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Kenya sees better trade links with admission to group

KENYA is pleased to be a member of the G-15 and foresees better trade relations with member countries and other developing nations, its representative to the Seventh Summit, Nicholas Biwott said.

Biwott who is also the Minister in the President's Office and Regional Co-operation, said, his country, which became the 16th member was happy to join the G-15.

Speaking after the end of the first day of the three-day summit, held at the Palace of The Golden Horses, in Sungai Besi, he said the G-15 was in the position to assist Kenya expand its economy.

"We anticipate greater economic co-operation between Kenya and other third world countries," he said, adding that South-South co-operation was the best avenue for his country to seek better trade relations.

Meanwhile, Indonesian Secretary of State Moerdiono at a separate Press conference said both Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and President Suharto had agreed to step up the exchange of high ranking officials and information.

Moerdiono said Suharto had expressed his appreciation to Dr Mahathir and the Malaysian Government for the help it received to put out the forest fires.

Malaysia sent thousands of its firemen to help Indonesia put out the forest fires in Sumatra and Kalimantan. Malaysia and Singapore were affected by the haze caused by the fires.

"The President also thanked Malaysia for pledging US\$1 billion (RM3.39 billion) in loans to Indonesia to help it overcome its economic woes.

"It is not the amount of money pledged by Malaysia, but her gesture which reflects the fine spirit of co-operation among Asean countries," he added.

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