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Abdullah-APEC

'EXTRA-TERRITORIAL' ISSUE EXPECTED TO BE RAISED AT APEC SUMMIT

KEPALA BATAS, Nov 15 (Bernama) -- Malaysia expects the issue of extra-territorial jurisdiction of domestic law to be raised at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) summit in Canada on Nov 24.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the issue had received the attention of many countries and was discussed at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland last month.

He said the Commonwealth leaders had, in their joint statement, objected to any move by a country to force its laws on other countries.

Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Australia, New Zealand and Canada which attended the Commonwealth meeting would also be present at the Apec summit and therefore the issue could be brought up again, he said.

Abdullah was responding to reporters' question as to whether the United States action in seeking to enforce its Iran Libya Sanctions Act on other countries would be discussed at international meetings.

The minister reiterated that any action which sought to prevent trade ties between other countries went against what was advocated by the World Trade Organisation.

On news reports that US President Bill Clinton would like to see the Southeast Asian currency crisis discussed at the Apec meeting, Abdullah said it was a right move.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had earlier expressed a similar wish and Clinton's statement appeared to indicate that the US did not object to that.

"We hope Apec will be able to come out with an action to overcome the currency crisis and spell out regulations on currency trading," he said.

Abdullah, who had earlier opened the Pulau Pinang 4B(M) Youth Movement's annual meeting here, welcomed its move to table a resolution criticising foreign interference in the domestic affairs of a nation and to pledge support for Dr Mahathir's leadership. -- BERNAMA

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