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LID-WRAPUP

LID 2000 DELEGATES CAN TAKE PRIDE IN AGREEING ON MANY ISSUES

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LANGKAWI, Nov 21 (Bernama) -- Delegates who ended their main body of discussions at the Langkawi International Dialogue 2000 (LID 2000) here today can take pride that they have agreed on several key issues under the smart partnership movement.

Chief among these was how the mind-boggling issue of globalisation and its effects on people in emerging economies should be tackled.

Under the spirit of "Malaysia Boleh", several Malaysian speakers have offered a way out -- emerging economies should try to check the pace of globalisation so that it would commensurate with a nation's capacity.

This was well articulated by Bank Negara Malaysia Governor Datuk Dr Zeti Akhtar Aziz who said economies needed to have mechanisms in place to create awareness and understanding on the nature of the changes that globalisation could bring.

As such, they need to increase their level of preparedness. This means adopting the right strategies and enhancing capabilities and capacities in terms of institutional development and establishing appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks.

To be in a better position to do so, it has been stressed that education is the key in mastering the techniques and technologies that are symbiotic with the globalisation process.

Education can also bring about better empowerment for children and young people -- their future dynamic human resource and leaders.

Education too helps in creating awareness of potential diseases and how to avoid them so that they can grow up to become able-bodied people to contribute to their nations' economic well-being.

An interesting observation was the increasing agreement that emerging economies needed to speak with one strong voice at international fora, a testimony of the growing support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's suggestion to ensure that they are not shoved about by oppressive market forces.

To be able to do this, it has been suggested that there should be greater dialogue and networking among the leaders of the smart partnership movement.

Just like the drum that Dr Mahathir used at the LID dialogue to drum up attention to the inequality that economies faced, delegates at LID can take pride that they have somewhat found the key towards smarter rewards by speaking in unison.

That voice can only grow louder by the day as more emerging economies come on board the smart partnership way. -- BERNAMA

SHY YBY