



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE NEW AXIS OF GROWTH

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the embassies of the Central Asia countries in Kuala Lumpur, held a **Symposium on Malaysia and the Central Asian Countries' Relations - The New Axis of Growth** on **Thursday, 30 June 2022** from **11.00 am to 2.00 pm** at the **Tunku Abdul Rahman Hall and Tun Abdul Razak Auditorium, Wisma Putra, Putrajaya**. The one-day event to commemorate thirty years of diplomatic relations was graced by Dato' Kamarudin Jaffar, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Central Asian Countries are Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, in his keynote address, recalled his recent official visits to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan and expressed his hope that Malaysia will continuously leverage on its strength and commonalities, to optimize opportunities for growth and partnerships with the Central Asian counterparts. The symposium also brought together two panel discussions that showcased the existing cordial bilateral relations, and explored collaboration in the areas of economic integration, regional cooperation and cultural diplomacy between Malaysia and Central Asia. Each embassy exhibited their culture, products, and local crafts to the local and international participants.

The symposium paved the way forward for Malaysia and the Central Asian region to enhance its relationship to a more dynamic trade exchange. This connection will position Malaysia in linking Central Asia and ASEAN.

**KUALA LUMPUR
30 JUNE 2022**