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Hamid-Aids

MALAYSIA PROPOSES ASEAN SUMMIT MEETING ON AIDS

PUTRAJAYA, March 3 (Bernama) -- Malaysia today proposed a summit meeting on Aids at the Asean level so that member nations could find a common solution to curb the problem.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said the proposal was conveyed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to the Philippines Foreign Secretary Domingo Siazon who called on him at his office, here today.

Siazon raised the matter on having a summit meeting on Aids at the international level but Dr Mahathir was more keen to have the meeting among Asean nations, he told reporters after accompanying Siazon for the meeting.

He said the summit meeting involving heads of government would further strengthen commitment to resolve the problems through political influence in the Asean region.

When asked whether Malaysia would host the summit, he said: "From the way the Prime Minister talked, I gather it will be held in Malaysia."

Syed Hamid said Dr Mahathir was more keen for the summit meeting to be held among Asean countries so that the association could study deeply on ways to overcome the problem which had an impact on the region's future.

He said Dr Mahathir also told Siazon that it was important for Asean member countries to discuss the implications of globalisation on Asean so that any adverse effect could be addressed successfully.

He said they also discussed the proposal on the setting up of the Asian Monetary Fund which was supported by Asean member countries and East Asia as well as the need to study the structure of the fund in greater detail.

Syed Hamid said other matters discussed were E-Commerce and its effects on the economic and trading system of a particular country.

-- BERNAMA

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