

05 JUN 1998

Hishamuddin-Youth

UMNO YOUTH TO ORGANISE EAST ASIAN YOUTH LEADERS CONFERENCE

KUALA LUMPUR, June 5 (Bernama) -- The Umno Youth Movement will organise the East Asian Youth Leaders International Conference at the end of this year to discuss the region's economic slowdown, its vice head Datuk Hishamuddin Tun Hussein said today.

Fifteen countries including Japan, South Korea, China and Southeast Asians were expected to attend, said Hishamuddin who is also chairman of the movement's International Affairs Council.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would close the conference and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim would preside at the closing, he told reporters after chairing the council's meeting here.

The meeting also resolved that Umno Youth visit the various diplomatic missions in this country including that of Indonesia, Japan and that of European and Islamic nations to explain a number of matters which had been distorted by the western media, he said.

Hishamuddin said he would head a Umno Youth delegation which would hold talks with representatives of Asean leaders including youth leaders to know about their efforts to check the economic downturn.

He said that he had already had talks with the Foreign Ministers of Thailand and Brunei and a meeting with Singapore's Foreign Minister was scheduled for next week.

On his resignation as Johor Umno Information Chief, Hishamuddin said it was to give an opportunity to others to contribute ideas to further strengthen the state Umno.

He also felt that the choice of Johor Baharu Member of Parliament Mohamed Khaled Nordin to fill the post was appropriate to strengthen the party.

-- BERNAMA

RZS AAM