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Three broad themes for meeting

Ashraf Abdullah in Bandar Seri Begawan

THREE broad themes - building stronger foundations, creating new opportunities and making the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation forum matter more - will dominate the Apec ministerial meeting on Sunday and Monday.

Under Brunei's leadership, Apec's overall priority for this year is delivering to the community by promoting sustained economic growth to raise income and reduce poverty in the region.

Malaysia will be represented by International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz, while the ministry's deputy secretary-general Datuk Abdul Razak Ramli leads the team to the senior officials meeting which begins today.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will arrive here on Tuesday to attend the leaders' meeting scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. He will hold bilateral talks with several leaders, including Russian president Vladimir Putin.

Dr Mahathir will address the Apec CEOs summit on Thursday.

Bernama reports that trade and global issues will feature in the talks with Putin.

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