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Hamid-Asean

M'SIA OFFERS TO SHARE EXPERTISE IN I.T. WITH ASEAN NATIONS

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 28 (Bernama) -- Malaysia is ready to share its experience and expertise in information technology with other Asean members, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said today.

"We have set up a multimedia area with the assistance of a panel of international advisers...the project should be made an Asean project," he told reporters upon his return from the Asean informal summit in Manila.

Syed Hamid had represented Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the annual summit.

He said Malaysia had suggested that Asean nations share their expertise in e-commerce to enable them to compete with European Union nations and the United States.

He said less developed Asean nations such as Laos and Cambodia welcomed the suggestion as it could expedite their economic growth.

"Countries that do not get involved in the field of IT will be left out. For us, there must be adequate infrastructure and preparations, meaning that if we share our expertise and knowledge it will benefit Asean nations," he said.

Syed Hamid said that the summit, Malaysia supported the joint statement on East Asia.

Malaysia felt the meeting had translated the country's aspiration to see an East Asia Monetary Fund and Kuala Lumpur had been given the recognition to play the lead role, he said.

-- BERNAMA

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