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IDB-VISIT

IDB MEMBER COUNTRIES TO SEND THEIR REPS ON STUDY TOUR OF M'SIA

By: Amer Hamzah Md Sap

ALMATY (Kazakstan), Sept 3 (Bernama) -- At least three member countries of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) are planning on sending their representatives on a study tour of Malaysia following the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Summit in Kuala Lumpur this October.

Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Shafie Mohd Salleh today said that a consortium comprising Kazakstan national bank and scientific banks involved in its agriculture and administrative sectors would be coming to Malaysia on Oct 21 and 22.

Talking to Bernama here, he said the visitors would be briefed on the innovations undertaken by the Economic Planning Unit in the areas of administration and work culture, as well as taken on tours of other related agencies in the country.

Their visit would be arranged by the Foreign Ministry and financed by the Asian Development Bank, he said.

He added that a group of government officers from Burkina Faso would be also in the country to study opportunities in the area of technical assistance and scholarships.

Financed by the IDB, this group would possibly include officers from other Islamic member countries from Africa requiring similar form of assistance, he said.

Other government officers are also expected to visit Malaysia from Azerbaijan but the dates have not been confirmed yet, Dr Shafie said.

He said Malaysia was likely to offer help to those countries seeking assistance under the Malaysia Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP).

On another note, Dr Shafie also expressed his appreciation to IDB President Dr Ahmad Mohamed Ali in view of the organisation's support of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's call to use the Gold Dinar.

Meanwhile, Bank Negara Malaysia is expected to present the details of the proposal for using Dinar Emas at a specialist meeting scheduled in Jeddah, Arab Saudi from Sept 7-11. -- BERNAMA

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