Annual Report 2006-07

Australia-Malaysia Institute
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Administrative Overview

Financial Statement 2006-07
I am pleased to present the Australia-Malaysia Institute Annual Report for 2006-07. This year the Institute continued to successfully build on the activities introduced in its inaugural year, further enhancing mutual understanding between Australia and Malaysia.

Australia and Malaysia have enjoyed a long history of contact with people-to-people links one of the mainstays of the bilateral relationship. This was further strengthened by Prime Minister Howard’s visit to Malaysia in December 2006 and the Institute valued the opportunity to participate in his program.

I am pleased that the Institute has been able, through its personal contacts and range of programs, to add new impetus in further developing the bilateral relationship. Members of the Executive Committee visited Malaysia in September 2006 to promote the Institute, to cement existing cooperation and to create further linkages with Malaysian counterparts. The Executive Committee held a meeting in Kuala Lumpur and met senior Malaysian Government Ministers, including the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Y.A.B. Dato’ Sri Haji Mhod. Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, Minister of Higher Education Y.B. Dato’ Mustapa bin Mohamed, and Minister in The Prime Minister’s Department Y.B. Dato’ Sri Mohd. Effendi bin Norwawi. Media reporting in Malaysia on the visit and the Institute’s objectives and activities has been very positive.

The Institute continued to support a range of programs and projects in 2006-07, including exchange visits by young leaders, Muslims and media, cultural and public relations activities, and fellowships in a range of fields. These activities provided the basis for well-informed interest and increased understanding between the peoples of Australia and Malaysia. They also showcased the quality and richness of the arts and culture as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of Australia-Malaysia relations. I am pleased that the Institute has been able to contribute so positively towards these good relations. It was pleased to co-sponsor the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s photographic booklet Australia-Malaysia: Celebrating 50 Years.

I would like to thank current and past Executive Committee members for their many contributions to the operations of the Institute over the past year. Their skills and dedication have made it possible to achieve a great deal since the establishment of the Institute in 2005. I would like to thank Mr Downer and the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Michael L’Estrange, for their continued support of the Institute. High Commissioners Wise and Williams and their staff in Kuala Lumpur continued to provide valuable support and advice to the Executive Committee during the year. I also note the assistance provided throughout the year by the Institute’s Secretariat Manager, Elena Balogh.
The Australia-Malaysia Institute Executive Committee looks forward with confidence over the next year to contributing further to strengthening the mutual understanding of Australia and Malaysia, and to still closer relations between the two nations.

Michael Abbott QC
Chairman
OVERVIEW OF AUSTRALIA-MALAYSIA INSTITUTE

Establishment

The Australia-Malaysia Institute was established following an announcement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, The Hon Alexander Downer MP, on 7 April 2005 in conjunction with the visit to Australia by the Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

The Institute was established for an initial period of three years, at the end of which it will be reviewed and, if appropriate, made permanent.

Key Objectives

The Institute’s main function is to develop strategies to promote and enhance the bilateral relationship between Australia and Malaysia through:

- increasing knowledge and promoting understanding between the people and institutions of Australia and Malaysia
- enhancing people-to-people links
- supporting Australia’s broader diplomatic objectives in Malaysia.

AMI structure

The Institute’s Executive Committee comprises up to eight prominent Australians drawn from business, academia and the media plus an ex-officio senior officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. All members of the Executive Committee have a long-standing and active interest in Malaysia. Two founding members of the Executive Committee, Paul McClintock and Greg Sheridan resigned during 2006-07 due to other commitments.

The Institute is supported by a Secretariat within South-East Asia Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Canberra.
Executive Committee

- **Mr Michael Abbott QC**, Barrister

Members of the Executive Committee as at 30 June 2007

- **Ms Kerry Adby**, Managing Director, Copernican Securities Pty Ltd

- **Mr Bob Cotton**, Visiting Fellow, Asia Pacific School of Economics and Government, Australian National University and former Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia

- **Professor Hock Lim Tan**, Professor of Paediatric Surgery, University of Adelaide

- **Professor Anthony Milner AM**, Basham Professor of Asian History, Faculty of Asian Studies, Australian National University

- **Dr Wendy Smith**, Director, Centre for Malaysian Studies, Monash University

- **Ms Gillian Bird**, Deputy Secretary, representing Michael L’Estrange, Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Six members of the Executive Committee visited Malaysia from 18 to 22 September 2006 for a series of meetings including the 6th Executive Committee Meeting held in Kuala Lumpur on 22 September 2006. Meetings in Kuala Lumpur and Perak, were held with current and potential partners to promote the Institute in Malaysia. The Committee also met senior Malaysian Government Ministers, including the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Dato’ Seri Najib Tun Razak, Minister of Higher Education Mustapa Mohamed and Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department Dato’ Effendi bin Norwawi, the Crown Prince of Perak and Malaysian Parliamentarian Tengku Razaleh Hamzah.

The visit allowed the Executive Committee to make new, and reinforce existing contacts in Malaysia resulting in many ideas for future Institute projects.
PROGRAMS

The Australia-Malaysia Institute continued to work towards achieving its key objectives through six programs of activities comprising the Institute’s Strategic Plan: Media Program, Young Leaders Program, Muslim Exchange Program, Education and Science Program, Cultural Understanding Program and Public Relations Program.

The Institute received funding through departmental appropriation which was administered by the South-East Asia Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In 2006-07 program funding totalled $400,000.

MEDIA PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To achieve a well-informed image of Australia in Malaysia</td>
<td>Promote increased exposure to Australia in Malaysia and to Malaysia in Australia through media, in particular, the Malay language media</td>
<td>Visit by five Malaysian journalists to Australia (November 2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To encourage well-informed Malaysian media interest in Australia</td>
<td>Encourage professional networking and linkages between professional media bodies in both countries</td>
<td>Visit by four Malaysian journalists to Australia, focusing on sport (May/June 2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and well-informed Australian media interest in Malaysia</td>
<td>Encourage increased knowledge about Australia among representatives of the Malaysian media</td>
<td>Malaysian participation in a visit to Australia by regional journalists focusing on economic, finance and business issues (May 2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Encourage stronger Malaysian media interest in, and appreciation of, Australia’s capabilities, particularly in the areas of science and technology, education, economic entrepreneurship and cultural diversity</td>
<td>A visit to Malaysia by five Australian print and television journalists (May 2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Increase the numbers of Australian media representatives with Malaysian expertise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Media visits from Malaysia

Visit by five Malaysian journalists to Australia

A visit by five Malaysian journalists to Australia from 4 to 10 November 2006, focused on promoting Australia’s relations with Malaysia, as well as the issues of cultural diversity, transparency and good governance, and regional affairs. The journalists were from major English and Malay language print media (New Straits Times, The Sun, Malaysiakini.com, Berita Harian and Utusan Malaysia). The visit resulted in a number of positive articles and opinion pieces about Australia written by the journalists and published in several major Malaysian newspapers.

The journalists’ visit included meetings with representatives from Curtin and Adelaide Universities, both senior education providers in the region with strong enrolments of Malaysian students; the Australia Malaysia Business Council; the City of Rockingham Council; business representative groups; and, Muslim and Australian multicultural and multi-religious society.

Visit to Australia by four Malaysian journalists, focusing on sport

Four representatives of leading Malaysian newspapers (The Sun, The Star, Harian Metro and Utusan Malaysia) visited Australia from 26 May to 4 June 2007. The visit focused on sport as a unifying force in Australian society and as a means to explore
other aspects of life in Australia such as the media, education, multiculturalism, governance and transparency.

The delegation met Dr Jamal Rifi, President of the Lakemba Sports; Nick Hatzoglou, Multicultural Project Coordinator of the Australian Football League; Ahiida Zanetti of Burqini Fashion; The Australian Institute of Sport; Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and the Commonwealth Ombudsman; Meredith Sussex, former Head of the Office of Commonwealth Games Coordination; Gerard Henderson of the Sydney Institute and Football Diplomacy; Mr Michael Johnson, Liberal Party MP and Chairman, Australia-Malaysia Parliamentary Group; and, rugby league star player Hazem El Masri.

Articles published in the Malaysian media resulting from the visit highlighted the positive role of sport in Australia, including in building up community linkages, and Australia’s track record on accountability in organising international events.

Visit to Australia by Malaysian journalists focusing on economic, finance and business issues

The Institute funded a visit by two senior-level Malaysian editors to Australia from 21 to 25 May 2007 for the ASEAN Editors' Group Media Visit: Ahmad Lokman Mansor, Editor of The New Straits Times' business daily, Business Times; and Ahmad Fuad Yahya, the Assistant Editor of local news wire agency, BERNAMA. The editors met with opinion-makers on a range of issues including Australia's engagement in the region. Their discussions focused on Islam, politics, security and Australia's trade and investment linkages with ASEAN.

Media visit to Malaysia

A visit to Malaysia by five Australian print and television journalists

A visit to Malaysia by a group of five Australian print and television journalists took place from 13 to 19 May 2007 to further encourage two-way media interest between Australia and Malaysia. Participants considered Malaysia’s political system, the role of the media, and the role of Islam in the context of the judiciary and politics. The visit also set the scene for the journalists to build on a long-term interest in, and linkages with, Malaysia and to develop a solid foundation for well-informed reporting on Malaysia.

The group met with Malaysian media contacts, Muslim organisations (including those with a focus on women’s issues) as well as government and political party officials.
**YOUNG LEADERS’ PROGRAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To promote increased understanding among current and future leaders and</td>
<td>Expose young Australians and Malaysians with proven leadership potential</td>
<td>Visit by six Australian young community leaders to Malaysia (April 2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>opinion makers in both countries</td>
<td>to each other’s political, economic and social systems</td>
<td>Visit to Australia by five young Malaysian leaders, including several</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Encourage direct and continuing dialogue between current and future</td>
<td>politicians (December 2006)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>leaders and opinion makers in both countries</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Young Leaders’ visit to Malaysia**

A delegation of six young Australian leaders visited Malaysia on 16 to 20 April 2007 under the Institute’s Young Leaders Program. Participants came from *the National Australia Bank, Commonwealth Bank, OPTUS, QBE Insurance and Insurance Australia Group*. One delegate was the *Director of Music at Pembroke School*.

The diverse visit program enabled the young leaders to discuss with Malaysian opinion-makers and social, political and economic commentators aspects of modern Malaysia. The delegation met with Transparency International Malaysia, youth branches of political parties UMNO and DAP, Malaysian “New Generation Leaders”, the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers, Securities Commission, Invest Penang, National Economic Action Council, Institute of Strategic and International Studies and the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute. Meetings with educational and music institutions also provided an opportunity to develop a better appreciation of these sectors and to widen relevant contacts.

**Young Leaders’ visit to Australia**

Five representatives of youth wings of major Malaysian political parties and a think tank visited Australia from 3 to 9 December 2006 under the Australia-Malaysia Institute's Young Leaders Program. The visitors explored the bilateral relationship, the Australian political system, issues of governance, transparency and accountability and multiculturalism (including interfaith dialogue) in meetings held in Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney. The participants’ understanding of Australia deepened through the visit experience and assisted in increasing linkages with young Australian politicians, commentators and the Institute alumni.
**MUSLIM EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To promote greater understanding of the religions in each other’s country and the role of those religions in our respective societies</td>
<td>Introduce selected religious leaders from Malaysia and Australia to the religious and social aspects of both countries</td>
<td>Visit to Australia by five representatives of Malaysian political parties, government and Muslim NGOs (March 2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Promote Australia’s image as a religiously tolerant multicultural society</td>
<td>Visit to Malaysia by six young Australian Muslim community leaders (June 2007)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support and promote activities which showcase the Islamic heritage of Malaysia and South-East Asia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Visits to Australia by Malaysian Muslims**

A visit by a group of five Malaysian Muslims representing several political parties, government and Muslim NGOs visited Australia from 5 to 11 March 2007 under the Institute’s Muslim Exchange Program. The visit focused on Islam in Australia and the cultural and religious diversity of Australian society. Participants also examined the discourse of social and political debate in Australia through the media and how religious needs, including those of Muslims, are met through education and family law.

**Visit to Malaysia by Australian Muslims**

The Institute sponsored a visit to Malaysia by six young Australian Muslim community leaders from 3 to 9 June 2007. The group met a wide range of Malaysian interlocutors such as Members of Parliament, government officials, religious scholars.
and representatives of NGOs. The group also travelled to the State of Terengganu for meetings with key government and senior religious figures including the Chief Minister and head of the Terengganu State Islamic Council.

The group appeared on prime time national television news (RTM English service) and was interviewed by local press including the Terengganu daily Sinar Harian. The Star newspaper also interviewed the three female delegation members about the experiences of Muslim women in Australia. The visit was successful in generating positive Malaysian media coverage of Islam in Australia.

**EDUCATION AND SCIENCE PROGRAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To support the broader objective of increasing awareness about Australia in Malaysia</td>
<td>Participate in science and education-related activities where such participation supports the Institute’s key objectives</td>
<td>Eight fellowships awarded to Australian and Malaysian researchers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To help consolidate Australia’s reputation as a provider of quality education</td>
<td></td>
<td>Facilitation of Australian participation in a seminar in Malaysia on agricultural biotechnology</td>
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</table>

**Australia-Malaysia Fellowships**

The Institute operates the Australia-Malaysia Fellowships scheme with the objective of increasing awareness amongst researchers about Australia-Malaysia relations, and to promote cooperation between leading researchers of the two countries.

The Australia-Malaysia Fellowships scheme consists of three categories:

- **Australian Studies Fellowships** for Malaysian academics and post graduate researchers who wish to further their expertise in Australia-related topics, mainly in the fields of humanities and economics

- **Malaysian Studies Fellowships** for Australian academics and post graduate researchers who wish to research topics in Malaysian Studies

- **Excellence in Research Fellowships** designed to give an opportunity for Malaysian scholars to collaborate in research with Australian academics who are distinguished in the international arena

Eight fellowships were awarded in 2006-07, three more than in 2005-06.

**Category 1: Australian Studies**
Recipient: Dr Shahriman Lockman  
Home Institution: Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia  
Host Institution: Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy, The Australian National University  
Project Title: Australia’s engagement with Asia since the first East Asia Summit

Recipient: Dr Shanthini Pillai  
Home Institution: Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia  
Host Institution: Centre for Research on Women, Gender, Culture and Social Change, School of English, Media Studies and Art History, University of Queensland  
Project Title: Homeliness in Contemporary Australian Writing: The Intersecting Passages of Migration, Nationhood and Gender

**Category 2: Malaysian Studies**

Recipient: Dr Tony Wilson  
Home Institution: Department of International Communication, Macquarie University, Sydney  
Host Institution: Faculty of Economics and Business, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak  
Project Title: New Media (Cellphone) Use in Malaysia

Recipient: Dr Helen Johnson  
Home Institution: Faculty of Social and Behavioural Science, The University of Queensland  
Host Institution: Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi  
Project Title: Malaysia 21st Century Economic Challenges: Gender, Labour, and Information and Communication Technology

Recipient: Catriona Gribble  
Home Institution: Centre for the Study of Higher Education, University of Melbourne  
Project Title: International Student Mobility and Skilled Migration: an Analysis of Government Policy and Malaysia

**Category 3: Research Excellence**

Recipient: Associate Professor Dr Thong Meow Keong  
Home Institution: Genetics and Metabolism Unit, Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya  
Host Institution: New South Wales Biochemical Genetics and Newborn Screening Service, The Children’s Hospital at Westmead, Sydney  
Project Title: A study of the expanded newborn screening program in Australia and its potential application in Malaysia

Recipient: Associate Professor Dr Aishah Bidin  
Home Institution: Faculty of Law, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia  
Host Institution: Department of Business Law and Taxation, Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University  
Project Title: A study of the Australian Corporate Rehabilitation Framework – an alternative model for Malaysian Corporate Rescue Regime
Recipient: Associate Professor Dr Mohd Adzir Mahdi  
Home Institution: Faculty of Engineering, Universiti Putra Malaysia  
Host Institution: Advanced Computing and Simulation Laboratory (AcL), Monash University  
Project Title: Study in optical fibres for multi-wavelength generation  

Science media seminars: Australian participation  
The Institute facilitated participation by Mr Craig Cormick, Manager for Communications and Public Awareness for Biotechnology Australia, at a seminar on Agricultural Biotechnology in Malaysia. The seminar, attended by a range of Malaysian science writers and journalists, focused on key issues including engaging the public on science topics, understanding community fear about new technologies and promoting science news.  
Mr Cormick also presented media workshops at the Academy of Sciences Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur and the Universiti Sains Malaysia in Penang; met with the Malaysian Ministry of Education to discuss biotechnology education; and, ran a workshop at the Universiti Sains Malaysia to postgraduate students on writing a research proposal.  

CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING PROGRAM  

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To further enhance mutual appreciation in Australia and Malaysia of the</td>
<td>Support activities showcasing the quality and richness of Australia’s arts</td>
<td>Performance of theatre production <em>Know No Cure</em> in Kuala Lumpur and Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>quality, sophistication and diversity of each other’s arts and culture</td>
<td>and culture in Malaysia, and of Malaysia’s arts and culture in Australia</td>
<td>Australian internship with the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Curatorial workshop in Malaysia</td>
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<td>Translation of the book <em>Shanghai Dancing</em> by Brian Castro</td>
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<td><em>Selamat Datang ke Malaysia</em> exhibition by Malaysian artists in Australia</td>
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<td>Malaysian participation in the 5th Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art</td>
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**Performance of theatre production Know No Cure**

The Institute sponsored performances of Adam Broinowski’s play *Know No Cure* in Kuala Lumpur from 16-20 June 2007. The six performances attracted good audiences with the full opening night performance attended by members of the artistic, business, media, government and diplomatic communities in Malaysia. The play was performed by two actors, one Australian and one Malaysian. The aim of the production was to teach and communicate different perspectives across cultures and to find common ground in the shared conditions of modernity.

*Know No Cure* was held as part of the My.Oz Program 2007, a year-long festival of Australian culture in Malaysia, organised by the Australian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Australia-Malaysia relations and Malaysian independence. The production was also supported by the Malaysian Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage, making it an inter-governmental collaboration as well as an intercultural collaboration between artists. The performance was taken to Melbourne in 2007.

**Australian Internship with the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia**

Mr Matt Cox from the Conservation Section of the Art Gallery of New South Wales participated, with the assistance of the Institute, in an eight-week internship with the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia. He studied the different specialisations of conservation including on a Keris from Borneo and an 18th century Lustre ware vase from Italy. Mr Cox also conducted a gilding workshop which was open to the Museum staff as well and took the opportunity to visit a number of mosques as part of his research on the genealogy of Malaysian mosques.

The internship assisted in fostering new relationships between the two institutions and opened the way for the possibility of a professional exchange program.

**Curatorial Workshop**

The visit by Ms Alexi Glass, Artistic Director at the Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces Melbourne, to Malaysia from 6 to 12 March 2007 was funded by the Institute. It was organised by Galeri Petronas and the Australian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur. During her visit, Ms Glass conducted a curatorial workshop to over 30 curators and art managers from the main art galleries and art institutions in Malaysia.
The workshop introduced the different curatorial practices in Australia and served as a forum for Malaysian participants to discuss the development of curatorial practice in Malaysia. Ms Glass also gave a public talk at Galeri Petronas entitled Independence and Practice: An Overview of Contemporary Australian Spaces which provided a detailed overview of the visual arts scene in Australia.

**Launch of book Shanghai Dancing**

The Institute contributed towards the participation of one of Australia’s most imaginative writers Brian Castro in the Kuala Lumpur International Literary Festival (29 March to 2 April 2007) and the translation of his award-winning novel *Shanghai Dancing*. His book won the Victorian Premier’s Award for Fiction and New South Wales Premier’s Awards Book of the Year in 2004. The Malay translation of *Shanghai Dancing* was launched in conjunction with the Kuala Lumpur International Literary Festival. Mr Castro’s participation at the Festival was positively highlighted in an article by the Malaysian newspaper, The Star.

**Exhibition of Malaysian Artists in Australia**

The Institute funded an exhibition by ten renowned post-Independence Malaysian artists entitled Selamat Datang ke Malaysia held at the Gallery A4 in Sydney in June to July 2007. The exhibition featured diverse art forms ranging from photography and video to charcoal drawings and sculptural installations. The same exhibition is expected to be displayed in Kuala Lumpur in late 2007.

The exhibition highlighted existing linkages between Malaysian and Australian artists and the role Australia played in their professional development.

**Malaysian participation in the 5th Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art**

The Institute supported Malaysian artist Noor Azizan Rahman Paiman’s participation in the 5th Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT5). The opening exhibition was held at the Queensland Art Gallery’s new Gallery of Modern Art. An exhibition of works by Paiman was the highlight of Malaysia’s participation in APT5 as well as his valuable contribution to the Opening Programs and Kids’ APT5 Summer Spectacular. Paiman gave an artist’s talk and workshop enabling children to demonstrate his ideas in a hands-on workshop. He also turned a popular street game played by Malaysian school children, called ‘Tikam Tikam’, into an imaginative workshop designed to encourage participants to think about their world.


PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To promote the Institute’s role in increasing mutual awareness in Australia and Malaysia</td>
<td>Hold public events</td>
<td>Publication of Australia-Malaysia: Celebrating 50 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribute to the promotion of the bilateral relationship</td>
<td>Support relevant publications and visits</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Support and participate in relevant seminars and conferences</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In recognition of Malaysia’s 50th anniversary of independence on 31 August 2007, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade produced a bilingual photographic publication, *Australia-Malaysia: Celebrating 50 Years*, which highlights some of the important events and achievements shared by Australia and Malaysia over more than five decades. The Institute contributed towards the publication which showcases the wide-ranging government and people-to-people links that have developed between the two countries over the period.
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Meetings

The Executive Committee is required to meet at least twice a year. It met four times in 2006-07

- 4 August 2006 (Adelaide)
- 22 September 2006 (Kuala Lumpur)
- 16 March 2007 (Canberra)
- 11 April 2007 (teleconference)

Remuneration

Members of the AMI Executive Committee receive a “Category 2” daily fee for AMI business at rates determined under the Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973 for part-time holders of public offices. Members are also entitled to reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on AMI business.

Staffing

The Executive Committee is supported by the Secretariat which is located at:

Malaysia, Brunei and Singapore Section
South-East Asia (North) Branch
South-East Asia Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Industrial Democracy and Equal Employment Opportunity

Secretariat staff are covered by the Industrial Democracy and Equal Employment Opportunity provisions formulated by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The activities and programs of the Institute also fall within the Access and Equity plan of the Department.

Finances

The Australia-Malaysia Institute is funded through departmental appropriation and administered by the South East Asia Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Australian Government allocation for 2006-07 was $400,000. The Financial Statement for 2006-07 at Appendix A provides full details.

Auditor’s report

The Australian National Audit Office examines the financial affairs of the Australia-Malaysia Institute as part of its examination of the accounts of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Freedom of Information

The Institute received no applications under the Freedom for Information Act 1982 in 2006-07.
Working with the Public

The Australia-Malaysia Institute seeks to work with organisations and individuals in Australia and Malaysia to achieve its objectives. The Institute is interested to hear from the public about new and innovative ideas to advance AMI programs, particularly ideas which offer prospects of establishing lasting people-to-people and institutional links. Please forward your ideas to the AMI Secretariat.

Sponsorship

The Australia-Malaysia Institute is keen to enter into strategic alliances and partnerships with potential sponsors, including those in the private sector, to enhance its programs. Sponsors are invited to communicate their ideas and proposals for cooperative projects to strengthen Australia’s people-to-people and institutional links with Malaysia to the AMI Secretariat. In 2006-07, the AMI did not receive sponsorship.
## Media Program
- Media visit to Australia (May/June 2007): $23,475.38
- Media visit to Australia (November 2006): $32,121.28
- Media visit to Malaysia (May 2007): $16,539.95
- Media visit to Australia (May 2007): $7,000.00

**Sub-total**: $79,136.61

## Young Leaders Program
- MASCA leadership seminar: $3,021.46
- Young Leaders Program to Malaysia (April 2007): $25,140.91
- Young Leaders Program to Australia (December 2006): $26,066.39

**Sub-total**: $54,228.76

## Muslim Exchange Program
- Visit to Australia (March 2007): $28,500.82
- Visit to Malaysia (April 2007): $22,449.49

**Sub-total**: $50,950.31

## Cultural Understanding Program
- Malaysian participation in the 5th Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art: $7,163.00
- Australian internship with the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia: $7,760.00
- Curatorial workshop in Malaysia: $2,830.73
- Translation of the book *Shanghai Dancing* by Brian Castro: $1,982.54
- *Selamat Datang ke Malaysia* exhibition: $6,646.15
- Performance of theatre production *Know No Cure*: $7,500.00

**Sub-total**: $33,882.42

## Education and Science Program
- Fellowships: $72,426.19
- Science Media Seminars in Malaysia: $4,200.00
- Agriculture Biotechnology Seminar: $1,600.00
- Other*: $200.05

**total**: $78,426.24

## Public Relations Program
- Annual Report: $7,282.00
- Stationery: $643.00
- Photographic book: $5,000.00
- Other*: $117.90

**Total**: $13,042.90

## Special Projects
- Justice Kirby’s participation in LAWASIA Labour Law Conference (August 2006): $3,639.48
- AMI participation in the Prime Minister’s program (December 2006): $5,411.17
- Phoenix Society and Persatuan Daybreak: Staff Exchange Program: $6,680.00
- Other*: $333.99

**Total**: $16,064.64

## TOTAL PROGRAMS
- **Total**: $325,731.88
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADMINISTRATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exec. Committee meetings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting (4 August 2006)</td>
<td>$12,063.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting (September 2006)</td>
<td>$55,051.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting (December 2006)</td>
<td>$6,989.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting (June 2007)</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chairman's expenses</td>
<td>$1,381.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretariat expenses</td>
<td>$782.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship expenses</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Administration** | $76,268.12

| Total expenditure (Program and Administration) | $402,000.00 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriation</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding for 2006-07</td>
<td>$400,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carry over from 2005-06</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** | $402,000.00