

The First Tree Planting for the MH17 National Monument

Speech by H.E. Dato' Nazri Yusof, Ambassador of Malaysia to the Netherlands

March 18th, 2017 - Vijfhuizen

“Malaysia is truly grateful with the effort made by the MH17 Disaster Foundation and MH17 National Monument Foundation in remembering the 298 passengers and crews that lost their lives on board Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 nearly 3 years ago.

Today marks a meaningful moment to all of us. For us, the Government of Malaysia, it symbolizes life and our unwavering commitment in seeking justice for the families and loved ones on board MH17. The trees that we plant today represent resilience, just as we weather the daily struggles of our life after the loss of our loved ones. Caring for these trees resembles the commitment, courage and determination, as the families and loved ones try to resume normal lives, or as normal a life as may be possible in this long journey to recovery.

I wish to reiterate today that the Government of Malaysia, together with our close-knitted partners, the Governments of Netherlands, Australia, Belgium and Ukraine are ever determined to find the perpetrators responsible for this unfortunate tragedy. Our resolve is the greatest rebuke to whoever committed this heinous act.

But more than that, the trees that we plant today symbolizes our fond and dear memory of them. Those we love can never be more than a thought away, for as long as there is memory, they live in our hearts to stay. MH17, its passengers and its crew will always be remembered and honoured.

Thank you.”



FLTR: H.E. Dato' Ahmad Nazri Yusof, ambassador of Malaysia to the Netherlands, Evert van Zijtveld, chairman Stichting Vliegkamp MH17, Bert Koenders, minister of foreign affairs, Tan Sri Mohamad Nor Yusof, chairman Malaysia Airlines. Photo by Maeric Photography.