAM SEKOLAH ANGKAT MADANI</i>	13	CEC	250
123	SPEECHWRITING COURSE WITH SIMON LANCASTER (SENIOR OFFICERS)	14	CLCD	12

124	FRIDAY TECH TALK: <i>SEMBANG SAMTAI TEKNOLOGI SIRI 4/2025: MICROSOFT COPILOT</i>	14	ICT	41
125	AI@WORK: INNOVATING DIPLOMACY	18-20	LNDP	22
126	KURSUS SOCIAL MEDIA STRATEGIES 2025	18-20	LNDP	21
127	IDFR NETWORKING HI-TEA 2025	21	CAS	158
128	PUBLICATION: THE JOURNAL OF DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN RELATIONS: SPECIAL ISSUE ON ASEAN	24-NOV	PSED	-
129	COURTESY CALL FROM H.E. GERHARD EISL AMBASSADOR OF AUSTRIA	24-NOV	DG	1
130	IDFR LECTURE SERIES: AI@WORK: INNOVATING DIPLOMACY	25-NOV	LNDP	150
131	COURTESY CALL FROM MR ALEX VIRTANEN HEAD OF THE ASIA PROGRAMME, MARTTI AHTISAARI PEACE FOUNDATION (CMI)	25-NOV	DG	1
132	VISIT FROM THE ASEAN-KOREA CENTRE (AKC)	26-NOV	LNDP	3
DECEMBER				
133	KM Cafe Bil.5/2025	5-DEC	CLCD	20
134	PROGRAM PENYERAHAN PROJEK KAMPUNG ANGKAT MADANI DI KAMPUNG SAWAH RAJA REMBAU	6-DEC	MSD	100
135	ENGAGING DIALOGUE, ALIGNING VIEWS	15-16 DEC	CEC	30
136	PUBLICATION: PROSPECTUS 2026	18-DEC	CAS	-

