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MH17 Press Statement by Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai

Minister of Transport, Malaysia

Nation Mourns As Three MH17 Victims Arrive

*Malaysia calls for stronger cooperation among nations
to improve flight safety*

The nation mourns with the arrival of three more remains of the victims of MH17 tragedy. The remains of crew member Allahyarham Shaikh Mohd Noor Mahmood and the children of Allahyarham Tambi Jiee, Allahyarhamah Marsha Azmeena Tambi and Allahyarham Muhammad Afzal Tambi arrived from the Netherlands this morning. As per previous arrivals, our fellow citizens were accorded with full military honours.

The Malaysian Government looks forward to the outcome of deliberations undertaken by the joint task force on tracking, set up by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA), as well as the Conflict Zone task force set up by ICAO. Our government is keen to review the recommendations from these two task force' in light of the MH17 tragedy and MH370.

To echo the words of our Prime Minister YAB Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak, while Malaysia and the world are still recovering from the loss of our citizens, we will continue to pursue every avenue to bring those who are responsible for this heinous crime to justice.

What we truly need is a system where airlines have the ability to share information pertaining to flight risks and for countries to provide more information gathered by their intelligence agencies. Improvements should also be made pertaining to the avenues in which national aviation authorities disseminate their information. The words and promises which have been uttered must be converted into action that will lead to a prevention of such tragedies.

It must be iterated that the sharing of information is a way to save lives. Thus post-MH17, we must look beyond national interest and prioritise collective security. We must stand by our commitment to assist each other in sharing flight risk information, as we strive to honour the lives that were lost on board MH17 and make our skies safe for the citizens of the world.

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