

the United States has committed to provide technical briefings on security requirements and information sharing agreements this year.

Recalling the Memorandum of Understanding on Transnational Crime signed by both sides in 2012, the two leaders look forward to convening the inaugural Joint Working Group Meeting to review the efficiency and effectiveness of our law enforcement cooperation.

The two leaders decided that Malaysia and the United States would strengthen cooperation in humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and management, including exploring capacity building initiatives to increase preparedness in handling natural and man-made disasters.

Environment, Science and Technology, and Energy Cooperation

The Prime Minister and President Obama welcomed the active cooperation between Malaysia and the United States in science and technology following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Science and Technology Cooperation in 2010. Pursuant to the MOU, the leaders noted the establishment of focus areas on biotechnology, marine science, climate studies, conservation science and management under the Joint Committee of Science and Technology.

The Prime Minister highlighted to President Obama the initiatives under the Global Science and Innovation Advisory Council (GSIAC), a joint New York Academy of Sciences and Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) forum with a mandate to develop science, technology and innovation strategies to achieve Malaysia's vision 2020.

Malaysia recognized the U.S. Government's tremendous role as an important partner of the

Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI). The Prime Minister conveyed his appreciation to President Obama for United States' contributions of more than U.S \$60 million in technical and financial assistance and capacity building programs to CTI member countries.

Noting the shared visions of the two countries to develop a stronger bio-based economy to ensure sustainable growth, both leaders recognized expanded private sector research collaboration and cooperation in biotechnology.

The Prime Minister sought the United States' support to build Malaysian knowledge and expertise to develop green technology and thanked President Obama for U.S. assistance in creating Malaysia's newly announced green technology development strategy and clean energy cooperation to date under the U.S. Asia Pacific Comprehensive Energy Partnership.

The Prime Minister and President Obama reiterated a common commitment to the conservation of biodiversity and agreed to strengthen cooperation in addressing illegal wildlife trade.

Conclusion

Looking ahead, both leaders pledged their commitment to elevate the Malaysia-U.S. bilateral cooperation to a Comprehensive Partnership that would cover wide-ranging areas for the expansion of trade and investment, security and defense, education, science and technology, energy, and people-to-people relations, for the collective benefit of both countries.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks on Commercial Agreements Between United States and Malaysian Companies in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia *April 28, 2014*

Selamat pagi. Please, everybody have a seat. Well, it's a great pleasure to be here with Prime Minister Najib. Before I leave to my next stop on this tour, I thought it was entirely

appropriate for us to end my wonderful visit here in Malaysia with an event that directly relates to jobs, business, the well-being of our people.

Yesterday we agreed to forge a new comprehensive partnership between Malaysia and the United States, and that includes working to expand our economic ties. In the United States, our Government goes to bat every day for American companies that are trying to export or do business abroad. We advocate for them. We help facilitate deals like this. And today, we're selling more American exports around the world than ever before.

I want to congratulate these American companies for completing these important commercial deals. Together, these three deals—in aviation, biotech, and insurance—are worth nearly \$2 billion. It means these companies will be doing more business in Malaysia and selling more exports marked “Made in America.” These deals support American jobs in places like Ohio and North Carolina. And companies that export often pay better wages, so it's a good day for American workers as well.

The United States is already the largest foreign investor in Malaysia, and Malaysia is one of the fastest growing investors in the United States. And I want to do even more business together. And I know the Prime Minister agrees. So these deals reflect our commitment to stepping up our game—competing harder, investing more—not only in each other's countries, but across the region.

And finally, today reminds us that we need to do everything we can to promote more trade and ties like this. And that includes reducing some of the existing barriers to trade and investment and completing the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which is going to open up more markets to our exports and support good jobs.

So I want to thank Prime Minister Najib for being here and for his commitment to expanding the economic ties between our countries. I want to thank these outstanding business leaders behind us for the great work that they do and the jobs they support back home in the United States. Here in Asia and around the world, I'm going to keep advocating on behalf of American companies and American workers so that we continue to see more growth and prosperity not only in our own country, but around the world.

And with that, we're going to let them sign the agreements. Congratulations. Thanks. All right.

[*At this point, commercial agreements were signed by General Electric Co. Global Growth and Operations Vice Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer John G. Rice of the U.S., and AirAsia Group Chief Executive Officer Tony Fernandes of Malaysia; Verdezyn, Inc., President and Chief Executive Officer E. William Radany of the U.S., and Sime Darby Berhad President and Group Chief Executive Mohd Bakke Salleh of Malaysia; and Metlife, Inc., Asia President Christopher G. Townsend of the U.S., and AmBank Group Berhad Chairman of the Board Azman Hashim of Malaysia.*]

Thanks, everybody.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:24 a.m. at the Ritz-Carlton, Kuala Lumpur hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Najib Razak of Malaysia.

The President's News Conference With President Benigno S. Aquino III of the Philippines in Manila, Philippines April 28, 2014

Moderator. Good afternoon. The President of the Republic of the Philippines and the President of the United States of America will now conduct a joint press conference. His Excellency Benigno S. Aquino III, President, Republic of the Philippines, will deliver a statement.

President Aquino. Your Excellency, President Obama, President of the United States of America, his official delegation, members of the Cabinet present, members of the press, ladies and gentlemen: Good afternoon.