

CNS9071

R GE 23-11 00222 EF752

a a e

Summit-closing

G-15 SUMMIT ENDORSES MAHATHIR'S '+THINK SOUTH+' CALL

Prom Azman Ujang

92 (P) Dr. M. overseas trips.  
'DAKAR (Senegal) Nov. 23, (Bernama) -- Malaysian Prime Minister' Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad's call on countries of the South to '+Think south+' received' a strong 'endorsement from other Group of 15 leaders at the end of their three-day annual Summit meeting here Monday.

In a joint communique, the grouping of developing countries representing over one-third of the four billion people of the South, said the recent changes in the international economic and political arena reinforced the rationale and purpose of South-South cooperation as a viable strategy for greater collective self-reliance and national, regional and global development.

During the G-15's opening session Saturday, Dr Mahathir appealed to developing countries of the South to '+Think South+' collectively by talking more with each other and to better understand, each other's needs for the sake of their national resilience and credibility.

The leaders, mostly from Asia, Africa and Latin America, renewed their unwavering commitment to strengthening South-South efforts in mutually beneficial economic and technical cooperation projects.

They agreed to place development on top of the international agenda and to work towards creating a supportive international economic, and political environment to transform such a commitment to reality- ---, more

▼23/11/22-36MST

CNS9073

R GE 23-11 00154 EF753

a a e

Summit-closing 2 Dakar

Of the projects initiated since the first G-15 Summit in Kuala Lumpur, two projects, both mooted by Malaysia; are already operational. They are the database network system called South Investment, Trade and Technology Data Exchange Centre (SITTDEC) and the Bilateral Payments Arrangements to promote trade among South countries.

India's projects for a Gene Bank for medical and aromatic plants and solar-powered refrigerators for storing of medicines and vaccines are being implemented.

India is also setting up in Senegal for the G-15 and other developing countries in the African region a centre to upgrade the skills of human resources in agriculture, water management, agro-based industries and traditional crafts.

Malaysia also wants to establish a G-1.5 Expert Group for exchange of information on national economic policies of members countries to assist them in development planning and economic management. --- more

▼23/11/22-44MST

.aae

Summit-closing 3 (last)Dakar

The first meeting of the expert group will be held- in Malaysia. in April next year.

The summit also reaffirmed its commitment to a constructive and continuous dialogue with the developed countries of the North especially the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialised countries.

The leaders called for a reform of the United Nations to cope with an evolving international situation.

They said the UN should also reinforce its capacities for the promotion, of cooperation for development, preventive diplomacy and crisis management in order to deal effectively with threats to global peace and security.

The summit was attended by heads of state and government from nine of the G-15 members. They are Senegal, Egypt, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and Malaysia.

The other members of the grouping are Algeria, Argentina, Mexico, Venezuela, Peru and Yugoslavia.

India will host next year's summit. -- Bernama

♥23/11/22-48MST