

AFEO Mid-Term Meeting 2012 Spouse's Programme

ITEM NEGERI SEMBILAN BRANCH



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THE AFEO Mid-Term Meeting 2012 Spouse's Programme was specially arranged by the Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board (MTPB), popularly known as Tourism Malaysia, to keep the spouses of the delegates entertained while their partners were attending the ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFEO) Mid-Term Meeting 2012. It was also an opportunity to introduce Malaysian culture and traditions to our guests from neighbouring nations.

Upon arrival at the airport, the delegates and their spouses were chauffeured to the Royal Bintang Hotel, Seremban. The delegates and their spouses were treated to a sumptuous lunch at the hotel before the activities began. While the delegates were getting ready for their official meeting, the committee members of Institution of Engineers, Malaysia, Negeri Sembilan branch, gathered with the spouses of the delegates for the AFEO Spouse's Programme.

Three officers from Tourism Malaysia, Negeri Sembilan, were assigned to facilitate this programme. The trip started at 3.00 p.m. The participants were chauffeured to the first destination, Pusat Kraftangan Negeri Sembilan, where they were exposed to all sorts of handicraft, musical instruments and costumes originating from Negeri Sembilan. After exploring for an hour, the participants continued their trip to the next destination, Pelegong Homestay, Negeri Sembilan.

Under the Pelegong Homestay programme, the participants had a chance to enjoy the warm hospitality of the host families and be part of the households by joining them in their daily activities. During the reception, drinks and refreshments were served, while the Head of the Pelegong Homestay gave a welcoming speech to the participants.



Enjoying the fruits of their labour!

Subsequently, the participants, especially those who liked cooking, were entertained to a traditional delicacy cooking demonstration, where they learnt about the cooking method and recipe of the popular Negeri Sembilan dish, *ayam masak lemak cili api*. Some of the participants recorded the cooking demonstration with their cameras. The participants also had a chance to savour the local delicacies which were prepared during the cooking session.

After the meal, the participants were offered a hands-on experience in making handicraft, where they were taught how to weave rattan into a small basket. Remarkably, the participants were quite creative and came up with various ideas to weave by themselves some nice and colourful baskets. After the weaving session, Malaysian fruits such as durians and mangosteens were served.



Cooking demonstration – ayam masak lemak cili api



Participants listening intently during the weaving session



Group photo

The session ended with a closing speech by the Head of Pelegong Homestay, whereupon he urged the participants to visit the Pelegong Homestay again with their families and friends. The participants thanked the staff of Pelegong Homestay before they headed back to the hotel. All in all, the AFEO Mid-Term Meeting 2012 Spouse's Programme was a success, as it went on smoothly as planned, and the committee members had received positive feedback from the participants, stating that they had had a memorable and wonderful experience throughout the trip. ■