

Malaysia to reiterate calls for greater aviation safety

PETALING JAYA: Malaysia will reiterate its calls for greater aviation safety when Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai addresses the 34th plenary session of European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) which begins in France tomorrow.

“Our commitment has been well received by the international community particularly with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) responding positively to Malaysia’s calls to bring about change for safer skies,” said Liow in a statement yesterday.

He added that he felt honoured at representing the country in the event which coincides with ECAC’s 60th anniversary.

“We will continue to stress the need for member states of ICAO to adopt mandatory procedures and protocols that would increase safety and security standards in international civil aviation.

“To this end, the Government and ECAC look forward to inking a cooperation arrangement during the plenary session,” he added.

Liow also said the government was hopeful that Malaysia Airlines would finish paying compensation to the next of kin of Malaysians on board MH17 before the first anniversary of the incident.

“To my understanding, only a few families have not received their compensation.

“This is because we need to determine the rightful beneficiaries,” Liow told reporters after opening the Gopeng MCA division AGM yesterday.

All 298 people on board – from 11 countries – died in the incident on July 17 last year that saw The Netherlands losing a total of 196 citizens.