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DPM: Counter slowdown effects

KOTA KINABALU, Thurs. - Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said all ministries have been directed to formulate measures to cushion the negative effects of the Singapore economic slowdown.

He said the directive was given by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the weekly Cabinet meeting yesterday, in view that Singapore was one of Malaysia's main trading partners.

Speaking at a gathering of Chinese community leaders here, Abdullah said the ministries had been asked to inform departments and agencies under them.

He assured the business community that the Government had the ability to ward off any problem arising from the economic downturn in Singapore.

"We have a forward-looking government that is prepared to face any eventuality," Abdullah said.

He called on the people, particularly the business community and the private sector, to support the Government in dealing with elements threatening the economy.

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