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Megawati to discuss ways to revive Indonesian economy

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KOTA TINGGI, Sat. - Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri's visit to Malaysia on Monday is expected to entail discussions on revitalising the republic's ailing economy as well as strengthening its footing in the region.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said it was in Malaysia's interests to see Indonesia in a stable political and economic environment.

He said although Megawati was visiting Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad with an open agenda, an exchange of ideas on political and economic developments in the region was almost certain to be on the cards. He said Megawati's visit was also widely seen as a mark of respect for Dr Mahathir in her new capacity as President, apart from reinforcing bilateral ties.

"Dr Mahathir believes that if our Asean neighbour has a robust economy, this will in turn help others in the region," he told reporters today.