

02 DEC 1997

IMF CHIEF ON BAIL OUT FUNDS

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 2 (Bernama) -- The International Monetary Fund is wary over repositions of large funds to bail out countries from economic crisis, said its managing director, Michael Camdessus.

"Countries will forget the regional surveillance. They will launder money and spend the money and at the same time will not address the underlining problems," he told a press conference here.

Nevertheless, he said many countries had pledged to support the IMF in rescuing countries facing currency turmoil.

He said the IMF would help those countries which needed legislative accreditation for such rescue so that they would be "able to react immediately without having to go to Parliament."

The IMF would also take into consideration views put forward by Asean leaders, particularly Malaysian premier Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, on how to combat the currency problems of Asean, said Camdessus.

He said the IMF would soon commence a very constructive contribution to the solutions of a programme to rescue troubled economies.

Although he stopped short of outlining Thailand's proposals, he said the proposal might be adopted for the bail out programme of South Korea.

He said the IMF was masterminding a rescue package for Thailand, Indonesia and South Korea. -- BERNAMA

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