

PRESS RELEASE

INSTITUTE OF DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN RELATIONS
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MALAYSIA



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN IN DIPLOMACY 2023, A FORUM ON
WOMEN IN DIPLOMACY: A SPECTRUM OF OPPORTUNITIES
FRIDAY, 23 JUNE 2023**

The Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) will be hosting an international forum titled ***Women in Diplomacy: A Spectrum of Opportunities*** on **Friday, 23 June 2023** from **12.00 pm to 5.30 pm** at **Hilton Kuala Lumpur**. The Forum is supported by the Embassy of Ireland in Malaysia and the United Nations in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam.

The international forum will mark the first anniversary of the designation of 24 June as the International Day of Women in Diplomacy. In 2022, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 76/269 marking the contribution of women and girls, and “to promote the full and equal participation of women at all levels of diplomacy”. The resolution is only the second such resolution adopted by the 77-year old UN General Assembly in recognising the contribution of women in specific fields.

IDFR, as the training arm of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aims to raise awareness within society, of the longstanding contribution of women in Malaysian diplomacy, and the achievements of women within the field. To this end, this year’s International Forum will see the participation of Prof. Tan Sri Dr Jemilah Mahmood, former UN Assistant Secretary-General (who will deliver the keynote address), and panellists, Lieutenant Colonel Jayne Lawlor, Brigade Adjutant and Senior Staff Officer Personnel Section and Gender Advisor Second Brigade, Irish Defence Forces and Mdme Karima El Korri, UN resident Coordinator in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam. The Undersecretary of the Multilateral Economy and Environment Division, Mdme Aznifah Isnariah Abd Ghani, will moderate the panel.

The event will also explore the role of female diplomats in decision-making as well as the challenges and possibilities that women encounter at each stage of their careers. Simultaneously, this forum seeks to promote understanding and exchange insights from participants' experiences with regard to women's participation in diplomacy. The event is hosted in a hybrid format and will be attended by more than 100 practitioners, foreign policy influencers and administrators that work in the field of diplomacy.

Attendance is by prior registration. Please email lnpd@idfr.gov.my for any enquiry.

**KUALA LUMPUR
22 JUNE 2023**