

30 NOV 97

ASEAN OFFICIALS REACH CONSENSUS ON FINANCE ISSUES

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 30 (Bernama) -- Asean senior finance officials have reached a broad consensus on the issues to be discussed at the two-day Asean Finance Ministers Meeting which starts here tomorrow, Treasury secretary-general Tan Sri Clifford Herbert said today.

Speaking to reporters at the end of the officials meeting here, he said consensus had been reached on all the issues.

"We covered a number of issues like surveillance, Asean financial assistance to affected economies, as well as policy responses needed in view of the financial crisis and the kind of action economists should take," he said.

The finance ministers meeting in general would look into regulation concerning currency trading which was proposed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad after the currency attack on Asean currencies in June.

The Prime Minister's proposal has since been taken up by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) which would present preliminary findings of regulations on currency trading at the finance ministers meeting. --

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