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Conference

JAKARTA, Jan 17 (Bernama) -- Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is among a number of international personalities invited to address an international economic conference in Bali in March, the organisers said today.

The three-day conference, beginning March 3, aims to attract worldwide investors particularly from the United States to invest in Asean member countries.

Other noted leaders invited to address the conference, to be opened by President Suharto, include Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and former United States' Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Jusuf Wanandi of the Jakarta-based Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) said distinguished panelists, including Malaysian Finance Minister Datuk Paduka Daim Zainuddin, and his Indonesian counterpart, J.B. Sumarlin, have been scheduled to present working papers.

Also invited as panelists are Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and his Australian counterpart Gareth Evans, Japanese Member of Parliament Michio Watanabe and US Under Secretary of Defence Policy Paul Wolfowitz, who once served as ambassador to Malaysia and Indonesia. -- more

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Conference 2 Jakarta

Encik Wanandi said about 400 participants were expected at the conference which would discuss a wide range of economic and political issues.

This included issues on the proposed Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Asean's future bilateral relations with Europe and the United States and intra-regional economic trends.

The conference will be sponsored by the Indonesian think-tank CSIS and the Asia Society in cooperation with a host of corporate sponsors which include Malaysia's national petroleum corporation, Petronas. -- Bernama

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