



OFFICIAL VISIT BY KPC PRESIDENT TO THE PARALYMPIC COUNCIL MALAYSIA

PARALYMPIC Council Malaysia (PCM) today welcomed the official visit of the President of the Korea Paralympic Committee (KPC), Mr. Jung Jinowan, accompanied by KPC Director Mr. Shin Wonsang. This marks President Jung's first visit to Malaysia since 2006, with the purpose of strengthening bilateral ties and exploring new areas of cooperation in para sports development.

During the meeting, both parties expressed a strong commitment to advancing para sports across Asia and globally through collaborative programmes, knowledge sharing, and athlete development initiatives.

Mr. Jung expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality extended by PCM and the Malaysian para sport community.

"Thank you for the wonderful hospitality and support. Our cooperation enables many individuals with impairments to be included in society through sports. The bond between Korea and Malaysia is growing stronger like siblings. We aim to build a powerful vision to promote para sports from Asia to the world. The upcoming IPC General Assembly in Korea this September will involve over 200 countries, and Dato' Sri Megat will play a key role at this global platform."

President of PCM, Dato' Sri Megat D. Shahrman, shared his appreciation for KPC's initiative and announced a mutual agreement to implement a Para Athlete Exchange Development Programme between the two countries.

"Paralympic Council Malaysia is honoured by President Jung's visit. Korea will host the IPC General Assembly in September, and Malaysia is ready to contribute meaningfully. We have agreed on a two way exchange programme, where athletes and officials from both nations will undergo training and development exposure. This includes athletes both within and outside our elite programme."

Dato' Sri Megat emphasized that the collaboration aims to solidify Malaysia and Korea's joint leadership in developing para sports in Asia and beyond. He also hinted at possible candidacies for key positions within the IPC structure.

"InshaAllah, there will be announcements soon regarding potential leadership roles either by Mr. Jung or myself at the IPC level. The crucial point is to strengthen our frequency of engagement with international NPCs, starting with Korea."

On Athlete Exchange Programme:

Dato' Sri Megat confirmed that the initial plan is to send 15–20 athletes to Korea after the IPC General Assembly in September. The exchange will support preparations for major events such as the ASEAN Para Games.

“We will determine which sports to prioritise before proceeding. This exchange is similar in scale to last year's, and we aim to replicate its success.”

Malaysia's Position at IPC Level:

Currently, Malaysia does not hold any positions within the IPC structure but remains active at the regional (Asian) level.

“With KPC's support, we hope to enter the IPC leadership structure. Our goal is to secure strategic portfolios for Malaysia at both regional and global levels.”

On Differences with Previous Delegation Visits:

When asked about the differences between Korea's visit and that of Hungary's, Dato' Sri Megat said:

“Hungary focused on exploring the sports defence model. Korea's visit is about enhancing para sport development, learning methodologies, and fostering training exchanges. Korea is a global powerhouse, and we aim to learn from their experience.”

On Financial and Structural Gaps:

Dato' Sri Megat highlighted that Korea receives approximately USD 80 million annually from its government for para sport development.

“Financial resources are a challenge for us, but we will continue to learn from Korea's structure, world class facilities, and certified coaches. This partnership will give our local coaches and athletes international exposure.”

On Media Recognition for Para Athletes:

In response to a question on media attention, Dato' Sri Megat stressed the need for fair and equal recognition of para athletes.

“We deserve the spotlight. We won 8 gold medals at the last games, and yet attention often goes to able-bodied sports. Recognition must be based on merit. Para athletes inspire, and their success should be equally celebrated. We are working closely with the National Sports Council to ensure fair representation and support.”

PCM looks forward to a new era of growth and collaboration through this strategic partnership with Korea Paralympic Committee.

Paralympic Council Malaysia

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