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For Immediate Release

PRESS STATEMENT

**By YB DATO' SERI ONG KA CHUAN
MINISTER II OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE & INDUSTRY
COURTESY CALL BY VICE GOVERNOR OF FUJIAN PROVINCIAL
PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT & DELEGATES**

The Vice Governor Fujian Provincial People's Government Li Dejin and his delegation met the Second Minister of International Trade and Industry on 19 May 2017. The Fujian Government is on a trade mission to Malaysia.

One of the topics discussed at the meeting was on the business opportunities of China's "One Belt One Road" initiative as Malaysia and Fujian Province are identified as one of the hubs for the 21st Century's Silk(Maritime) Road. Malaysian ports such as Port of Klang and the Melaka Port have strong cooperation with Fujian's ports in Xiamen and Fuzhou, furthering both countries economic and trade development.

China has been Malaysia's largest trading partner. Bilateral trade reached RM240.9 billion in 2016, amounted to 16.2% of Malaysia's total trade. In the first quarter of 2017, Malaysia-China bilateral trade amounted to RM68.74 billion with major exports in electrical and electronic products, accounted for 43.5% of Malaysia's total exports to China.

The minister informed that in the first quarter of 2017, trade between Malaysia and China recorded double-digit-growth for three consecutive months at 15.5% (January) 17.1% (February) and 13.3% (March) respectively.

Moreover the trade volume between Malaysia and Fujian Province to reach RM13.89 billion in 2016. The main Malaysian exports is in the electrical machinery products which accounted for 75.5% of the total exports.

The meeting also discussed on the progress of the Xiamen University Malaysia Campus. Apart from economic cooperation, both Governments will further promote cultural and other relevant cooperation areas.

The Fujian Vice Governor was accompanied by the Commerce Director Huang Xinluan, Overseas Chinese Affairs Office Director FengZhinong, Deputy Director of Foreign Affairs Office Deputy Director Li Lin and Vice Mayor of Quanzhou Municipal Government Lu Gang. Also present are the representative from The Federation of Hokkein Associations of Malaysia.

[End of Statement]