

# NUCLEAR SECURITY IN ACTION AT



1 “For Malaysia, trade has to be a transparent”, explained Raja Adnan, the Director General of the Malaysian Atomic Energy Licensing Board (AELB). “Goods are imported and exported, not just between two countries, but are in transit between several countries. Nuclear security measures help to guarantee open trade and makes sure that everyone is trading responsibly,” emphasized Adnan.



2 Officials from AELB prepare for a joint Indonesian–Malaysian exercise in effective border control by reviewing their national standard operating procedures (SOPs) on nuclear security, which were developed in close coordination with the IAEA.



3 Malaysian experts from AELB train counterparts from Indonesia on how to keep their borders secure and develop their own SOPs. This includes the operation and deployment of radiation portal monitors (RPMs), which strengthen nuclear security, by detecting the presence of radioactive material and helping to prevent illicit trafficking across borders.



4 At the border with Thailand, over 300 commercial vehicles cross the border into Malaysia each day, carrying over 40,000 kilos of cargo each, mainly wood and rubber. RPMs at this border crossing keep international trade secure and minimize the risk ionizing radiation could pose to people, society, and the environment.

# MALAYSIAN BORDERS



5 Mohd Irwan of AELB, travelled to the Padang Besar border crossing with officials from Indonesia's Nuclear Regulatory Authority, Customs Department, and Ministry of Transport, to discuss RPM installation and use. "An RPM is more than a piece of equipment," he explained, "It is national coordination and cooperation between different agencies and disciplines."



6 An RPM detects radiation in real time and does not interrupt normal export operations at the border. In addition, cameras simultaneously identify containers, capturing images of the truck and detailed information including plate and container number. The measurement and images are transmitted to the Central Alarm Station (CAS) for further review.



7 At the CAS, if radioactive material is detected, customs officials check the information from the remote cameras on the RPMs, against the information provided in the export declarations on contents of the containers. Further details on the radioactive material are also displayed.



8 If customs officers determine the contents to be suspicious, they conduct a detailed radiation assessment using handheld radiation detectors. This equipment enables them to determine the exact radionuclide and the location of the material.



9 If undeclared radioactive material is confirmed, customs officers will inform AELB, as the response and regulatory authority, for further technical assessment of the container. This interaction is just one example of the national coordination that is essential in effectively and swiftly monitoring borders.



10 An AELB officer checks the radiation detection equipment before departing to inspect suspicious material.



11 AELB will confiscate the undeclared material and put it into safe and secure storage, eliminating the risk that these materials could fall into the wrong hands.



12 “Member States with shared borders, similar regulations and cultural values are well placed to share best practices and harmonize their approaches to nuclear security,” explains Peter Colgan, Head of the Detection and Response to Malicious Acts Section in the IAEA Office of Nuclear Security. Through the October 2012 Indonesian–Malaysian joint border control exercise, these officials reaffirmed their commitment to making their borders secure and to working together with the IAEA in achieving nuclear security worldwide.

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