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G15-Summit
G15 ENDS SUMMIT WITH TWO NEW MEMBERS

CAIRO, June 20 (Bernama) -- The G15, a grouping of 15 developing nations, ended its two-day summit, here, today with the entry of two new members, Iran and Colombia, into its fold.

The leaders agreed to have their foreign ministers hold a meeting in Mexico in October to discuss ways to enhance the cooperation among the member states.

The G15 trade ministers will also hold an informal meeting in Kuala Lumpur in August.

Closing the summit, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said the grouping had played an active role, especially in the negotiations of world trade.

The leaders had addressed the issue of globalisation and its effect on the economies of the member countries from Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was among nine heads of government who attended the meeting. Five countries were represented by their vice-presidents and three others by foreign ministers.

Other important issues discussed included peace and disarmament as well as narrowing the gap between the North and South in terms of technology and employment.

The G15 expressed its concerns in a communique which will be conveyed to the G8 developed countries meeting in Japan next month.

The next summit will be held in Indonesia next year.

The G15 members are Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

-- BERNAMA
AZZ JK