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MITEC, KUALA LUMPUR



**GENERAL TAN SRI DATO' SRI HAJI AFFENDI BIN BUANG RMAF
CHIEF OF AIR FORCE, ROYAL MALAYSIAN AIR FORCE**

The Royal Malaysian Air Force (RMAF) celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2018. For the last six decades, RMAF has grown from its initial existence as combat support group into the contemporary tactical air force. We are envisaging it to further evolve into a full spectrum air force befitting RMAF needs to maintain constant vigilance and respond accordingly against all threats in our call of duty to preserve Malaysia's security, sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as its national interests through effective employment of air power.

In order to effectively perform its mission, RMAF must be on par not only with the global defence and technology trends but also in terms of equipments and capabilities. The consistent upgrade we need to not only be on par with global defence and technology trends but also upgrade our equipment and capabilities. The consistent upgrading and renewal of assets is one of our top priorities, in line with sustainable modernization of the air force. This is also a part of RMAF effort to balance our operational expenditure as older and obsolescent assets require higher intensity of maintenance and upkeep to remain airworthy.

RMAF has embarked on a long term development plan that balances between operational requirements and expenditures. Aptly named RMAF Capability Development Plan 2055 or CAP55 in short, it guides future RMAF procurement so as to ensure a capable and sustainable operational air force that can provide for the defence of Malaysia. Within the near term, among the items on our wish list includes, Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) that is capable for both fighter lead-in training and operational duties, Unmanned Air Vehicle system (UAV/UAS), Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA) and Long Range Air Defence Radar. RMAF continues to work closely with the Ministry of Defence and Government of Malaysia to ensure adequate focus is given for acquisition of said assets.

The upcoming Defence and Services Asia (DSA) Exhibition & Conference is an ideal opportunity for RMAF to 'shop around' for the latest assets and technologies. Since its inception, DSA has always been on the forefront of regional defence diplomacy and defence technology exhibitions with opportunities provided to forge long-lasting

partnership as well as reacquainting with old networks, not just from defence personnel around the region but also industry players globally.

Together with the 2nd National Security Asia or NatSec Asia 2020, DSA 2020 is expected to attract various security and defence agencies be it military and security professionals, enforcement agencies or industry players, both regional and global, to come together, interact and share ideas with a common interest of maintaining peace, prosperity and stability within our region.

The RMAF wishes the organisers congratulations and every success for the upcoming DSA 2020 and Natsec Asia 2020 as we look forward to many more years of these exciting series.

Thank you.