

Press release: British High Commission hosts farewell reception for 2017/18 Chevening Scholarship Awardee

The British High Commission hosted a farewell reception for Pengiran Shahyul Khairuddin Pengiran Abdul Rahman who has been awarded the prestigious Chevening Scholarship for the 2017–2018 session and will be pursuing his postgraduate studies in the United Kingdom later this month. The farewell event was held at the Residence of the British High Commissioner to Brunei.

British High Commissioner Richard Lindsay with Shahyul and his family

Pengiran Shahyul Khairuddin will be pursuing an LLM at the University College London. He is a Registrar of the Supreme Court and Magistrate of the Subordinate Courts. He was previously Legal Counsel and Deputy Public Prosecutor at the Attorney General's Chambers from December 2009 to December 2014 before embarking in a career in the Judiciary.

I am truly humbled to have been chosen as a Chevening Scholar. The Chevening community's reputation as a network and group of international leaders and influencers is unparalleled and this was the main reason why I applied for the scholarship.

Apart from giving me the opportunity to pursue my LLM, I will be able to meet likeminded individuals from a range of disciplines.

I look forward to connecting with other scholars and alumni in the legal profession with whom I can exchange ideas and learn about court reforms which is of vital importance today.

The courts have a major responsibility in ensuring that it keeps up with the demands of the public and businesses in the resolution of business disputes.

Upon returning to Brunei, I intend to apply the knowledge I gain to the ongoing reforms aimed at increasing public and business confidence in the courts specifically through improved procedures and increased expertise in commercial law.

I also look forward to assisting in the development of the legal education landscape in Brunei with my long-term goal of teaching law at university.

British High Commissioner Richard Lindsay with Shahyul, Chief Justice Dato Seri Paduka Haji Kifrawi bin Dato Paduka Haji Kifli, High Court Justice Dato Paduka Steven Chong and colleagues from the Judiciary

The British High Commissioner H.E. Richard Lindsay, said:

It is a great privilege to be able to award the 2017-18 Chevening Scholarship to Shahyzul so that he can pursue his studies in the UK.

The UK Chevening Scholarship is a long running scheme through which the UK seeks to identify future leaders from Brunei, and all over the world, to be able to pursue a fully funded Masters degree course at one of the UK's top Universities.

Shahyzul has chosen to study his LLM at University College London, which only this week was ranked 16 in the top 40 world universities in the Times Higher Education list.

The UK has 12 of the top 100 universities in the world, and Shahyzul will join the many Bruneians who have benefitted from a UK university education.

Chevening is a global scheme – and once scholars complete their studies they have a unique network of global contacts through which we hope they will build bridges between countries and retain links with each other, and with the United Kingdom.

British High Commissioner Richard Lindsay, Shahyzul and members of the Chevening Alumni Brunei

The High Commissioner went on to note that applications for the 2018/19 Chevening Scholarships were currently open to citizens and permanent residents of Brunei Darussalam. The ideal candidate would be in early to mid career, with at least 2 years' work experience and an excellent record of achievement which showed evidence of leadership qualities. Applicants should be committed to returning and contributing to Brunei's social and economic development by utilising skills and knowledge acquired in the UK.

All those interested in applying for the 2018/19 Chevening scholarship should visit www.chevening.org/Brunei where potential applicants can find information on how to apply, register interest to receive alerts about their application and candidate guidance, as well as to see the priority subjects for Chevening Scholarships. The deadline for applications is 7 November 2016.

Further information

Follow the FCO Chevening Scholarship Scheme on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Photos from the event can be found on our [UKinBrunei Flickr](#).

Press release: PM statement on EU Withdrawal Bill: 12 Sept 2017

Prime Minister Theresa May said:

Earlier this morning Parliament took a historic decision to back the will of the British people and vote for a bill which gives certainty and clarity ahead of our withdrawal from the European Union.

Although there is more to do, this decision means we can move on with negotiations with solid foundations and we continue to encourage MPs from all parts of the UK to work together in support of this vital piece of legislation.

Press release: CMA accepts Wood Amec remedy proposals

The Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) began investigating the merger of the 2 companies in June 2017. Both provide engineering services to the Upstream Offshore oil and gas sector in the UK Continental Shelf.

After the CMA found that competition concerns could arise in the supply of engineering and construction services and operation and maintenance services, the companies offered to sell Amec Foster Wheeler's businesses in these areas to address the CMA's concerns.

The CMA found that this proposal would, in principle, be suitable to address its competition concerns and opened a public consultation in August. Following this, the CMA is now satisfied the issues it identified will be fully addressed by the remedy offered. The CMA has therefore decided that the merger will not be referred for an in-depth, phase 2, investigation.

Kate Collyer, Deputy Chief Economic Adviser and decision maker in this case, said:

It is crucial that competition is maintained in this major UK industry. We have therefore conducted a thorough investigation into this merger, and believe that the sale of Amec Foster Wheeler's assets will address our concerns and ensure that customers in the North Sea continue to be able to obtain competitive bids.

The CMA is committed to conducting merger investigations as quickly and efficiently as possible. In this case, the CMA worked with the companies on a 'twin-track' approach, engaging with them on shaping remedies that might mitigate competition concerns, if any were found, whilst still investigating whether such concerns arose.

This enabled us to promptly reach a final view on the proposed remedy after competition concerns were identified, helping to reduce uncertainty about the potential impact of the merger for customers within this industry.

Amec Foster Wheeler's relevant assets will now be sold to a purchaser approved by the CMA.

All information relating to the investigation is available on the [case page](#).

Notes for editors

1. The CMA is the UK's primary competition and consumer authority. It is an independent non-ministerial government department with responsibility for carrying out investigations into mergers, markets and the regulated industries and enforcing competition and consumer law. For more information on the CMA see our [homepage](#) or follow us on Twitter [@CMAgovuk](#), [Flickr](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Sign up to our [email alerts](#) to receive updates on merger cases.
 2. Merger review in the UK is primarily the responsibility of the CMA, which is an independent public authority. For more information on how we undertake such work read our [Quick Guide to UK Merger Assessment](#).
 3. Under paragraphs 8.7 and 8.8 of the [CMA's Mergers – Jurisdiction and Procedure Guidance](#), the merger parties can engage with the CMA's case team on remedies prior to any decision for reference. However, the case team is not able formally to agree with the parties whether a particular package of undertakings in lieu would or would not be sufficient. This is because the final decisions on whether, first, the duty to refer arises and, (if it does) second, whether to accept undertakings in lieu are not to be pre-judged and remain with the phase 1 decision maker.
 4. The text of this decision will be placed on the [case page](#) in due course.
 5. Media enquiries should be directed to press@cma.gsi.gov.uk or journalists can call 07774 134814.
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Speech: Until the regime sees that diplomacy, not duplicity is the way forward, we must use all of our diplomatic tools to bring pressure to bear on Pyongyang

Thank you Mr President.

Just over a week ago, North Korea sent a brazen message of provocation, a message of belligerence – a sixth nuclear test, carried out once again in clear contempt for the Security Council, the region, and the international community.

Today, through the unanimous adoption of the resolution, we have sent a message of our own in response. Through this vote we have made clear that we will not stand idly by in the face of such aggression. That we will not be intimidated or cowed. That we will match North Korean provocations with clear, targeted consequences.

Today we have enacted strategic measures that together with existing obligations add up to the most stringent United Nations sanctions regime placed on any nation in the 21st century.

We have enacted measures today that show our determination to act. This resolution does three big things. First it will curtail gas, petrol and oil imports. Second, it will ban all textile exports, taking hundreds of millions of dollars from revenues that the North Korean regime uses to fund its nuclear and missile programmes. Third it will end future work authorisations of North Korean overseas labourers, stopping a sickening industry built on modern slavery, and used to divert funds to the regime.

So make no mistake we are tightening the screw. And we stand ready to tighten it further. Until the regime sees that diplomacy, not duplicity, is the way forward, we must use all of our diplomatic tools to bring pressure to bear on Pyongyang.

Some observers doubted that this Council would be willing or able to react speedily or in unison or even at all to this new provocation. With this Resolution we have shown that we are united in condemning this illegal and reckless act, and that we are determined that the North Korean regime change course.

The unanimous agreement today of the states around this table is a powerful step. We now call on all states to redouble their sanctions implementation, taking note of the decisions that we have made today under international law.

Mr President,

North Korea is engaged in a dangerous policy of provocation. Our role as a Council, and as an international community, is to constrain them so that they change course. Sanctions are a vital part of this effort.

It is the regime that bears full responsibility for the measures that we have enacted today. It is their continued, illegal and aggressive actions that have brought us here. Such actions are in no way a proportionate response to the legitimate defensive military exercises of South Korea and the United States.

There is a way out. Diplomacy can end this crisis. First North Korea must change its reckless course. There must be an end to the tests, an end to the provocations. Until North Korea changes course, we must maintain the maximum pressure possible.

Through this resolution today, we have done just that. The onus now falls on Pyongyang to do the right thing. To step back from confrontation, and to step towards de-escalation.

Thank you.

[News story: Thousands of commuters to benefit from UK-built river boats with wifi](#)

Tens of thousands more people will be able to commute by modern river boats kitted out with the latest technology.

In a boost for the UK maritime industry, British shipbuilding company Wight Shipyard has announced recent orders worth £20 million for 4 boats for the Isle of Wight and London.

The news comes during [London International Shipping Week 2017](#), which will showcase the UK's thriving maritime industry to ministers, industry leaders and delegates from around the world.

The shipyard employs 75 full time workers and their construction programme supports 10 apprentices, who begin training this month – backing the government's Industrial Strategy to boost jobs, growth and productivity across the country.

Two of the new 'Hunt Class Mark 2' boats will serve millions of London commuters a year as they travel with MBNA Thames Clippers along the capital's

famous river. The other two will join the Red Funnel high speed passenger service operating between Southampton and the Isle of Wight.

The British-built boats can carry some 14,000 commuters a day during rush hour and are more environmentally-friendly, with new modern engines burning less fuel and emitting less CO2. They are also fitted with wifi and USB phone chargers for a better passenger experience.

The shipyard has also secured its first multi-million pound export order for a 250-passenger river boat to operate for Twin City Liner – a commuter service running on the Danube between Vienna and Bratislava, joining two European capital cities.

Transport Minister John Hayes said:

As we celebrate London International Shipping Week 2017, we proudly show off our thriving shipping sector and world-leading manufacturing skills and talent.

Countless more commuters will be able to travel in modern, fully kitted out boats built in the UK – helping to slash congestion on our roads and railways.

What's more, the world is watching and wanting our iconic boats, Wight Shipyard deserve all of our thanks and congratulations for its first international order.

Not only are companies like Wight Shipyard providing specialist training opportunities, they are helping boost our vital maritime sector and the UK economy – especially important making the pace as we look beyond the bureaucracy of the EU to our European friends across the world.

Peter Morton, CEO Wight Shipyard said:

I am extremely proud of my colleagues at Wight Shipyard who I am convinced now build the finest high-speed ferries in the world. Domestic orders for the Red Funnel and MBNA Thames Clippers which we secured against international competition, as well as our first export order to Twin City Liner in Vienna, make the prospects for the Wight Shipyard, jobs on the island and the wider maritime sector in the UK look healthy. Our strong orderbook is a big vote of confidence for the industry and the UK economy.

Sean Collins, CEO at MBNA Thames Clippers

I am extremely pleased that MBNA Thames Clippers were able to recently place an order with a British yard for our 2 new vessels,

Mercury and Jupiter Clipper. These vessels are now in full service and delivering a new level of experience to our customers. I have great confidence in the future success of Wight Ship Yard and hope that we can place further orders with them to satisfy the continued growth opportunities open to our business and the industry. Furthermore the new builds have provided significant career opportunities at MBNA Thames Clippers, in particular within Fleet Operations and Engineering, these include several apprenticeships. I believe that London International Shipping Week places great focus on our maritime sector and the valuable contribution of its people and skills to our economy.

Kevin George, CEO of Red Funnel

The construction of Red Jet 6 by Wight Ship Yard in 2016 marked the return of building large high speed aluminium catamarans to the Isle of Wight and to the UK after a gap of 15 years. We are delighted that this investment provided the catalyst for establishing a world class manufacturer that has aided the local and UK economy. Based on the quality and efficiency of the new vessel, which is part of our Red Jet service that carries over 1 million passengers to and from the Isle of Wight per year, we have recently announced the order for a further vessel from Wight Ship Yard to join our fleet in 2018.