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OF MALAYA**

MEDIA RELEASE

MALAYSIA ACHIEVE THE TARGET IN ICPD-PoA

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 July 2015 – Malaysia has achieved many of the targets set by the twenty-year Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD-PoA) which ended last year and, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), set in year 2000, said **YB Dato' Sri Rohani Abdul Karim, Minister of Women, Family and Community Development in The Asian Population Association (APA) Third International Conference launching ceremony at Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, today.**

“I am happy to say that my ministry, the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development has played its role in achieving the targets and goals of ICPD-PoA and the MDGs especially in the areas of poverty reduction, gender equality, family development and adolescent reproductive health,” she added.

The minister also said that the government is re-focusing on the bottom 40 percent of the household income group in the Eleventh Malaysia Plan, to reduce their vulnerability to economic shocks and elevate them towards a middle class society.

“The onus is on us to ensure the sustainability of our environment and natural resources so that our future generations will be able to enjoy a better quality of life and are not left wanting.”

The aim of APA is to create greater awareness of the diversity in the region among scholars from different Asian countries, and to facilitate the building of collaborations among these scholars. The association will be responsible for promoting research, sharing knowledge, developing the capacity of population institutions in the region, and engaging in advocacy and policy dialogue to advance the development agenda in the region.

This year, the conference will discuss issues ranging from population size, growth, distribution or characteristics (including children and youth, gender, population ageing) to fertility, fecundity, and reproductive health.

Other topics include mortality, morbidity, internal and international migration, urbanization, marriage, family and kinship.

The conference, will be held until 30 July 2015 is organized by the University of Malaya, the National Population and Family Development Board (NPFDB), Asian Population Association (APA), Federation of Reproductive Health Associations Malaysia (FRHAM) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Also in attendance are distinguished and world renowned demographers such as Prof. Emeritus Terence Hull, Prof. Doo-sub Kim, Prof. Mohammad Jalal Abbasi Shavazi, Prof. Emeritus Gavin Jones, Prof. Peter Mc Donald, Prof. Brenda Yeoh, Prof. Stuart Basten and Dr. Marla Asis.

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