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China invited to attend Asean summit

CHINA has been invited for the first time to attend the Asean Informal Summit to be held in Kuala Lumpur in December.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi extended the invitation when he called on President Jiang Zemin in Beijing yesterday.

In a statement released in Kuala Lumpur, Abdullah said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will extend the official invitation and hopes Jiang will attend the summit.

"Japan and South Korea were also invited to attend the meeting of Asean leaders," he said.

During the meeting, Jiang said China welcomed the positive role by Asean in the region and at the international level.

Abdullah and Jiang also discussed China's roles in particular the theory of China becoming a threat.

He also assured that China has no intention to be in confrontation with any nation and appreciates the good ties with Malaysia.

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