

Malaysia requests dual citizenship list

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LANGKAWI: Malaysia has requested Thailand "for a list of people with dual citizenship who have criminal records.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said the list would enable the Malaysian authorities to take action against such people who committed crimes in Thailand and then fled across the border.

"We are willing to assist Thailand in whatever way," he said after the meeting between Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his Thai counterpart Dr Thaksin Shinawatra at the Andaman Resort.

He said Malaysia did not recognise dual citizenship.

On the meeting, he said the leaders discussed economic cooperation but did not touch on issues such as terrorism or border security.

He said there were other platforms like the regional border committee meetings to discuss such matters.

He also said Malaysia and

Thailand would discuss the possibility of allowing airlines which offered cheap fares to fly between the two countries.

Dr Mahathir and Thaksin agreed there was a need for cooperation on the matter, he said.

Syed Hamid said they agreed to have joint tourism promotions and consider issuing joint visas and entering into a joint venture with Indonesia's aircraft manufacturer IPTN to produce a regional jet.

He said a study would be undertaken to see whether Asean countries could co-operate to produce the aircraft which would increase communication and transportation between the countries.

"We promised to resolve whatever differences we may have to ensure a smooth flow of people, goods and transportation by October," he added.

Syed Hamid said Thaksin's visit had been very successful, adding that the premiers saw both countries as close friends.