

**Bio**

Name

Paul Low

Country of origin

Malaysia

Company

Am MetLife

Position

Chief Executive Officer

Years Overseas

18

Second Homecoming

Returning home to insure Malaysia's future

Making a return home after working overseas is always a tough decision but Paul Low, Chief Executive Officer, Am MetLife has done it twice. "I returned two years ago from China," he says. "Collectively, I've been away for almost 18 years – six in China and 12 in the U.S.," he elaborates. Citing family as the main reason for his return, Paul nevertheless believes that Malaysia offers abundant opportunity for professionals. "There is a lot of development here, and with that opportunities as well, which is why I think it's the perfect opportunity to come back."

Was it hard acclimatising back to Malaysia?

Well, in terms of living, no, because I was born and bred in Kuala Lumpur. I did however need to get used to the working pace here, but overall my homecoming was relatively smooth.

What part did TalentCorp play in your return?

Actually, I wasn't aware of TalentCorp until

a friend pointed it out. So I went online, and I was quite impressed in terms of the applications on the site. There are also good incentives and benefits for returning talents but I think the greatest benefit TalentCorp provides is the assistance in terms of transitioning oneself back into the country.

What's your opinion on the employability for local talents here?

I believe there will be more opportunities opening up. We can already see a lot of investments coming into the country as Malaysia offers an overall stable environment for foreign investors. Additionally, we have the language capabilities and better infrastructure compared to other countries.

What do you think is the one thing that brings us Malaysians together?

As a multicultural society, I would say it's the respect for each other's values and cultures. Malaysia is unique in that sense and it's something all Malaysians should be proud of.

Would you advise other Malaysians working overseas to return?

I would, but I do believe that they should have a valid and meaningful purpose about coming back. Naturally, the benefits are enticing but ultimately the main objective is to have a goal. For me, it's about giving back to society by using the knowledge and experience that I have gained to help develop the next generation of managers and leaders.

The REP facilitates the return of Malaysian professionals from overseas to contribute to Malaysia's development. In addition to qualifications and work experience abroad, the REP eligibility criteria now take into account prior work experience in Malaysia, current salary abroad, and experience and expertise relevant to a priority economic sector. To find out if you are eligible for the REP, visit www.talentcorp.com.my