

## Malaysia may engage with IIEP

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### BOOST: Collaboration to target faster achievement of Nat'l Education Blueprint objectives

PARIS: MALAYSIA is willing to engage with the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) to ensure that the country's Education Blueprint 2013-2025 is executed more efficiently.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, who is also Education Minister, however said the engagement will not be in areas of planning as that stage has been completed, but will focus more on meeting its goals faster.

"We would like to work with the IIEP but not for the whole spectrum of the plan, only in certain sub-sectoral levels," he said in a meeting with the institute's director Khalil Mahshi here on Wednesday.

Also present were Muhyiddin's wife, Puan Sri Norainee Abdul Rahman and Malaysian ambassador to France, Tan Sri Ismail Omar.

The IIEP, a centre for training and research specialising in educational planning and management, was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) in 1963.

It is supported by grants from Unesco and by voluntary contributions from member states and others.

Its areas of expertise include strengthening the capacity of countries to plan and manage their education systems, training, research and technical assistance.

Muhyiddin said there were also possibilities of a partnership and collaboration between IIEP and Institut Aminuddin Baki (IAB) in Pahang in certain areas, especially in research and training.

"I agree that we should raise the contributions to IIEP, maybe to US\$50,000 (RM158,949) annually from the present US\$5,000 (RM15,895), but this is conditional upon IIEP collaborating with IAB closely," he said.

Speaking to Malaysian journalists after the meeting, Mahshi said he was impressed with the efforts undertaken by the Education Ministry to develop quality education in Malaysia.

"There is also a possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding on areas of collaboration, where we can provide our experiences but we also would like to learn from Malaysia's experience especially in the educational sector," he said.



Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, who is also the Education Minister, with the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) director Khalil Mahshi during a visit to the institute. Pix by Bernama

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