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Envoy-Visit

ARROYO'S SPECIAL ENVOYS COMING TO M'SIA TOMORROW

KUALA LUMPUR, March 6 (Bernama) -- Special Envoys of the Philippine President -- Roberto R.Romulo and Paul G.Dominguez -- will make a three-day visit to Malaysia from tomorrow.

The visit, the first from the Philippines since Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo became the president on Jan 20, is aimed at briefing Malaysian leaders on the policies of the new administration, Wisma Putra said in a statement today.

They are scheduled to call on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar and Agriculture Minister Datuk Effendi Norwawi.

They are expected to discuss regional and international issues and bilateral cooperation as well as attend a dinner meeting of the Malaysia-Philippines Business Council hosted by Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr Leo Michael Toyad.

Romulo and Dominguez will also meet the Filipino community here.

Malaysia and the Philippines had expanded functional cooperation through mechanisms such as the Joint Commission Meeting that coordinates cooperation in trade and investments, commodity, tourism, culture, health and agriculture.

Meanwhile, Thailand Foreign Minister Dr Surakiart Sathirathai will make a one-day visit to Malaysia on Thursday aimed at enhancing bilateral ties between the two neighbouring countries.

His visit was in keeping with the tradition of newly-appointed foreign ministers of Asean countries to call on their counterparts to familiarise themselves and to exchange views on regional and international issues.

Dr Surakiart is scheduled meet Dr Mahathir and Syed Hamid who would host a dinner in honour of him, Wisma Putra said in a statement.

Among others, he is expected to discuss the date for the next Malaysia-Thailand Joint Committee meeting.

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