

# Exchange of fishermen on Thursday, says MMEA

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**JOHOR BARU:** The exchange of Malaysian fishermen, detained in Indonesia for encroaching the republic's waters, with Indonesian fishermen detained in local waters, is expected to take place on Thursday.

Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) director-general, Admiral (Maritime) Datuk Seri Zulkifli Abu Bakar said this when commenting on the status of Malaysian fishermen detained by Indonesian authorities.

"(However), let the Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister (Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek) make further announcements," he said at the MMEA office when asked by reporters how many Malaysian fishermen would be released on that day.

Earlier, Zulkifli witnessed the handover of duty by Southern

Region Maritime director First Admiral Datuk Adon Shalan to his successor, First Admiral Datuk Abu Bakar Idris, here on Sunday.

Adon retires today, with Abu Bakar taking over the same day.

Six Malaysian fishermen were reportedly detained in Indonesia for encroaching and fishing in the republic's waters, and 70 Indonesian fishermen detained in Malaysia for committing the same offence in the country's waters.

Three days ago, Ahmad Shabery, in a statement, said six fishermen were expected to be released soon after an agree-

ment was reached by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak and Indonesian President Joko Widodo during the Malaysia-Indonesia 12th Annual Consultation last November. **Bernama**



*Datuk Seri Zulkifli  
Abu Bakar*