

CNS4619

U GE J R-J 100247 EA174

aae tbe

MAHATHIR TO SPEAK ON BEHALF OF ASIA AT SECOND G-15 SUMMIT

Mahathir-summit

by Donald Baptist'cu

(6)

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 18 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will speak on behalf of Asia at the second G-15 summit in the Venezuelan capital, Caracas, next week.

The honour is in recognition of the role the Prime Minister and Malaysia have played in promoting South-South co-operation, Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Datuk Ahmad Kamil Jaafar said today.

He told a briefing for reporters on the Nov 27-29 summit, that it was the desire of the leaders of the G-15 countries that Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir be chosen to speak for the Asian countries.

Datuk Ahmad Kamil could not say what would be the highlights of the Prime Minister's address but issues close to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir's heart, included the need for world organisations like the United Nations and its agencies to respond to the needs and aspirations of Third World countries.

Other issues were the promotion of peace and security, now that the world was moving into an era of peace, the debt servicing problems facing developing countries and environment and sustainable development.

At the summit, which is to follow the highly successful format of the inaugural summit, hosted by Malaysia here in June last year, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir will also hand over chairmanship to Venezuelan President, Carlos Andres Perez. -- more

18/11/18-17MST

CNS4622

U GE 18-11 00258 EA175

aae tbe

Mahathir-summit 2 Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia was the prime mover in the formation of G-15, a working group for leaders of developing countries to act, as a catalyst, for greater co-operation among Third World countries.

Its members are Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

Although Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir relinquished chairmanship, he would still be involved in the summit steering committee called TROIKA, whose membership would be made up of the past, present and future chairmen, for another year, Datuk Ahmad Kamil said.

A new feature of the coming summit would be a simultaneous meeting for private sector representatives of G-15 countries to encourage direct contacts among businessmen of member countries with the idea of involving the private sector in the whole process of South-South co-operation.

They would also hold round-table discussions on specific industries -- agro-based, chemical, machine tools, services and manufacturing.

Fourteen private sector representatives from Malaysia would be accompanying the Prime Minister to Venezuela.

The G-15 leaders agreed in Kuala Lumpur that businessmen, investors and government officials should be brought together in a forum to exchange ideas and information on the promotion of and co-operation in South-South trade and investment.

Datuk Ahmad Kamil said Malaysia had no new initiatives to bring up at the summit, but it would be happy to look at initiatives by other countries like Indonesia and India which had yet to take off. -- more

18/11/18-20MST

CNS4626

U GE 18-11 00215 EA176

aae tbe ---

Mabathir-summit 3 (last) Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia hopes to see a final decision being taken on the establishment of the South Investment, Trade and Technology Data Exchange Centre (SITTDEC) in Kuala Lumpur **as soon as possible**.

Agreement, in principle on the setting up of STTTDEC, which would help in the exchange of information on and transfer of technology, was reached at the first summit and its **draft, charter** would be tabled for consideration in Caracas.

Datuk Seri Dr Mabathir would be presenting a full report on developments in the various projects agreed to since the **last** summit and these include the bilateral payments arrangement and multi-lateral payments arrangement.

The bilateral payments arrangement **has** helped Malaysia increase its trade with 12 developing countries. For example, total trade between Malaysia and five countries -- Chile, Mexico, Nigeria, Romania and Venezuela

-- had more than doubled from US\$1. 2.3 million **in 1990** to US\$3.54 so far this year.

It had also been agreed that the TROIKA countries -- Senegal, Venezuela and Malaysia -- send cultural troupes to perform at the summit and Malaysia is sending a 20-member group from Melaka.

The group will stage performances in Caracas and later in Mexico City.

-- Bernama

♥18/13/18-21MST