

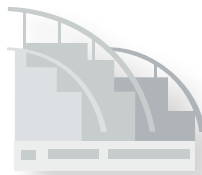


High Commission of Maldives
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Newsletter

December 2024

Issue 6



High Commissioner Presides Over Signing of MoU Between MSS and ALAM

4 December



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed presided over the signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Maldives State Shipping (MSS) and the Malaysian Maritime Academy Sdn Bhd (ALAM).

The MoU marks a significant step forward in enhancing maritime training and education for Maldives, paving the way for skill development and capacity building in the maritime sector. It also aligns with the priorities of President H.E. Dr. Mohamed Muizzu to strengthen the nation's shipping industry and bolster its presence in the global maritime arena.

High Commissioner Participates in International Cultural Night 2024 at APU

14 December

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the International Cultural Night 2024, an event organized by the Maldivian Student Association at the Asia Pacific University of Technology and Innovation (APU).

The evening celebrated cultural diversity through vibrant performances and exhibitions, showcasing the unique traditions of various nations. Among the highlights was a captivating presentation of the traditional Maldivian Bodumas, offering a portrayal of the Maldives' rich folklore and cultural heritage.

During the event, the High Commissioner met with Maldivian students and commended their efforts in promoting the nation's heritage on an international stage.



High Commissioner Holds Virtual Meeting with Ministry of Health

24 December

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed held a virtual meeting with Ms. Aishath Saamiya, Permanent Secretary, and Mr. Hussain Maaniu, Deputy Director General, of the Ministry of Health.

During the meeting, the High Commissioner expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to engage with the Ministry and participated in discussions on two pivotal Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) related to health cooperation. She particularly stressed the importance of incorporating internship opportunities for Maldivian students within the framework of the MoU between the Governments of Malaysia and the Maldives.



High Commissioner and IUM Leadership Discuss Strengthening Higher Education Ties

25 December



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed held a virtual meeting with the Vice Chancellor of the Islamic University of Maldives (IUM), Dr. Ali Zahir, along with Deputy Vice Chancellors Dr. Aishath Waheeda and Mr. Ahmed Ameen Mohamed.

The meeting focused on exploring opportunities for research and higher education partnerships between IUM and Malaysia’s public and private universities. During the discussions, High Commissioner expressed her commitment to strengthening academic ties between Maldivian and Malaysian institutions.

High Commissioner Meets with Deputy Dean of UKM

19 December

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed held discussions with Associate Professor Dr. Jemaima Che Hamzah, Deputy Dean of Undergraduate Studies at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), to explore opportunities for enhancing collaboration between the Maldives National University (MNU) and UKM in the field of medical education.

The discussions focused on strengthening academic partnerships and fostering initiatives aimed at supporting Maldivian students in their pursuit of medical studies.





Deputy High Commissioner Meets with JAKIM

6 December

Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Ibrahim Shaaz Habeeb held discussions with the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) to identify and explore opportunities for strengthening bilateral collaboration in Islamic affairs between the Maldives and Malaysia.

JAKIM, a key federal agency operating under the Prime Minister’s Office, is tasked with coordinating Islamic affairs in Malaysia. Its responsibilities include policy formulation, halal certification, oversight of Islamic education, fostering interfaith harmony, and promoting religious moderation.

Celebration of Malaysian Batik at Malam Batik Lestari

5 December

Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Ibrahim Shaaz Habeeb attended Malam Batik Lestari, an event dedicated to promoting Malaysia’s rich batik heritage on a global scale, aligning with the vision of the Malaysian Prime Minister.

Organized by the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) in collaboration with MyCreative Ventures, the event brought together local batik artisans, designers, and cultural enthusiasts from across the country.

Malam Batik Lestari featured a vibrant array of activities, including a design competition, exhibitions, workshops, and a curated retail market.

Courtesy Call on Undersecretary of the South and Central Asia Division

6 December

High Commissioner paid a courtesy call on H.E. Ambassador Kennedy Mayong Onon, Undersecretary of the South and Central Asia Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia.

The meeting, held at Wisma Putra, marked the first introductory engagement since Ambassador Kennedy assumed the portfolio. During the interaction, High Commissioner expressed her appreciation for the close and friendly ties between the two nations and reaffirmed Maldives’ commitment to fostering further cooperation in areas of mutual interest.



High Commissioner Attends Human Rights Forum 2024 in Malaysia

10 December

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the Human Rights Forum 2024, held in Malaysia under the theme “Empowering Our Rights, Securing Our Future: Business Responsibility for People and Nation,” in commemoration of Human Rights Day 2024.

The forum, organized by the Government of Malaysia in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission (SUHAKAM) and the United Nations in Malaysia, brought together over 800 participants. Attendees included representatives from the government, diplomatic corps, youth, academia, private sector, and civil society organizations, fostering an inclusive dialogue on human rights and corporate accountability.



High Commissioner Attends Reception Dinner at Malaysia-China Summit 2024

18 December



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the reception dinner held in conjunction with the Malaysia-China Summit 2024 (MCS 2024), which celebrated five decades of diplomatic friendship between Malaysia and China.

The dinner, held at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC) in Kuala Lumpur, highlighted milestones in bilateral cooperation and reaffirmed shared commitments to prosperity and sustainable growth.

Notable attendees included Malaysia’s Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof, and other senior officials and dignitaries.

Deputy High Commissioner Attends KLIMS 2024

4 December

Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Ibrahim Shaaz Habeeb attended the launch of the Kuala Lumpur International Mobility Show (KLIMS) 2024, officiated by YAB Dato’ Sri Haji Fadillah bin Haji Yusof, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia and Minister of Energy Transition and Water Transformation.

Held from 5 to 11 December 2024, at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC), KLIMS 2024 marked its 10th edition as a premier event in Malaysia’s automotive calendar.





Official Welcoming Ceremony for the Prime Minister of Timor-Leste

2 December

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed participated in the official welcoming ceremony for H.E. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, during his official visit to Malaysia from 1 to 3 December 2024.

The ceremony was marked by the official reception of H.E. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão by Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, which distinguished dignitaries, including members of the Malaysian Cabinet and representatives of the diplomatic corps, attended.

Official Welcoming Ceremony for Prime Minister of Thailand

16 December

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the official welcoming ceremony for H.E. Paetongtarn Shinawatra, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, during her official visit to Malaysia. The ceremony took place at Perdana Square, Putrajaya, with the participation of senior officials and dignitaries.

This visit marked H.E. Paetongtarn Shinawatra's first trip abroad since assuming office as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand in August 2024.



Public Lecture on International Diplomacy by Timor-Leste Prime Minister

2 December



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended a public lecture titled International Diplomacy in an Increasingly Fragmented and Fragile World, delivered by H.E. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste.

The lecture, held as part of Prime Minister Gusmão's official visit to Malaysia, focused on the challenges and opportunities of diplomacy in a world marked by divisions and uncertainties. He highlighted the vital role diplomacy plays in building bridges, fostering common ground, and promoting unity and peace on the global stage.

High Commissioner Attends World Turkish Coffee Day Event in Kuala Lumpur

5 December

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended an event hosted by the Embassy of Türkiye in Malaysia to celebrate World Turkish Coffee Day. The gathering, held at the Official Residence of the Turkish Ambassador in Kuala Lumpur, marked the 10th anniversary of Turkish coffee's inclusion in UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List in 2013.

The event drew a diverse audience, including diplomats, media representatives, and social media influencers.

World Turkish Coffee Day, celebrated annually on December 5, aims to promote Turkey's distinctive coffee culture and commemorate UNESCO's recognition of it as a treasured element of intangible cultural heritage.



Opening Night of the 2nd Brazilian Film Festival in Kuala Lumpur

3 December

Counsellor Ms. Aminath Mohamed attended the Launch Ceremony of the 2nd Brazilian Film Festival in Kuala Lumpur, hosted by the Embassy of Brazil.

This year's festival spotlights the works of four Brazilian female directors. The opening night featured the screening of *The Second Mother* by Anna Muylaert, a film acclaimed as one of the 100 Best Brazilian Movies of All Time and winner of the Panorama Audience Award at the Berlin Film Festival.



National Day Celebrations Hosted By Diplomatic Missions

2, 4 and 10 December

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended several National Day receptions hosted by foreign diplomatic missions in Malaysia, underscoring the High Commission's commitment to engaging in key diplomatic events.

On 2 December 2024, the High Commissioner attended the 53rd National Day reception of the United Arab Emirates, hosted by the UAE Embassy in Kuala Lumpur. On 5 December 2024, she participated in Thailand's National Day reception, which celebrated the country's rich cultural heritage and its strong diplomatic ties with Malaysia.

The High Commissioner also joined a reception marking the National Day of the Kingdom of Bahrain, commemorating 50 years of diplomatic relations between Bahrain and Malaysia. Additionally, she participated in a Luncheon and Art Exhibition held to celebrate Romania's National Day and the 55th anniversary of bilateral diplomatic relations between Romania and Malaysia.

On 4 December 2024, Counsellor Mr. Hussain Jahhaz represented the High Commission at Qatar's National Day reception, which also highlighted the 50th anniversary of Qatar-Malaysia diplomatic relations.



Book Launching Event on Ottoman-Southeast Asia Relations

4 December

Counsellor Ms. Aminath Mohamed attended the book launching event titled "Studies on the Relations Between the Ottoman Empire and Southeast Asia."

The event was organized by the Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye and the International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization (ISTAC-IUUM), a distinguished postgraduate research and learning institute under the International Islamic University Malaysia.

