

17 JUN 2000

G15-Paper

MALAYSIA TO SUBMIT BACKGROUND PAPER ON BOOSTING G15 TRADE

CAIRO, June 17 (Bernama) -- Malaysia will submit a background paper on ways of improving trade among members of the group of 15 developing countries (G15) which is holding its 10th summit here.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz said she would discuss with her officers tomorrow on preparing the paper.

"We should be able to submit the background paper to the G15 secretariat by Tuesday," she told Malaysian newsmen covering the event.

Malaysia was entrusted to prepare the paper after its proposal to boost trade among the G15 members was accepted at the nations' foreign ministers meeting two days ago.

"The paper will outline how the efforts can be implemented...our aim is for work to progress rapidly," she said.

Malaysia, among others, had called for the G15 countries to individually hold a scheme and programme which gives priority on the purchase and procurement of goods and services from member countries.

An example is when G15 nations offer goods which are on par in quality and competitive in prices, then priority should be given to the member countries instead of other nations.

"This will not breach any WTO (World Trade Organisation) rules but a commitment of individual countries to boost trade," she said.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is scheduled to arrive here tonight to attend the summit.

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