KING GRANTS AUDIENCE TO UAE MINISTER

Al-Sultan Abdullah discusses vaccine offer by UAE govt for clinical research

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ANG di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah yesterday granted an audience to United Arab Emirates' Health and Prevention Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Mohammed Al Owais at Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi.

The 45-minute meeting discussed, among others, the UAE government's intention to contribute Covid-19 vaccines to Malaysia for clinical research.

Comptroller of the Royal Household Datuk Ahmad Fadil Shamsuddin, in a statement yesterday, said the king decreed that several processes must be made to determine Malaysia's ability to conduct the clinical research.

"The king expresses his appreciation to Dr Abdul Rahman and the UAE government for their intentions.

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Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah talking to Health and Prevention Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Mohammed Al Owais at Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi yesterday.

ticularly through the Clinical Research Centre, Clinical Research Institute and National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency, before any vaccine is accepted into the country."

Ahmad Fadil said the intention by UAE to donate Covid-19 vac-

cines to Malaysia, as well as the five-day special visit by Al-Sultan Abdullah there, reflected the strong bilateral ties between Malaysia and the UAE.

It also showed that both nations were working together to fight the pandemic and would co-

operate in the post-pandemic recovery, he added.

During the visit, Al-Sultan Abdullah also met Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Mohamed Zayed Al Nahyan.

His visit to the UAE was at the the crown prince's invitation.

Al-Sultan Abdullah, who left for Abu Dhabi on Dec 18, was also scheduled to attend a meet-and-greet programme with the Malaysian diaspora in the UAE, and visit the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and the Abu Dhabi Covid-19 Vaccination Centre.